

WHO

Westville Historical Organization, P.O. Box 157, Constable, N.Y. 12926

Chronicle

February 2011

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT - 2010



WHO President
Susan McGibbon Tobias

"The older you get the faster time goes by," seems to be right for me this past year. I can't believe we are writing the Chronicle again!

The WHO is always a busy place in warmer weather. We received guests whether they were members or just passing by. Last summer seemed especially busy with people traveling back to Westville to visit their old home or relatives still living in town.

We have continued to gain with our Veteran's Project. Jean (McGibbon) Goddard has received several copies of military records, photographs of veterans and some military artifacts that belonged to town residents. We will have a permanent place to display veteran's pictures including Westville's only female soldier to serve in World War II, Jean Rogers. This is an ongoing project.

Among our more interesting artifacts donated this past year by Ronald and Marilyn Anderson is a round, tin water canteen with cork, we believe from the Civil War-era. Can't imagine our ancestors depending on that small amount of water to hold them over till they reached a stream!



Our October meeting was a lot of fun when Betty Mount showed us a variety of old board games played by ancestors. Many members also played some of the games when they were young. One was a Crokinole board used by Betty's mother, Effie Armstrong Ellsworth, when she was a young girl in Briggs Street. Jan Boyea brought her play doctor's kit, Anne Gaggin brought a circular spelling board, Ronnie Anderson brought his Brer Rabbit game. Betty also showed us a game made by tying a long string together with a round object that is passed from person, secretly, until someone gets caught with the object. Needless to say everybody had a great time of laughter.

Our open house in August was called "Westville's Churches." Over 60 visitors stopped by that day. Thanks to Richard Avery, the chairman of the church exhibits; Jean Goddard for setting up the displays of baptismal and



Attic items see the light of day.

wedding gowns; the many who brought delicious desserts and helped in so many ways. It was a fun day.

At the moment we have emptied the attic of all items we squirreled away up there, since BEFORE we had our first meeting. You never know what you might need in the future, isn't that what the old folks used to say? We will keep what we need and have a yard sale in the early summer for the rest.

I want to say a special "Thank You" to our Board of Trustees -- Sandy Premo, Dorothy Campbell, Judy Stark, Rod Dustin, Jean Goddard, Myron Brady, Richard Avery and Rosanna Clark -- for being available for meetings and helping to make important decisions. Also, many thanks to our officers, Sandy Premo, vice president; Dorothy Campbell, secretary and Judy Stark, treasurer. Without their help my job as president would be a whole lot harder. Thank you for your support, in whatever way you gave. It's about preserving our town's history, but it's also about having a good time renewing old friendships and making new friends!

"THANK YOU" TOWN COUNCIL

A big "Thank You" to the Town of Westville Town Council for supporting us each year. We are fortunate to have a governing board who values the history of their town as much as we do!



Sharon Bell, a re-enactor who also sews period clothing for commemorative events, set up under the tree at the WHO for the August open house. Three additional re-enactors were scheduled to set up tents and a cooking fire but their modern-day vehicle broke down. All have promised to come for the 2011 open house, which we look forward to this August.



Darrell Hoadley, left, and Richard Avery, chairman of the "Westville's Churches" Open House in August, compare notes on their shared genealogy. Many visitors were thrilled to find their ancestors names in church meeting books, marriage or baptism records.



District No. 7 Schoolhouse — Pilfershire

This picture is of the one-room schoolhouse in what was known as the Pilfershire District. That would be the eastern end of the Westville-Trout River Road. We believe the time to be about 1880-1900, but not sure. We'd love to know the names of any of the students, or any other information about the school.

We have attendance books from other schools in Westville but not one item from this school. Contact Susan McGibbon Tobias 518-562-3948, or email mcgibby57@charter.net with information or artifacts from this or any of Westville's schools.

DUES ARE DUE!

Dues are \$5 per person a year (Jan 1-Dec 31). The historical society advisor from Albany laughs at this. He wanted us to raise them to \$20. We said no way. We may, however, have to raise them to \$7 a year, just to help with rising costs.

Although we email about 30 Chronicles, we snail mail close to 100, and at today's rate that is \$44 just for postage, not including the paper and ink to print. Please send comments about raising dues to our post office box or to mcgibby57@charter.net.

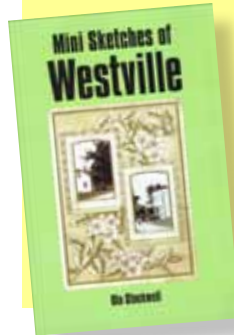
Dues should be mailed to Membership Chairman Carolyn Shane Faubert, 3843 State Route 11, Malone, NY 12953. If sending more than the \$5 dues, please note if the extra is a donation or to pay dues ahead for years to come. Thank you for your support.

NEW COOKBOOK OFFERED FOR SALE

Our newest venture, "Through The Ages," a cookbook with over 100 pages, has been very popular. Featured besides some very delicious recipes, are several pictures of businesses where Westville's cooks would have bought their flour and other ingredients for day-to-day baking. It sells for \$11, including tax; or \$14 if mailed. Send orders to P.O. Box 157, Constable, N.Y. 12926, or call Jean Goddard at 518-358-2374.



Members Don McKenzie and Sandra Fleury Premo sort over 200 recipes received for our new cookbook "Through The Ages."

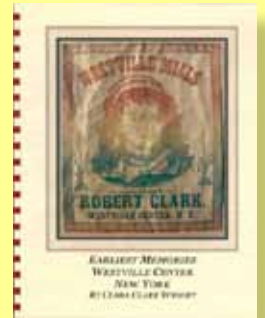


WHO BOOKS FOR SALE

The most recent release from WHO is the "Through the Ages Cookbook," which is packed with more than 260 recipes submitted by local families, area cooks and contributors from as far away as Indiana. The cookbooks are \$11 each, including tax, or \$14 if they are mailed.

"Earliest Memories, Westville Center, New York," written by Clara Clark Wright, and the reprinting of the 1977 book "Mini Sketches of Westville," by the community's former one-room schoolhouse teacher, Ola Stockwell, both are full of recollections, insights and historical accounts of the people, businesses and events that shaped Westville in its early years.

The Wright book, printed in a larger format, has 63 pages full of journal entries, photographs and town maps, and is available for \$20.50 including tax. The Stockwell book is being sold for \$14 including tax. Add an extra \$3 for mailing. Mail requests to our Constable address.



RESOLUTION

Just want to keep all members updated on what's going on at our meetings:

It has been brought up by several members to propose a resolution to change Article V, Section 4 in our constitution. At present, it states that the President, Vice President and Board Members, can only be elected for three years in a row and then have to be out of office for a year before being elected again.

The problem has been that those "younger" members (60s) who can serve actively, and are willing, are few and far between. Many members who attend meetings regularly are elderly and can't carry the responsibility that goes with the president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer or board positions. A large number of our members live in other states and cannot attend. Even some of the "younger" members who serve in an office have health problems and second-generation family responsibilities.

It has been proposed to change the bylaw to read "There will be no term limits for officers or trustees as long as they are re-elected at an annual meeting according to the bylaws." Reasoning is: if an officer isn't doing a good job, he or she will be voted out. Resignations will also be accepted. The constitution states this type of change must be voted on at a regular meeting. We will keep you posted on this matter.

CHRISTMAS MEMORY TREE - 2010

Donor	In Memory Of...	
Gail LaBarge	Aron B. DeLaire Janice M. Lapage Irene Avery	Raymond Avery Nora Avery
Tom and Gail LaBarge	Leonard LaBarge	
Troy Avery	Aron B. DeLaire	
James and Sandy Premo	Ann and Ernest Premo Watson / Marion Fleury Corleen Premo Beatrice Kirby	Robert Premo Diane Fleury Della Fleury Judy Clark
Jean and Frank Goddard	Arthur W. McGibbon Diane B. McGibbon Kurt A. Capiello Emily Johnson Reginald Johnson Kenneth Johnson Robert Johnson John Johnson Phyllis Castleman Grace Wilson	Clifford Stevens Edgar H. Goddard Lilly Goddard Reginald Goddard Clive Goddard Edgar Goddard Joy Wilson Nora Avery Anette Richard
Sharon and Ron Capiello	Kurt A. Capiello Arthur W. McGibbon Walter McGibbon Bernice McGibbon	Reginald Johnson Emily Johnson Joey Stone
Viola Travers	Dick Travers	Jean Wood
Anne and Warren Gaggin	Laura Gaggin William Gaggin Edward Wittner	James Ullrich Alfred and Jenny Bull
Rod and Sharon Dustin	Sheldon / Agnes Avery Shirley King Orien (PeeWee) Avery Norma Avery Ryan C. Dustin Melissa M. Muller	Linda Brady Beverly Rhoades Herby Rhodes Herman Dustin Bryan Adams
Ron and Marilyn Anderson	Edith Anderson Ralph Anderson Shirley Willis Clifton Willis	Margaret Sherwin Hollis Sherwin Floyd Anderson
Bertha M. White	Wesley C. White Clayton W. White George White Idah L. White Carl Sherman Evelyn Cook William J. Savoir Leafey Savoir	Florence McManus Francis Savoir Gerald Savoir Herman Savoir Adeline Savoir Laura Gratton Elenor Howard Jean Ellsworth
Carolyn McNamara	Rita K. Wylie Ross V. Wylie Reginald C. Wylie	Vernon C. Wylie William A. Cameron Kathleen A. Cameron
Larry and Lois Tummons	Grey One - our beautiful Siberian Husky	Francis Tummons
Larry Tummons	Bertwell Tummons	Lillian Tummons
Lois Tummons	Alfred Robinson Irene Robinson Linda Brady	Milly Foote Palmer Foote Dolores Mallett

Donor	In Memory Of...	
Myron Brady	Linda Avery Brady Chester Brady Marion Robinson Brady James Brady Joe Green	Beatrice Brady Green Mary Lou Brady Tuper Ed Robinson Matilda Boyea Robinson

Christmas Memory Tree names are permanently entered into a burgundy velvet Memorial Book that is permanently on display at the WHO.

MEMORIAL PLAQUES FUNDRAISING UPDATE

We have filled our first and largest Memorial Plaque. We have started a second plaque. Large memorial plates are \$50. We also have a smaller plaque with smaller memorial plates for \$25. All plaques are displayed in a permanent place at the Westville Historical Organization.

Send requests for memorial plates to WHO, P.O. Box 157, Constable, NY 12926. Please print how to engrave the plate. Large plates can hold three lines, small plates two lines, normally person to be remembered, who is remembering that person; more than one name can go on the larger plates. Thank you for your support with this fundraiser.

"THE GOOD OLDE DAYS"

The good old days, the good old days
When Eve and Adam wooed.
Eve did not yearn for taxicabs
Or want expensive food,
And after they were man and wife
She did not turn her head
And point to some chap passing by
As one she might have wed.

The good old days, the good old days,
In Eve and Adam's time.
They did not keep a fourth floor flat
With marble stairs to climb.
He did not have to wake at five
And quit some pleasant dream,
And toddle to the basement cold
To get a little steam. *Detroit Free Press (1900)*

If you are receiving this Chronicle by snail mail and have a high speed internet email address, please provide the email address to mcgibby57@charter.net and r2g2intl2@verizon.net in order to update our files so we may save on paper/ink costs and postage. Thanks!

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