



MEDINA BUGLE

A Publication of the Medina Historical Society

March 2018

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Society members,

One of the most enjoyable things about this job is getting the mail...all sorts of things arrive...bills, sales, opportunities but the most exciting is getting letters from you, the members and folks wishing to be members.

I am proud to be counted among the membership of our *Society* and, for a brief moment in its rich and long history, to be privileged to serve as your President. We are an association of volunteers who combine our talents and our resources to safeguard and maintain our historic legacy that dates back to the establishment of our communities and even before. To be sure we attach tangible benefits to being a Member but, when you get right down to it, the pride that comes with knowing that you and I make it all happen *is priceless!*

A little box in each Bugle urges readers to consider joining the *Society*. This is the time of year we ask you to consider renewing your Membership and maybe even to go a step further. If you believe that the *Society* is important to the life of our community, please invite a friend or Neighbor to join in that support. If you are a **Life Member**, consider making an additional donation this year to help us meet our increasing operating costs. Most importantly, consider the ways you can stretch the benefit of your contribution by *volunteering* some of your time and talent.

Please check our website (historicmedina.org) for past and future events but I wanted to highlight a few for your calendar. In May we have Spring clean-up and boy, we need to clean up the inside of the museum and the yard from the Winter! So come by May 19th from 10:00AM to 2:00pm and have some fun getting dirty with some fellow members. Also don't forget our Annual Summer picnic on June 25th at *Glenwood Lake Pavilion* where Hots and Hamburgers will be provided and all you need to do is bring a dish to pass.

Thanks for your support.

Sincerely,

Reinhard Rogowski

President, Medina Historical Society

MEDINA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Officers 2018

President: Reinhard Rogowski

Vice President/Treasurer: Craig Lacy

Secretary: Shane Sia

Membership: Gail Miller

Newsletter: Georgia Thomas

Other Board Members

Catherine Cooper

Barb Filipiak

Cindy Robinson

Kay VanNostrand

St. Patrick's Day, 1902

A lavish and spectacular event took place in Medina on March 17, 1902 when Medina Council #651, Knights of Columbus was formally organized. Sixty-one members were initiated into this fraternal benefit society which was dedicated to providing charitable services, promoting Catholic education and actively defending Catholicism in various nations.



Over 780 guests attended on that date, many traveled on trains which had been especially scheduled by New York Central Railroad from Rochester and Buffalo for the occasion. A sumptuous banquet was served at the Hart Hotel, organized by Mrs. John Lewis and a team of fifty ladies. Music was provided by Grave's Orchestra. Guests arrived at 10:50 p.m. and enjoyed a meal of escalloped oysters, brown bread, rolls, heart of celery, olives, Saratoga chips, salads, cold boned ham, iced veal with horseradish, Vermont turkey with cranberry sauce, Neapolitan ice cream, sponge cake, chocolate cake, cheese slices, salted almonds, coffee and cigars.

W. Barry Murphy was toastmaster, Rev. Father Berkery gave the address of welcome while members from the Binghamton, Batavia, Buffalo, Rochester, Lockport, Niagara Falls, Salamanca and Geneva Councils spoke on different topics which included "Faith of Saint Patrick", "Lest we Forget the Germans" and "The Service Catholicism has Rendered America"

W.B. Curry, James Tuohey, J.D. Brennan and W. Barry Murphy, local members of the Rochester Council, were instrumental in the establishment of the Medina Council. Members of the former Celtic Club, which had been formed in 1885 as a mutual aid society, formed the nucleus of the Knights.

The staff of the first Council included Robert Mahar, Grand Knight; John B. Slack Deputy Grand Knight; W. Barry Murphy, Chancellor; Daniel J. Cleary, Lecturer; J.W. Cooper, Treasurer.

The Knights' first quarters were located on the second and third floors of 417 Main St., which had been vacated by the 29th Separat Company upon the construction of the Armory. At that time the first floor was occupied by Loblaw's Grocery Store, more recently by Garlock's Office Supplies and currently by the West Side Academy Dance Studio. The Knights purchased their current location 418-422 Main St., the Stafford Block, in 1919, to house the expanding membership of this popular social club.



Article contributed by Catherine Cooper

From: “School History Book – June 2003”

Some of us will remember how we started our school day with this:

“Almighty God, we acknowledge our dependence upon Thee and beg Thy blessings upon us, our parents, our teachers, and our country.”

This was the New York State sanctioned prayer and was recited daily – it was discontinued in 1962 when the Supreme Court held that the prayer violated the First Amendment.

I think is nice to note that Medina had the first “free” high school, other schools of higher learning in the county were tuition based.

Today many schools no longer teach cursive writing but in the past....

In 1861 Mr. G.H. Shattuck was a Professor of Penmanship. He became a national authority on the subject of penmanship and instrumental in developing the Spencerian Method of writing it was adopted in the Medina school system in 1878.

Many teachers came to Medina to teach, one of those teachers was Arden McAllister. He came in 1947 to teach but he did so much more. The history of our town owes much to him. He was a historian extraordinaire!

As we continue to celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the Erie Canal...

These stories are from, “Orleans County Historical Association - Appetizer Dessert Cookbook” – don’t buy it for the recipes buy it for the history! The Book Shoppe carries it.

From Arad Thomas’ “Pioneer History”

Lansing Bailey settled west of Albion in 1811 he recounted:

“In the summer of 1816, I heard a man’s voice hallooming in the woods south of my house. I went out to see what was going on. Saw several men there inquired what they were about. One of them said they were going to make us a canal. I laughed at them, and told them they would hardly make water run uphill between here and Albany. I added, it would be as long as I would ask to live, to be able to see such a canal as they talked of it in operation. How little did I then know of what men could perform aided by intellectual cultures and public wealth...”

“Canaller” was the name that was given to the men that worked on the canal and one of the meals they ate was, “black rock turkey.” Now it wasn’t black or turkey but rather it was salt pork sliced and fried and the fat then made into white gravy. The fried pork was placed over biscuits or bread and gravy poured over. It wasn’t heart healthy but very filling and gave energy needed for the hard labor of the day.

The canal brought many people here but one of the strangest ways to travel on the canal was by Lars Larson... 53 Norwegians came to America on the boat “Restoration” they left Norway on August 7, 1825 it took 98 stormy days of travel to reach New York City. U.S. Customs seized the sloop because it exceeded the number of people considered safe for passage. The “Sloopers” had purchased land in Kendall – Norway Rd. The sailed up the Hudson and then took a packet boat on the then new canal. Mr. Larson stayed behind to sell the sloop and finish up business and then he took a boat to Albany. It was now winter and the canal was closed and iced over but that didn’t stop Mr. Larson he bought a pair of ice skates and “skated” the canal to Kendall and his fellow Norwegians and new home.

Stay tuned for more fun facts about our remarkable canal....

Both articles contributed by Georgia Thomas

Interesting notes on WWI

Article contributed by Georgia Thomas



Company F started back from France on February 28, 1919, they mustered out at Camp Upson March 31, 1919.

The name of the local legion post was soon decided on that of: Corporal James. P. Clark in honor of his bravery. His citation read: "In the absence of the officers, he took command of Company F and fell at the head of his troops."

One comes across many items of interest when researching.....

I have a book called, "History and Rhymes of the Lost Battalion" it is a collection of stories and poems of WWI. I found this poem and thought it was one to share because its last line is still true of the soldier today as of yesteryear.

Gassed

I've gone all day in sort of a daze,
Have felt the horror of death,
Don't mind the fight 'cause know I'm right,,
But I'm worried about my breath.

It feels like a ball of red-hot fire,
Turned loose from hell's own door,
There seems to be no relief for me.

I can feel myself go crumpling,
And fall in a sudden heap,
Slowly the truth dawns upon me,
"Gassed last night in my sleep."

Doctor says I'll pull thru all right,
Will be good for a few more years,
I'm thinking of my mother dear,
And I just can't keep back the tears.

I've paid the debt that manhood brings,
To make an ideal stand true,
If perhaps I forget how to smile,
Remember, 'twas all for you.

*Remember;
'twas all for
you.*



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME(S): _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

FAMILY (\$20.00/YR)
INDIVIDUAL (\$15.00/YR)

MEMBERSHIP DUES: _____

ADDITIONAL DONATION: _____

TOTAL AMOUNT: _____

MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO: MEDINA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
SEND COMPLETED APPLICATION AND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO:

MEDINA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ATTN: MEMBERSHIP CHAIR
406 WEST AVENUE
MEDINA, NY 14103

It's Time to join the Medina Historical Society and Museum

Reminder If you have not already renewed your Medina Historical Society and Museum Membership, **now is the time of year to renew!** If you are not currently a member, please consider joining.

A Single Membership is \$15, and a Family Membership is \$20. Pick-up a form at any of the Historical Society Programs, stop into The English Rose Tea Shoppe, or print it from the Society's website.

Your Membership helps to keep Medina History alive by maintaining the Museum, with displays in the Museum, and Programs the last Monday of the month.



Monday, March 26, 2018 at 7:00 pm
at Lee-Whedon Library

The Erie Canal: Past, Present and Its Future Potential for Medina

Presenter: Thomas X. Grasso

Monday, April 30, 2018 at 7:00 pm
at Lee-Whedon Library

Medina's Vietnam Veterans Memorial, VFW Post 1483

Presenter: Wayne Castricone

Monday, June 25, 2018 at 6:00 pm

Picnic at Glenwood Lake

Hot dogs and hamburgs provided
Bring a dish to pass