



Walworth Historical Society Newsletter

Volume 42 Number 1 July 2017

Walworth Museum: 2257 Academy Street, P.O. Box 142, Walworth, NY 14568
WHS Website: www.walworthhistoricalsociety.org

Color printing of this page courtesy of Reliant Community Federal Credit Union.



Left: Becky Appleman presents Jim Drew with the WHS Community Service Award.



Top right: A surprise visit by the Walworth Firemen at the banquet honoring Jim.



Bottom right: Three Walworth Firemen with the longest service record. They are (left to right) Gene VanDeWalle, Gordy Reed, and Jim Drew.

WHS Honors Jim Drew By Becky Appleman

The Walworth Historical Society hosted its annual dinner meeting on May 15 at the Lodge at Ginegaw Park. Highlight of the event was the presentation of the 2017 Community Service Award to Jim Drew.

Jim and his wife Marge moved to Walworth in February 1968. Jim joined the Walworth Fire Department in April 1972 and later the same year he joined the Walworth Lions Club. He has been an EMT as well as a driver for the Walworth Ambulance. He also served his community by being elected Walworth Fire Commissioner in 2000 and was re-elected five years later. Jim also helped the Lions Club by working on a team to set up their 20 x 30 foot tent which they rent for weekend events. Jim has been an active member of the Walworth Senior Citizens and helps the Friends of Walworth-Seely Public Library with their book sales.

He has not only volunteered in Walworth. He was a member of the Genesee Valley Nordic Ski Patrol at the Cummings Nature Center. There he took charge of their Hot Dog Days which became one of the major fund raisers for the ski patrol.

Jim and Marge have two children - a son Alan and a daughter Jennifer. Alan recently moved from California back to Walworth to help his parents or, as Jim jokingly puts it, "to babysit us." Jennifer and her husband have two daughters and they live in northern Virginia. Jim and Marge enjoy all the visits from their children and grandchildren.

As you can see Jim has had a very active life and has done much volunteering. Although health issues have forced Jim to cut back on some of his volunteering, he still maintains memberships and continues to do what he can to help out. After the award presentation, as a tribute many members from the Walworth Fire Department arrived in file to support and congratulate Jim. Thanks, Jim, for your many years of community volunteering.

During the annual meeting the following people were re-elected: President Jessie Keymel, Vice-President Bob Mogyra, Secretary Judy McMillan, and Trustees Larry Ruth and Dorothy French. The program included a recognition of the Class of 1947 from Walworth High School and an entertaining photo video quiz by Bob Mogyra.

Elsie Schultz was born on June 18, 1934, at home, 1000 Walworth-Penfield Road, across from Carey Lake (which was a cow pasture then.) Her parents were Clara and Carl Schultz. Elsie had three older brothers: Charles, Harold and Richard. She was the youngest and was told that her brothers spoiled her. They nicknamed her Dolly, and the neighbors called her that also. **See photo of Elsie as a young girl in the next paragraph.**



Her mother helped work the fields and the farm with her father. Elsie's father was a dairy farmer and also grew crops. She remembers helping out on the farm by cultivating corn, but she didn't like picking tomatoes. She had many animal pets such as kittens, rabbits, a goat and a fox. Her mom raised chickens; Elsie didn't like the chickens. One day her brother, Harold, was plowing and came upon a fox den. Elsie acquired one of the babies. She put it in a doll bed behind the kitchen stove and named it Stinky. For a short time Stinky was allowed to stay in the house until her mom said she must take it out of the house because it smelled up the place.

Elsie said that Christmas time was always special to her. The tree would be placed in the front parlor which wasn't heated except on special occasions. The bedroom windows would have bits of snow on the inside. She remembers getting dressed in front of the kerosene stove in the dining room due to the cold. She was told of a time when she was still in a baby carriage and her brothers took her for a stroll. They tipped over the carriage and out came Elsie. They scooped her up quickly; she was fine. Her oldest brother, Charles, took the blame.

She enjoys reading. Her first memorable books were Nancy Drew mysteries and she still loves reading mysteries. Elsie started babysitting when she was 10 years old for her nieces and nephews. She attended grade school in West Walworth District #3, a two-room building, for eight years. Sometimes on nice days she would walk to grade school, but her mom drove her a lot. Then she went to Walworth High School for a year until it centralized with Ontario and became Wayne Central. She was in the third graduating class of Wayne Central in the year 1952.

Her best friends were Beverly Johncox and Bethany Bulterman. They would go to one another's houses and "hang-out." She remembers when her brothers would attend the dances in Walworth. She was too young to attend but would sit by her window with her chin in her hands and watch as the cars drove by towards the dance hall.

Elsie was friends with Chuck Bills while growing up. She and Chuck married in 1955, a year before she finished college and before the Army sent him to France. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics from SUNY Albany. They both taught in Westmoreland, NY for two years. The plan was for her to teach in Syracuse and for him to get his Master's Degree. While on vacation in Canada, Chuck had a diving accident which paralyzed him. He spent months in different hospitals while Elsie did some teaching. At this point she realized she was pregnant and rules didn't permit her to teach long thereafter. Their daughter, Debbie, was born in April of 1959, two hospitals away from where Chuck was. At this time Elsie moved back to Walworth with their daughter until Chuck was able to return home. Two of their brothers built a house for them with special accommodations for Chuck's disability. Charlie Pembroke installed an elevator inside the house. Elsie continued to teach at Webster and Wayne Central Schools. Later she and Chuck had a tax business in their home. By this time they had added two more daughters to their family, Kara and Katrina.



Chuck and Elsie parted ways in 1978. She still lives in the house on Canandaigua Road in Walworth and is married to Jim Moll. He is retired from Xerox and builds many birdhouses. Elsie continued the tax business for a total of 45 years, with over 500 clients annually, retiring in 2012. She misses the social aspect of the business. Now she enjoys her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She loves to read, bird watch, and garden.

She attends West Walworth Zion United Methodist Church. Elsie enjoys knitting and has made over 200 Christmas stockings throughout the years. She keeps saying she can't make any more, but then finds herself knitting another. She likes making people happy. What she remembers most about growing up in Walworth is the kindness, knowing everyone, and the small community family atmosphere.

Photo left is of Elsie Schultz Bills Moll as she is today.

From Your President By Jessie Keymel

May and June were very active months for the Walworth Historical Society. Many events involved our community and the volunteers who take pride in Walworth.

Boy Scout Troop #113: On May 13 the Boy Scouts, along with their leader, parents, our grounds committee members and their family members, cleaned up the grounds and mulched the gardens at our museum. The mulch was generously donated by Dana Luckman. We are grateful to the many dedicated people who keep our grounds looking nice. See story and photos at the bottom of this page.

Lincoln Grange: That same evening Bob Mogray and I presented a photo/slide presentation of old and new landmarks in our community at the Lincoln Grange meeting. Many thanks to Bob for all the hours he spends taking and preserving photos documenting our history. We will learn more about the Grange's part in our history on November 13, when Carol Bailey and several Lincoln Grange members will present a program celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the National Grange.

Annual Meeting/Community Service Award: May 15 at our annual meeting Jim Drew was presented this year's Community Service Award. Thank you, Jim, for your dedication, and thanks to all the Walworth firemen who took time from their practice night to add their congratulations to Jim; it was an impressive sight to see the firemen filing into the Lodge to honor Jim.

Water Pipe Break: May was also the month when a water pipe break was discovered in the floor of our building. Thanks to Joe Englert and John Ward for coming to our rescue. Joe had the water shut off, did excavating, repaired the leaking pipe, and did landscaping. See story and photos on page 6 of this newsletter.

Copper Beech Tree: Employees from the Walworth Highway Department cut up the damaged limbs of the copper beech tree and Gene Bavis removed the limbs. It is a pleasure to live in a community where friends and neighbors pitch in when help is needed.

Alumni Luncheon: The Walworth High School Alumni traditionally meet on the first Saturday in June. This year they met at the Log Cabin Restaurant on June 3 at noon. The Class of 1947 was honored. Twenty-six graduates and guests enjoyed reminiscing about their high school days, while being served a delicious meal of their own choosing.

Museum Sitters: During the months of June, July, August, and September the museum is open for public visits from 2 – 4 PM. Thanks to our community of volunteers for hosting these open houses and to Judy McMillan and Becky Appleman for doing the scheduling.

Thank you to everyone – you are an important part of our community and history.

Museum Grounds Clean Up By Judy McMillan

On Saturday morning, May 13, seven Boy Scouts from Troop #113, five parents and Scout leaders, Becky and Buzz Appleman and granddaughter Brooke Hurley, Gene Bavis, and Judy and Larry McMillan all helped groom the museum grounds. There was lots of weeding, raking, trimming, edging and mulch hauling. Everyone worked hard and the grounds look very nice. We used all the mulch provided by Dana Luckman. Another ten bags of mulch were purchased and the Scouts finished putting it around the foundation and trees before their meeting. A big thanks to all who participated!



Photos above are of just a few of the volunteers who helped clean up the museum grounds.

Editor's Note: This is the 8th in a series of stories spotlighting the businesses and homes on Main Street. The tour begins on the west side of the four corners and travels south.

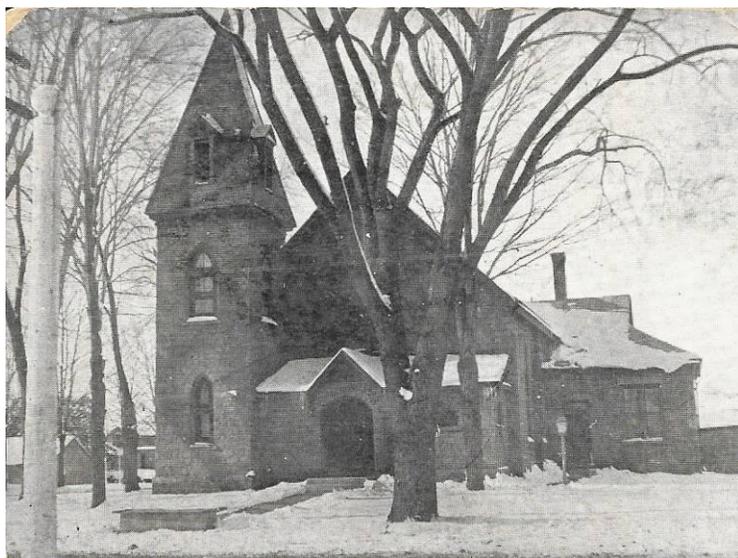
Second Baptist Church began on the 10th of June in 1832 when twelve men and twelve women met in the little red school house near the four corners of Walworth. Here they formed what was called a conference to walk together in brotherly love. The next day they met again and drew up Articles of Faith and Agreement and a covenant for adoption. On July 12, 1832, they met with representatives of seven other churches - Palmyra, Macedon, West Walworth, Ontario, Marion, Penfield, Manchester and Greece. And they were a church. The first pastor was Brother Peter Turck who, after his ordination, became minister to both the Walworth and West Walworth churches. His salary was whatever people and local Society could afford.

It was the following March when they were officially organized into Second Baptist Church, fully incorporated according to law. The date, April 13, 1833, is noted in the clerk's office. Three Trustees were also elected at that time: Rev. Peter Turck, Levi Ward and Vaniah Yeomans. The deed for the building site was recorded at the same clerk's office on August 15, 1833. The site cost \$100. The building, which was constructed of stone drawn from Lake Ontario, cost \$2,611. Members pledged their time and a record was kept of the hours each one worked.

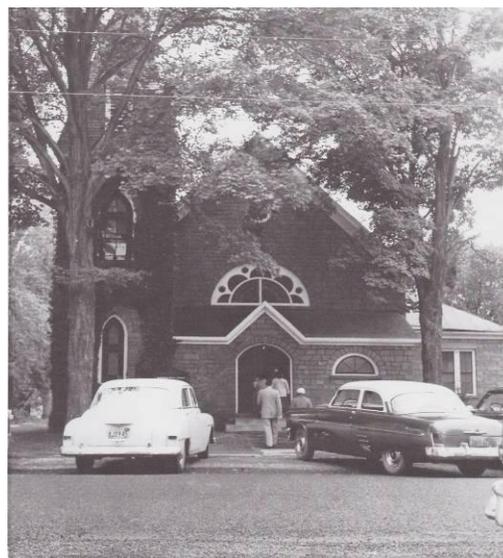
The early sanctuary was heated by two stoves, one on each side of the room. The pews were rented out to the families. For the support of the church, each member paid \$7.00 a year; the rest was raised by subscription. The offering was taken only once a month in the beginning, moving to a weekly offering in 1894. An envelope system was adopted in 1874. It was also during this year that some of the front pews were removed and a platform was built for a choir.

Through the years various changes were made to the building and grounds. In 1874 hitching posts were added for the horses and in 1881 the front sidewalk was installed. 1887 brought bigger changes when \$5,000 worth of renovations were made. A prayer room was added and a steam boiler replaced the two outdated stoves. The new building was rededicated on November 30, 1888. While renovations were made, the members joined with the Methodist Church for worship.

In 1914 a lot on High Street was purchased and a parsonage was built. Rev. and Mrs. Kent were the first occupants. In 1920 the church was again redecorated at a cost of \$1,257.39, which included painting the walls and woodwork, laying a new carpet, purchasing new hymnals, and buying chairs for the choir. In 1924 the church and parsonage were wired for electricity. An inside bathroom was added in the early 1930's. In 1947, more renovations were needed and an Old Home Day was held. This included a Callithumpain Parade with a band concert and community singing held on the church grounds. The next day, a Sunday, brought an Old Home Day service followed by a luncheon. A replica of the church, sketched by Wilbur Reybrouck, was placed in the bulletin case outside the church.



**The Second Baptist Church of Walworth in 1907
from an early postcard**



**The Second Baptist Church of
Walworth circa 1950's**

A variety of fund raisers - including our first Harvest Auction - were held during the next few years. We finally raised enough money for the new Education wing. Gladys VanHaneghem and Robert Magin shared the honor of turning the first shovel of dirt for the new building. On Sunday, October 2, 1955, a dedication service was held in the new Fellowship Hall. A new heating system was also installed at this time. The total renovation cost \$30,000.

The building, like the congregation of Second Baptist, continues to grow and change. In our 185-year history, we've had 49 pastors, some long term, some not so long. We continue to host the Harvest Auction on the second Wednesday of October. We purchased the grass lot on Church Street in 1999. In 2003, the church purchased the former Masonic Lodge. It is now our Walworth Baptist Community Center (WBCC) and is home to the Walworth Youth, which is sponsored by Scarlet Thread, as well as for other groups. The WBCC is available to the community for various functions.

In 2010 the church sold the parsonage on High Street. We now have a website: www.SecondBaptistWalworth.org where we post information about the church, our activities and missions and upload the weekly messages of our current pastor, Rev. Joseph Stupin. We still seek to provide a place where God's people can come to worship and grow in His love.



The church education wing 1954



**The Second Baptist Church of Walworth
as it appears today**

Editor's Note: Donna obtained information for this story from papers written by Wilbur Reybrouck, Beezie Conant and Gladys VanHaneghem; assorted Board minutes; and notes.

Next building to be featured:
Walworth United Methodist Church, 3679 Main Street

If you have information about this building, contact Dorothy French at 315-986-1098. We are always looking to update our museum files about people and places in the Walworth area.

Walworth Township – Its Beginnings By Dorothy French

Thanks to the perseverance and knowledge of former town historian John Traas, the history of the Walworth area has been preserved in booklet form. In 1989, John authored "Walworth – From Douglas Corners to Gananda;" the booklet is available for \$4.50 at our museum. Some tidbits of information:

Area Towns and Communities

Walworth:

First known as Douglas Corners. Name changed in 1829 when the town of Walworth was established. Also called East Walworth. Early settlers included the Millet and Douglas brothers and Luther Fillmore. Thomas Kempshall built the first store at the four corners.

West Walworth:

Original name was Birch Bridge. Site established in 1805 by families of Joseph Howe, Ira Howard, Nathaniel Holmes, Jonathan Miller, and the Gould family.

Lincoln:

Originally spelled Lincklean. Consisted of a dozen houses and various shops.

Gananda:

Indian word meaning New Town. Planned community initiated around 1971 by a private corporation with federal funding. Project taken over in 1977 by the Leenhout brothers (Nelson and Norman); hundreds of homes have since been built.

(To Be Continued)

The Joy? of “Home” Ownership By Dorothy French

A wet rug in the museum’s office was our first clue that we had a major problem. The culprit was a tiny hole in the water line located between Academy Street and our kitchen area. To the rescue came Charter and Life-time WHS member Joe Englert with his backhoe and co-worker, John Ward.

First priority was to have the water shut off. The next step wasn’t as easy when Joe discovered the brick foundation for our bell had been installed directly over the water line. A new trench was dug by backhoe and spade shovel and the replacement line was installed. Joe and John graded the affected area which they seeded and mulched. Thanks are due to them for their expertise and time and also to WHS members Stan Weller and Sonny French for helping where needed.



John Ward checking out the water line.



Joe Englert and his backhoe came to the rescue



In Memoriam - Doris Smith Traas By Mary Jane Devlin

Walworth Historical Society extends its sympathy to the family of Doris Smith Traas, who passed away May 19, 2017. Doris and her husband, John, were charter members of the Society. John served as Town Historian for many years and also held office on our Board of Directors.

Smith Hill Road was named after her family. Doris helped John in any way she could to further the projects he started for our Society. She was always willing to bake cookies for our meetings and to help however she was needed. Doris will be sadly missed by her family and friends, and especially by the Walworth Historical Society.

Look for Us at the Festival in the Park By Dorothy French

The annual Festival in the Park, sponsored by Walworth Lions Club, will take place July 21 and 22. Look for our float in Friday night’s parade which begins at 7:00 PM; this year’s theme is “Celebrating Volunteers.” Stop at our booth at Ginegaw Park on Friday night and Saturday afternoon/evening. We will have photo books for reminiscing, handouts, and Walworth-related items for sale.

Need Info About WWI By Gene Bavis

The Walworth Historical Society seems to be lacking information about World War I. This year is the centennial of our entrance into the war, so we would like to learn more about those people from Walworth who participated in the war in any way, but especially those who served in the military. Pictures, diaries, letters, or other information would be greatly appreciated. If you have information for our September 18 program about WW I, please contact me at [315-573-2768](tel:315-573-2768) or gbavis@rochester.rr.com.

From a School to Apartments By Dorothy French

Continuing the story from our March 2017 issue, these photos trace the history of Walworth High School, its demolition, and the Walworth Village Apartments under construction.



1985 photo



School windows boarded up prior to 2014 demolition



2014 school demolition



Current photo of the Walworth Village Apartments facing Academy Street

Squirrel vs. Copperhead By Mary Jane Devlin as told to her by Stanley Cauwels

During 1951 or 1952 Stanley Cauwels and Bill Schenk, good friends, were hunting squirrels behind Sam McKee's home on Walworth-Ontario Road. Bill shot a squirrel and went to the base of a hollow tree to get it. There was a copperhead snake coiled in the base of the tree and ready to strike. Stanley shot the copperhead in the middle with his father's 22-rifle. After they were sure it was dead, they cut off the head and took it to the biology teacher at Wayne Central School, a Mr. Borton, who identified it as a copperhead snake. Stanley and Bill remain good friends.

Please Check Out Our New Website By Bob Mogray

If you have a computer and have access to the internet, please use your favorite web browser such as Google, Yahoo, Firefox, Netscape, or even SeaMonkey to find our new website. Gene Bavis has done a lot of work along with Seth Burgess to ensure we have a current and very functioning website. Included on our website are: schedules for future meetings and events, historical information and photos, current event information and photos that include the museum clean-up by the Boy Scouts and WHS members, the annual meeting at the Ginegaw Park Lodge, and the recent museum water leak and its repair. Almost all of our recent newsletters are available. Also included on the site are various contacts and links, membership information, the WHS calendar of events, and much more. So, please check us out at www.walworthhistoricalsociety.org on the web.

2017 Events Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Location</u>
Tues., July 18	6:30 PM	Decorate float for Festival in the Park parade	Keymel's
Fri., July 21	7:00 PM	Festival in the Park parade (Theme is "Celebrating Volunteers") and booth	Main Street / Ginegaw Park
Sat., July 22	3-9 PM	Festival in the Park booth	Ginegaw Park
Mon., Sept. 18	7:30 PM	General meeting: Program - "World War I" by Mike Harland	Museum
Sun., Oct. 8	2-4 PM	Open House. Path Through History Weekend	Museum
Mon., Nov. 20	1:00 PM Note time	General meeting: Program - "Celebrating the Grange" with members of Lincoln Grange and Carol Bailey (State Grange Historian.)	Museum

Board of Trustee Meetings: Aug. 14 and Nov. 13 at 2:00 PM at the museum.

Open House Hours: Museum open June, July, August, and September on Sunday and Wednesday afternoons 2 - 4 PM. Contact Judy McMillan at 315-524-4219 or Becky Appleman at 315-524-3289 for appointment at other times.

<u>Officers and Trustees</u>		<u>Officers, Trustees, and Committee Chairs</u>			
President	Jessie Keymel	(315) 524 - 9205	Bldg. Maint.	Stan Weller	(585) 545 - 9434
Vice-President	Robert Mogray	(585) 576 - 4156	Collections	Jessie Keymel	(315) 524 - 9205
Secretary	Judy McMillan	(315) 524 - 4219	Genealogy	Ellen Dietterick	(585) 200 - 4685
Treasurer	Mary Jane Devlin	(315) 986 - 1512	Grounds	Judy McMillan	(315) 524 - 4219
WHS Trustee	Becky Appleman	(315) 524 - 3289	Grounds	Becky Appleman	(315) 524 - 3289
WHS Trustee	Gene Bavis	(315) 573 - 2768	Hospitality	Liz Bavis	(585) 802 - 0380
WHS Trustee	Dorothy French	(315) 986 - 1098	Hospitality	Marlene Slocum	(585) 289 - 7080
WHS Trustee	Linda Pembroke	(585) 455 - 7595	Newsletter	Bob Mogray	(585) 576 - 4156
WHS Trustee	Larry Ruth	(315) 524 - 7936	Publicity	Dawn Russell	(315) 576 - 0857
WHS Trustee	Marlene Slocum	(585) 289 - 7080	Town Historian	Gene Bavis	(315) 573 - 2768

Mission Statement: The Walworth Historical Society is a volunteer organization established in 1975. Our chartered purpose is to collect, preserve, and display items and artifacts of historical interest and importance to the Town of Walworth and its environs. We are a not-for-profit organization with 501(C)(3) status; donations are tax deductible.

<u>Level of Membership</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$ 5.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$ 10.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$ 15.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Supporter	\$ 25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor	\$ 50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$ 100.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Life Member	\$ 150.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Corp./Business	\$ 75.00

I am interested in making a tax deductible donation of \$ _____,
 I am interested in making a tax deductible donation of \$ _____ in
memory of _____.
 I am interested in joining and have checked the membership level.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City/Town/Zip: _____ Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Make your check payable to: Walworth Historical Society, and mail it to P.O. Box 142, Walworth, NY 14568. *Thank you!*

July 2017 WHS e-mail Newsletter Bonus Photos

(All photos on this page are from the annual meeting at the Lodge in Ginegaw Park.)



(All photos on this page show scenes in the Walworth area taken this spring.)

