

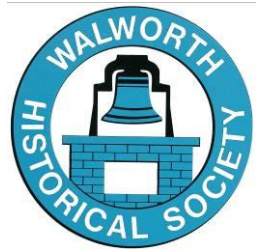


# Walworth Historical Society

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Walworth Museum: 2257 Academy Street, P.O. Box 142, Walworth, NY 14568

WHS Website: [www.walworthhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.walworthhistoricalsociety.org)

## Walworth Americana

By Fred Enisz



Walworth Parade in 1976: holding the American Flag is Maria Enisz, Fred's mother.

Here is a bit of Walworth Americana from 1976.

In the mid 1930's Maria Trauer, a young woman who later married my father, was apprenticed as a seamstress in Yugoslavia to a Jewish woman who was married to a Croatian man. Because there were no women's clothing stores in the smaller towns, a family would hire a seamstress to live with them for a week and sew clothes from cloth the family had previously purchased. Mom's sewing skills enabled her to earn a salary.

Mom married Friederich (Fritz) Enisz and they soon realized the need to immigrate with their family to the United States. Mom had a major nervous breakdown in 1954, due to her experiences in one of Tito's concentration camps. Thanks to a referral from the Art Kratzenburg family, my father and I lived with Anna Hermanet and her two children in Walworth for about 10 months in 1954. After Mom was discharged from the hospital, we rented the house directly across from the Methodist Church. Within a year Joe Finley loaned us the money to purchase a home at 3600 Main Street that was going to come up for bid at an estate auction. My parents lived there until 1982, when they moved to Colorado to be with me.

I attended Walworth High School and each year participated in a Halloween contest wearing an award-winning costume Mom made. She was asked to create Betsy Ross outfits and a 1776 flag for a Walworth parade celebrating our nation's 200<sup>th</sup> birthday. She did this and was in the 1976 bicentennial parade with Christine Wirth, Donna Martin, and Erica Wirth; Mom won a prize for her efforts. They also appeared in a couple of other hometown parades. There were no Kilpatrick politics involved in this 1976 display. Mom did it as pride of being a Walworth resident and United States citizen. I am totally disgusted with the present Betsy Ross politics and the people driving these politics. Betsy Ross was a Quaker and Quakers were against slavery.

(Color printing of this page courtesy of Reliant Community Federal Credit Union)

**A Tour of Main Street: #3700 – Walworth Hardware - Part 5** By Gordon Youngman

*Editor's Note: Our tour of the east side of Main Street continues from our last issue. The building at #3700 was the site of many businesses, eventually Walworth Hardware. Part 5 features ownership by Gordon and Katie Youngman. Thank you to Gordon Youngman and his grandson, Aaron Fernaays, for sharing their memories and for the time they spent researching and documenting the information about the stores located at 3698 and 3700 Main Street.*

**The following are excerpts from information documented by Gordon in March 2000:**

In July 1972 Katie and I purchased the hardware store on the south side of the variety store from the estate of Jack Wick and continued operating the two businesses separately under Youngman's Variety and Walworth Hardware. We opened a passage way between the two stores making it more convenient for customers and ourselves.



**1977: Gordon Youngman**



**1978: Marlene comparing soda prices from 1965 to 1978**

By 1978 we ran out of space in the hardware store and decided to close out most of the variety store including the soda fountain and moved the hardware to the larger building. We moved the cash register from the original hardware side to the north building and the majority of the two stores was now hardware related. However, we kept a few things, such as film, cigarettes, candy, bread, and milk. Unfinished furniture was located in the store to the right.



**1978: Katie Youngman (left) and Marty Davis (right)**



**1981: Don Huntley and Katie Youngman**

Katie and I moved into the apartment above the hardware side of the store from our house north of the store. This was more convenient because the apartment had a direct passage into the hardware store. Our daughter Marlene and her husband, Steve Hall, purchased our house north of the store.



**1984: Fluffy the Cat: one of several feline residents**



**1989: Katie and Gordon celebrating 40 years of business in Walworth**

In 1989 Katie and I were honored by the Walworth Town Board for our 40 years of service in Walworth. To recognize this anniversary, we sold popcorn and hot dogs at the store. We continued the business until 1990 when Katie and I decided to retire. Our daughter Marlene and her husband Steve Hall purchased the business and operated it under Walworth Hardware.

*To Be Continued: Part 6 – Walworth Hardware and New York State Sitepower*

### **WHS Museum Summer Schedule**

Our museum will be open on Sunday and Wednesday afternoons from 2 – 4 PM June through September. Appointments for other days can be made by contacting Jessie Keymel at 315-524-9205 or Gene Bavis at 315-573-2768. The museum is located at 2257 Academy Street.

Volunteers are needed on Sundays and Wednesdays to “museum sit.” We have put together a binder of helpful information regarding the museum and its contents. We encourage our volunteers to bring their cell phone and a friend to share this opportunity of helping others learn about our past. Contact Judy McMillan at 315-524-4219 if you can give us a couple of hours.

Visitors are invited to spend an hour or two browsing through scrapbooks donated by Dorothy Petty, Anna May, and the Walworth Chamber of Commerce, or checking out the various displays depicting life from not so long ago. We have several binders chocked full of Bob Mogray’s pictures from this area. For the genealogists, local cemetery records have been catalogued by Doug Churchill for easy access. We also have births/weddings/engagement information and obituaries information.

### **Hooked Rug Raffle**

By Bob Mogray



This is just a reminder that at our Walworth Historical Society autumn open house on October 6 at the museum on Academy Street we will be raffling this framed hooked rug scene of a barn on Tummonds Road done by Caryn Devlin, Marion Town Historian. While we hope you are there, you do not have to be present to win.

We will be selling tickets at our meetings and functions at the museum. During the summer months we plan to be at the Walworth Farmers’ Market most Tuesdays to talk to people about the Walworth Historical Society and to sell raffle tickets for this hooked rug. Tickets are \$1 each, 6 for \$5 or 15 for \$10. All proceeds will go toward the mission of the Walworth Historical Society.

*The Walworth Historical Society wishes to thank Dr. Norman Loomis and Jinny Loomis for their time and efforts granting us this interview.*

**Dr. Norman Loomis:** Dr. Loomis lived his early life in the Forest Hills/Queens area of Long Island. His father was a foundation contractor, a Superintendent of Parks, in Queens and died when Norman was eleven years old. His mother was a homemaker.

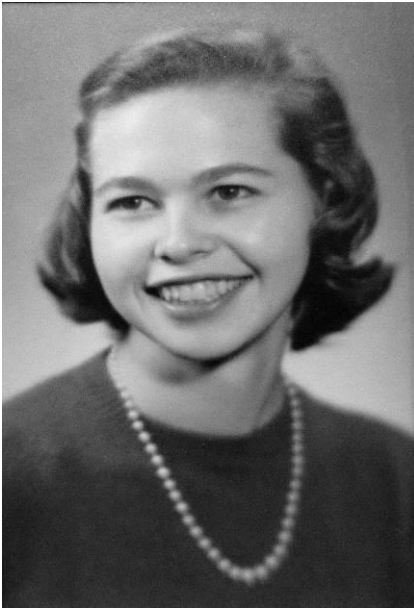


As a young boy he sold the Saturday Evening Post and made a whopping 1.5 cents per copy. From the age of seven he knew that he wanted to be a doctor. Some of his interests in his early life included photography, stamp collecting, Boy Scouts, and playing the violin. Every day he walked to Public School 144. Norman finished high school at Forest Hills High.

At 16 years old he entered Oberlin College but was drafted into the Navy while still in school. Later he used the GI Bill to attend Syracuse Medical School. Norman interned for two years in general practice at the Methodist Hospital in Brooklyn. He received his medical degree from New York Upstate Medical University. Dr. Loomis moved to this area in 1954 and lived in a house at the end of Furnace Road. He opened up a practice on Knickerbocker Road, just north of Ridge Road in Ontario.

**Norman Loomis Navy photo**

**Jinny Loomis:** Jinny lived her early life in Canandaigua, New York. Her father was a science teacher and her mother was an English teacher. In 1949 she graduated from Westminster College and earned a Master's Degree in Education at the University of Rochester. Some of her early interests were playing the french horn, music, swimming and basketball. Later in life she became a skiing enthusiast. It is interesting that Jinny's grandfather was Dr. Ruben Reeves and in 1904 he was charging about \$1.50 for an office call in Macedon.



Early in her married life she tended to the home and raised their three kids (Jane, Lynne, and Richard) but later she was involved in many community activities and organizations. She was a member of the Ontario Town Board in the 1970's. She has served on the Wayne Central School Board and worked for the Four Counties School Board for seven years. Jinny was on the Ontario Planning Board in the 1980's and a member of the Girl Scout Council. She worked with the Wayne County Community Endowment organization and was active in the Presbyterian Church. Jinny volunteered for the Heritage Square Museum and was involved with moving an entire train station to Heritage Square.

**Jinny Loomis teenage photo**

In 1955 friends of Dr. Loomis suggested that it might be time for him to look for a girlfriend. Since he did not know too many people in the area he asked them for help with this matter. He went about this in a scientific manner. They showed him a yearbook and he picked out three prospective candidates from their photos. The first choice was Jinny. He took her to the circus and they hit it off very well. He never dated the other two. They were married in 1956 and lived for awhile in his bachelor pad at the end of Furnace Road. In 1959 he and Jinny moved into a cobblestone home near the nuclear power plant on Lake Road in Ontario.



1956 Norman and Jinny Loomis wedding photo

In 1958 Dr. Loomis moved his practice to a new office on the Walworth-Ontario Road. With partners Dr. Neal Smith, Dr. Terry Goff and Dr. Dan Koretz. He saw many patients in the Walworth and Ontario area including me and my family. Norman retired in 1997. Over the years Dr. Loomis has been Chief of Staff at Meyers Hospital in Sodus, Chief of Department of Family Practice at Rochester General Hospital, on the board of RGH, President of New York State Academy of Family Physicians, Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Rochester, and a member of Wayne County Medical Society. He helped start the Ontario Volunteer Emergency Squad in the late 1960's and did school physicals in Ontario and Walworth. Norman and Jinny now reside on Tamarack Lane in Ontario.



2019 Norman and Jinny Loomis



Dr. Loomis' original office on Knickerbocker Road in Ontario



In 1958 Dr. Loomis moved his office to this building on Walworth-Ontario Road in Ontario.

**National Night Out** By Bob Mogray

This ninth Walworth/Macedon venture is a yearly summer event that promotes law enforcement/fire department/and community cooperation and involvement across the country. This year's event took place on Tuesday, July 30. Local fire departments (West Walworth, Walworth, Lincoln, and Macedon) as well as police officers and community organizations participated. It was held at the Gananda High School and featured ambulances, fire trucks, K-9 demonstrations, Mercy Flight helicopter, displays, and interactive activities.



WHS website: walworthhistoricalsociety.org

Steve and Tyler MacNeal, owners and operators of Mac's Pizza Shack, did much of the planning for this event and also donated 69 free pizzas to feed hungry attendees. In addition to this, they also donated hundreds of hot dogs and hamburgers that were cooked and served by the Walworth Fire Department. It started out to be a rainy evening but once the event started, the skies cleared and all went very well. This event was well attended and was very successful.

Thanks to Steve and Tyler, all of the participating organizations, and those who attended this event. Next year's National Night Out will be on August 4.

## **Festival in the Park and the Story of the Shark**

By Bob Mogray

This year's Festival in the Park was the 29th time this event was held and it was again sponsored by the Walworth Lion's Club. It was held on Friday and Saturday, July 26 and 27. The theme was "Beach Party." Some of the events during this two-day event were booths, games, food concessions, cruise night car display, wine and beer tasting, bingo, 5K race/walk, water ball tournament, games for the kids, K-9 demonstration, an outdoor movie, fireworks, and much more.

One of the main events of the Festival was the Friday night parade. As usual, the Walworth Historical Society participated by constructing a float which was assembled on Roger and Jessie Keymel's hay wagon. This year's theme was a difficult one to follow with a float design but we came up with the idea of having a large picture of a shark on the back of the float and a beach scene on the main bed of the wagon. Becky Appleman and Judy McMillan rode the float sitting in beach chairs accompanied by a small swimming pool complete with beach toys and a large beach umbrella to give them a little bit of shade. Tossing candy to the parade watchers along the route were Becky, Elizabeth (the Keymel's granddaughter), Judy, and her granddaughter, Lucy.



The story of the shark is a mini story of its own. A picture of a shark was downloaded from the internet to a flash drive. The paints and 4 x 8 sheet of masonite were procured from Lowe's and Home Depot. Then the masonite was taken to our museum. The flash drive shark image was used to project the shark image onto the masonite with our laptop computer and digital projector.

Larry Ruth then traced out the shark outline onto the masonite. The shark was then taken to Larry Ruth's home where he spent several hours using the various paints to get the shark onto the masonite that was eventually transported to the Keymel's barn and placed on the back of the float.

Thanks to Larry for a great job done on our shark, to Roger and Jessie for the use of their hay wagon and barn to store the float, and to all the volunteers who helped put the float together a couple of days before the parade!

## **Oct. 6 Open House – Music! Food! Displays! Demos!**

By Dorothy French



**Walworth Historical Society Museum  
2257 Academy Street**

Our annual fall open house at the museum will be held Sunday, October 6 from 2 – 4 PM and will feature music, food, displays and demos – plus a few surprises. Group Therapy, a band that plays a mix of bluegrass, country and early pop songs, will perform under a tent set up and loaned by the Walworth Lions Club. Group Therapy was formed in 1974 by Jim Allis. Other musicians/singers include Jim's wife, Lynne, Tex Ehmann and Bob Olyslager; the four have been together for over 32 years.

The band has performed at the Walworth Festival in the Park many times and for the Walworth Seniors concert every year for the past 11 years. They enjoy their friends in Walworth and look forward to entertaining here. The band also has roots to Walworth. Jim and Lynne lived on Stalker Road in West Walworth until 1998 when they moved to the outskirts of Penfield but still close to Walworth.

The public is invited to come and enjoy cider and donuts while checking out items related to our "Autumn on the Farm" theme. To help defray the cost of our free programs, donations are gratefully accepted.

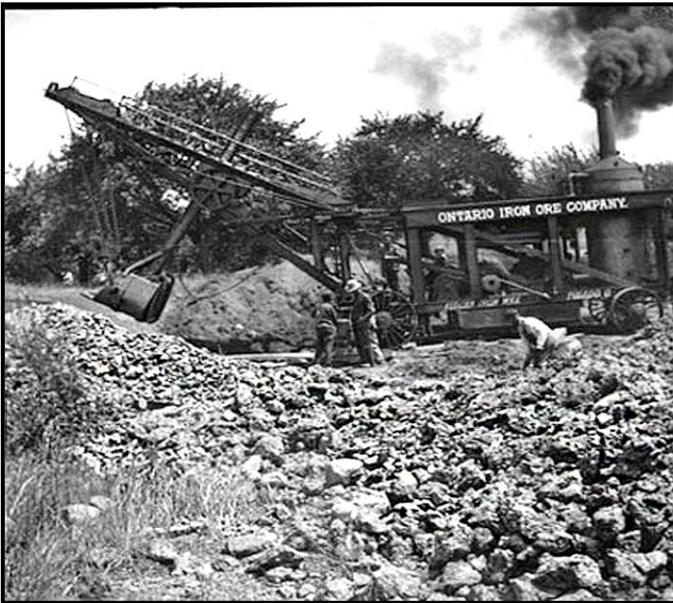
## Our Collection Continues to Grow By Jessie Keymel

All seems quiet at the Walworth Museum, but we have continued to add to our collection of reference materials. One of our members had a great find at a used book sale when he discovered "Letters from the Front," a book by R. L. Murray. It is a collection of letters and stories sent to families and local newspapers from the Wayne County troops in the Civil War. As you browse through the many used book sales, keep us in mind if you find something pertinent to Walworth or Wayne County history and please share it with us. We often exchange information when it is important to other towns.

We have received three Republican Canvas Books for election district #2 from the years 1950, 1954, and 1962. These came from the Druschel family who have been active in community politics for generations.

Among the gifts given to us from Dick and Cathy Roland is an American Citizen Newspaper dated October 4, 1842. A reference is made to the anti-slavery movement here in Walworth (I feel another story here). It seems that our small community has been involved in many phases of our country's history through the years. Other items received from Dick and Cathy include a 1936 photo of the Fillmore family reunion, a newspaper story about George and Carrie Wignall's 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, and a flyer advertising May Crowley's music class. Also included was a Marion Grange song book which, with the Roland's permission, will be forwarded to the Marion Historian.

Nancy Bel has donated a Golden Book called "The Visit" which was written and signed by Joan Esley. This will be added to our collection of many Golden Books written or illustrated by Walworth native Joan (Marge) Esley. As always, our thanks go out to you, our many members, who contribute gifts of time and memorabilia to our Historical Society. You and your families are the active history of our community.



## "Iron Ore Mining" Program at Our September Meeting

By Bob Mogray

Have you ever wondered when and where iron ore was first discovered in Ontario and who accidentally did this? Did you wonder what a forge was and where it was located? Please join us on Monday, September 16 at 7:30 PM at the WHS museum on Academy Street in Walworth when Ontario Town Historian Liz Albright presents a program that will answer these questions and provide a whole lot more information on the subject of iron ore mining in the area. Learn what happened to this iron ore and what products were made from it.

This program is free and open to the general public. So, please plan to attend and bring a friend or two. As always, there will be free refreshments. Please support us by your attendance. Hope to see you there.

## Where Does the Money Go? By Mary Jane Devlin

Where does our money go and how do we get it? I hope to answer that question: 21% is collected in dues; 30% is received in a government subsidy; donations amount to 20%; interest on investments is 5%; and we receive grants of about 20%; this leaves 4% that we receive from sales. We rely heavily on your membership dues and your generous donations. This year we have been fortunate to have a donation of a framed hooked rug from Caryn Devlin, for which we are selling raffle tickets. The tickets are on sale at Walworth Farmers' Market and at other places as the opportunities arise. The winning ticket will be drawn at our Autumn on the Farm Fall Festival in October.

We also have two books for sale, one by Charlie Pembroke and one by John Traas, as well as t-shirts and polo shirts with a Walworth logo on them. In addition we have two books that contain information about Wayne County history, which were written by Wayne County residents. We have plates with the former Walworth Academy printed on them.

Where does the money go? Heat, electric, water and sewer use about 30% of our budget, with security taking 28%; insurance for our collection as well as for the building and liability are 20%. We pay town taxes of 3%; miscellaneous expense of 10% and 5% to maintain our website. Postage to cover mailings and box rental expense are 4%. The miscellaneous expense covers honorariums that we give to our program presenters as well as other unbudgeted and unexpected costs. Of course, the budget varies each year depending on other activities, whether we receive any grants and other variables.

Not included in this article are the countless hours donated by our many volunteers. We have many volunteer activities and we are always looking for additional assistance. The various opportunities will be discussed in a future article.

## 2019 WHS Calendar of Events

Sept. 16	7:30 PM	General Meeting "Iron Ore Mining"
Oct. 6	2-4 PM	WHS Open House: "Autumn on the Farm"
Oct. 14	2:00 PM	Board of Trustees
Nov. 18	1:00 PM	General Meeting "Soup & Spiritualism" Ginegaw Lodge
Dec. 7	6:00 PM	"Light the Night" Ginegaw Park
Dec. 9	2:00 PM	Board of Trustees

## The Anti-Slavery Spirit in Walworth By Dorothy French

*Editor's Note: Dick Roland recently donated a copy of "The American Citizen" dated October 4, 1842. Included is a Walworth story about the passage of resolutions protesting slavery.*

The story, dated August 24, 1842, mentioned that the resolutions protesting slavery were approved at an Anti-Slavery Convention held in Walworth on August 23. The resolutions were preceded by the following statement: "Whereas slavery, as it exists in the United States, is a sin against God and is a violation of the rights of man....." Chairperson Luther Fillmore authorized the resolutions be published in the newspaper.

The notice was signed by G. H. Moore, Secretary, who added this postscript: "Thus you will see that, while other great and momentous questions claim the attention of the people, the interest of the poor slave is not forgotten in Western New York." It concludes with "To its overthrow we lend our influence and aid."

### WHS Officers, Trustees, and Committee Chairs

#### Officers and Trustees

<b>President</b>	<b>Jessie Keymel</b>	<b>(315) 524 - 9205</b>
<b>Vice-President</b>	<b>Robert Mogray</b>	<b>(585) 576 - 4156</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Judy McMillan</b>	<b>(315) 524 - 4219</b>
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<b>WHS Trustee</b>	<b>Gene Bavis</b>	<b>(315) 573 - 2768</b>
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<b>WHS Trustee</b>	<b>Larry Ruth</b>	<b>(315) 524 - 7936</b>

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<b>Bldg. Maint.</b>	<b>Gene Bavis</b>	<b>(315) 573 - 2768</b>
<b>Collections</b>	<b>Jessie Keymel</b>	<b>(315) 524 - 9205</b>
<b>Displays-Museum</b>	<b>Judy Markowski</b>	<b>(315) 524 - 8649</b>
<b>Displays-Town Hall</b>	<b>Judy McMillan</b>	<b>(315) 524 - 4219</b>
<b>Genealogy</b>	<b>Ellen Dietterick</b>	<b>(585) 200 - 4685</b>
<b>Grounds</b>	<b>Judy McMillan</b>	<b>(315) 524 - 4219</b>
<b>Grounds</b>	<b>Becky Appleman</b>	<b>(315) 524 - 3289</b>
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<b>Hospitality</b>	<b>Marlene Slocum</b>	<b>(585) 289 - 7080</b>
<b>Membership</b>	<b>Linda Pembroke</b>	<b>(585) 455 - 7595</b>
<b>Newsletter</b>	<b>Bob Mogray</b>	<b>(585) 576 - 4156</b>
<b>Publicity</b>	<b>Becky Appleman</b>	<b>(315) 524 - 3289</b>
<b>Town Historian</b>	<b>Gene Bavis</b>	<b>(315) 573 - 2768</b>

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.

#### Level of Membership

<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!*

**The Walworth Historical Society wishes to thank the following Corporate Sponsors for supporting our programs and events held throughout the year.**



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**September 2019 WHS Email Newsletter Extra Photos**

(All photos on this page are from the Festival in the Park Parade on July 26, 2019)



(All photos on this page are from the National Night Out on July 30, 2019)

