

# MEDINA BUGLE

A Publication of the Medina Historical Society

Fall 2013

## President's Message

Fall is such a great time of the year and we are excited to get started with some great programs. So please join us at one of our many events below.

We have an exciting fall planned and below are some of the highlights.

- Ale in Autumn Sept 28<sup>th</sup> 2:00pm to 7:00pm. (Museum is one of the stops)
- Sept 30<sup>th</sup> Meeting.....Reveal of the recent tours of the Museum and Bents Opera house.
- Beyond the Graves – West Ridgeway Cemetery – Oct 19<sup>th</sup> 5:00pm and 7:00pm
- Oct 28<sup>th</sup> meeting – Civil War Stories.
- Christmas Party for members Nov 25<sup>th</sup>

Also Renee Lama and Laura Fields are working on a 2014 Historical calendar which will be on sale at the Old Thyme Christmas celebration on November 30<sup>th</sup>

## Next Monthly Meeting

**Monday Sept 30<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm**  
Town of Ridgeway Office  
620 West Ave  
Medina NY 14103

## Officers 2013

**President Reinhard Rogowski**  
**Vice President: Craig Lacy**  
**Treasurer: Sandy Tompkins**  
**Secretary: Shane Sia**  
**Board: Cindy Robinson, Georgia Thomas, Catherine Cooper, Frank Berger**



## **School Days At Jeddo School, District 13**

Virginia Stipp

This school was probably built in the 1860's and was located on the corner of US 104 and South County line, between Orleans and Niagara Counties. The building was white clapboard with a peaked roof, belfry and one entrance door. Coats and boots were stored in the entryway. Inside was one room with the teacher's desk up in front. The children's desks were made of oak wood and cast iron, they were hooked together with wooden slats. Desks were lined up according to grade and the size of the child. The front wall held a big blackboard and maps with the American flag standing nearby. The teacher had complete control of the classroom and no one was disruptive. Boys left school early in April for farm work. A pump in the front yard provided water for all to drink from an enamel pail with a dipper. If anyone got sick, we all caught whatever it was

(measles, mumps, whooping cough). The cellar was made of fieldstone with a coal or wood burning furnace for heat. Newspapers were stored there from paper drives and were quite a fire hazard.

My father (Harold Tuttle) was a trustee during the 1940's. He would keep all records including tax collection, hiring teachers and maintaining the school building and grounds. Teachers during his time included Miss Bessie Hassey, Miss Hilda Card, Mrs. Sinclair and Mrs. Johnson. District Superintendent was Miss Luella Hauer.

Two aunts and my grandmother attended Jeddo School during the 1880's. My grandmother and aunt went to Buffalo Normal (State Teacher's College) where they received their degrees. My mother (Josephine Anderson Tuttle) and her sister (Jean Anderson O'Brien) went through grade 8 at Jeddo and the drove a horse and buggy to Middleport for their high school years. My mother graduated from Alfred University with a teaching degree. Her sister graduated from Buffalo General with an RN degree. We followed the previous generation by going to Jeddo country school. Doris started 1<sup>st</sup> Grade in 1939, Virginia in 1943, Jack in 1946, Kathie in 1948 and

continued until the school closed in 1955.

Talk of closing the Jeddo school caused quite an uproar. My folks were against it, but other in Jeddo felt we would get a better education if we centralized. Medina won out and we had the choice of going to Lyndonville, Barker, Middleport or Medina. Middleport and Medina ended up being the chosen schools.

Holidays were always exciting at the country school. Sheets were hung on a wire at the front of the room to make a stage and each child participated in plays and recitations. Many made their own costumes. Parents and grandparents always attended these events. Each holiday, children made their own handmade Valentines, Easter and Thanksgiving cards.

On Arbor Day, the whole school would go to Tuttle's farm woods to eat our bag lunch and collect plants or whatever else we could find.

Recess was always fun and on good days we would play Annie Annie over, swing or play on the teeter-totter. For lunches, parents brought in food once a month for everyone.

Of course we had the two-seater outhouse with the west one for the boys and the east one for the girls.

There were usually about 20 children in the school at one time, as boys often left in the spring to help on the farm. My brother never left school for the reason that my parents thought education was more important.

Now the Jeddo school has been made into a school and is in disrepair. The beautiful maple trees that used to line the Ridge Road are gone now from widening the road. Time has not been good to this once beautiful place. The children who went to Jeddo country school turned out to be very productive citizens even though many think we were deprived of a good education.

Medina Historical Society and  
Museum Membership  
application:

Name:

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Address:

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E-mail:

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Phone:

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\_\_\_\_\_ Individual: \$15

\_\_\_\_\_ Family: \$20

Special talents you would like to  
share:

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\_\_\_\_\_ Willing to serve on Board or  
as an officer

Mail to: 406 West Avenue, Medina,  
NY 14103