

MEDINA BUGLE

A publication of the Medina Historical Society January 2016

President's Message

Happy New Year to all. As I reflect back on 2015, I really became aware of how busy we have been. Monthly meetings with great programs, several open houses, as well as special programs for the public.

We are actively promoting the Historical Society and through the efforts of our membership chairperson and the assistance from Memories of Medina there has been a remarkable increase in membership.

Catherine Cooper did a great job lining up programs for 2015 and she is actively setting up new, exciting programs for 2016.

Our "Dinner with the Merrits" was a tremendous success and plans are underway to have this event again in 2016.

The gardens around the museum look great and through the efforts of the Medina FFA, a raised bed herb garden was established by the back door. To "kick off" the new garden, a program on medicinal herbs was offered to the public.

The museum was open and participated in the "Ale in autumn" event and the "Wine About Winter."

We also presented a great program on "19th Century Mourning Practices" at the Museum in October.

Our annual Christmas meeting was held the last Monday in November at the museum. . Ken McPherson aka Santa Claus, gave a great talk on Charles Howard and the Christmas Park in Albion. Following the programs everyone was able to enjoy great holiday foods and drinks in the dining room.

That same week, an 1800s sleigh that was hidden in the basement of NAPA was decorated and the members who rode in the sleigh where dressed in Victorian and Civil War clothing.

I would be very remiss not to note the passing of our long time member and friend, Nancy Berger. She was a great lady and will be deeply missed in our community.

We look forward to 2016 and continued growth as we continue to preserve our heritage.

Regards all

Reinhard

Officers 2016

President: Reinhard Rogowski
Vice President/Treasurer: Craig Lacy
Secretary: Shane Sia
Membership: Gail Miller
Newsletter: Gail Culver
Board:
Cindy Robinson
Georgia Thomas
Catherine Cooper

DON'T FORGET JANUARY MEETING

JANUARY 25, 2016 – Lee Whedon Library at 7 pm – hope to see everyone there.

REMINDER - MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE IN JANUARY!

FUTURE PROGRAMS!

- **January** – annual show and tell
- **February 29** – an Evening with FDR - Albert McFavder Will portray America's favorite president
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- **March 28**- Barn Beautiful the Aesthetic of NY barns – Nona McQuay, History Center of Niagara
- **April 25** - Honoring Killed in Action in Vietnam, Patrick Kavanagh, Forest Western New York Soldiers Lawn Cemetery Historian

A BIT 'O'HISTORY

By Shane Sia . (Reprinted from the September 2005 issue of 'The Bugle').

Medina's Streets-Names and Origins

Ever wonder how some of Medina's streets got their names?

- **Proctor Place** - It was once known as Washing St., possibly because people came to the nearby creek area to do laundry and bathe. Then the name became Fireman's Alley, then finally Proctor-fiom John Proctor of Albion who purchased the Kearney block (now Knights of Columbus building on Main St.). Included in this purchase was a stone bakery in the rear that later burned and was replaced by a brick building, which now is 413 Proctor Place - Case's paints.
- **State St.** - A state road was surveyed in 1827 and became known as StateSt.

- **Church St. - "Obviously" named because of the Episcopal Church.**

Interestingly though, the land that was purchased for the church was a public square and was known as Church St. six years before church was erected!

- **Bates Road - It was one of the first roads built in this area the Judge Lyman Bates, an early settler at the north end of the road, was where the name originated.**

- **Commercial Street - So named, according to John Parsons, because big plans were made in 1830's to construct docking facilities there off the canal.**

Log Schools in The Town of Shelby

This article is from the book by Alice Zacher *Slate Boards and Hot Soup*. Alice has graciously given permission to use articles from her book in the Bugle.

Log Schools

There is very little recorded history of log school houses in the Town of Shelby; however, I have uncovered a few tidbits

and will endeavor to share what I have found. Log schools were the forerunners of the typical one-room school and deserve a place in this book. The cut off point for building log schools was 1860. They had to be replaced by frame or brick design.

I am thinking most of our schools started as log schools. We had found four brick schools: District 15 on the Ryan Road, District 3 in Shelby Center and District 14 on Shelby Basin Road. (These are no longer in existence).

The Pioneer History of Orleans County by Arad Thomas published in 1871 gives a little insight of our log schools. The first school in the Town of Shelby was taught by Cornelius Aston in the winter of 1815-16.

The oldest minutes pertaining to log schools are dated 1818-1825. There are minutes in the book from most of the one room school boards in this book.