

PRESIDENT'S DESK - 2013



WHO President
Susan McGibbon Tobias

Another year older...my, how fast time flies when we get up in years!

We had a busy year in 2013 at the WHO, mostly fundraising for our archival storage room. Through the generosity of our members and miscellaneous sales of books, I am happy to say we have raised approximately \$7,250.

We found a very reasonable contractor who gave us an estimate of \$4,500 including materials to erect the walls and roof and close in the 16-foot-by-18-foot room. He also included moving two windows from the existing room to the new room and install board and batten on the exterior. Previous contractor's estimates were \$20,000 and another nearly \$10,000.

Winter weather in the North Country has us on hold with room completion but as you can see in the photos (right), we have the cement poured and the walls up. We are waiting for a break in our winter to see the roof trusses put up and the room closed in.

Board Member Earl "Junior" Jackson petitioned the Triple A Lumber folks for a grant of either materials or a gift card. They are going to give us a huge discount, saving about \$350 on insulation, wallboard, electrical wire, etc. For this we are very grateful.

As was expected, our officers and board of trustees have been re-elected. I personally want to thank everyone who has served in an office and the many, many members who come to the meetings faithfully, willing hands that come for our spring cleaning, good cooks who bring our refreshments and who remember us with artifact and monetary donations.

I especially want to thank my mother, Jean Goddard, for the multiple hours of accessioning she does yearly. It is only because of her tenacity to have everything "in order" that we have such a well organized accessioning book. The next job is to have someone volunteer to input all that data into our Past Perfect computer program that keeps track of our museum collections.

We sincerely appreciate the monetary donation, lawn maintenance and snowplowing we receive from the Town of Westville. Only in a little town does everyone get onboard for the advantage of the community.

In all this happiness, we have been saddened by the death of members Shelley Mason Lebow, Lyle McGibbon, Margaret Brooks (husband, Wendell) and Creighton Wright. Our sympathy to the families of these members.

Our book sales, "Mini Sketches of Westville," "Earliest Memories - Westville Center" and "Through the Ages" cookbook, continue to add up. Check our website for prices. We will soon be discussing our next printing project.

All in all, we are having fun and that's what this stage of life is all about -- and along the way, we hope to pass on

WHO ARCHIVAL ROOM BECOMES REALITY



We have begun construction on our new archival room. It will be 16x18 feet, with two windows facing the road, and one door from the inside of the museum. With winter weather in the North Country, we're hoping for an early spring to finish the roof trusses and windows. The window to the far right on the present museum building will be the new location for a beautiful stained glass window donated by Robert Gibbs, in memory of his mother, Hazel. It was removed from the United Methodist Church in Trout River in the 1970s, when the church was torn down.



The new archival space from inside. We are looking forward to having the space to properly store our collection and records.

REMEMBER ANCESTORS ON MEMORIAL PLAQUES

At the Westville History Center, the WHO has two "Honors and Memorials" plaques for anyone wanting a lasting memento of their family's presence in Westville. The plaques hold plates that come in two sizes, small and large, for \$25 and \$50, respectively. Depending on the wording, two lines can be engraved on the small, gold plates, and three or four on the larger plates. One large plaque is full but we have purchased a second one and it, too, is filling up fast.

Send information exactly as you want to see it on the plate (a family name or individual's name, for example) along with the donor's name and your check to Westville Historical Organization, c/o 19 County Route 20, Constable, N.Y. 12926. Your donation will be acknowledged promptly.

to the next generation the importance of local history, especially in the Town of Westville, Franklin County, NY, because they are the future.

Susan McGibbon Tobias

FAMILY STORIES AND GENEALOGIES

We are always appreciative of family genealogies and family stories on people from Westville, even if they only lived in town for a little while. Often we have inquiries about residents who seem like they "were only passing through," because they stayed only a short time. That is still part of our town's history. Please contact Board Member Jean Goddard, 19 CR 20, Constable, NY 12926, lgoddard@twcny.rr.com or 518-358-2374, if you have something to contribute.

ELECTIONS

Elections were held at the annual meeting in November. It was voted on that the slate of officers remain the same. All agreed. WHO Officers are:

President: Susan Tobias

Vice President: Sandy Fleury

Co-Secretaries: Jan Boyea and Anne Gaggin

Treasurer: Judy Stark

Board of Trustees members are Earl "Junior" Jackson, Jean Goddard, Rosanna Clark, Myron Brady and Richard Avery.

All members are welcome to volunteer for election to the board. Meetings are held at least twice a year.

NOTE TO ADD TO GENEALOGIES ON FILE

We recently received a CD from James Owen who lives in Illinois and is related to the Cushman family. The CD contains a copy of the original book "A Historical and Biographical Genealogy of the Cushmans -- The descendants of Robert Cushman, the Puritan, from the year 1617 to 1855." The author of the original book is Henry Wyles Cushman, it was published by Little-Brown Publishing Co., in 1855. If anyone is seeking genealogy information on the Cushman's line, we would be glad to research it for you.

AH, MEMORIES!

WHO Board Member Junior Jackson has discovered a unique book, "Sunset on the Tracks," written about Fort Covington by Jack Boyle. His mother was a music teacher at the old Fort Covington High School.

Jack and Junior have been corresponding and Jack is planning to write another book, "Only Yesterday: Memories of Fort Covington, Bombay and Westville Through the Years." He is looking for stories, vignettes and anecdotes from the "treasure chest" of your memory. These stories can be a funny incident, a tragic event or an everyday memory of living in any one of the three towns, mainly from the 1930s through the 1950s and early 1960s.

He has pledged to give a percentage from the sale of the books to the activities in Fort Covington, and the Bombay and Westville historical societies.

He is also interested in photos that go along with your stories. His deadline is June 15, 2014. Mail him at Jack Boyle, 112 Palmetto Court, Milford, PA 18337 or email at sunsetmemoir@yahoo.com.

Junior bought the Sunset book at \$20 and said it was well worth the price and he recommends it highly.

WHO CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Due to a mixup at the Constable Post Office, we have decided to close our mail box at the post office and receive mail at WHO Board Member Jean Goddard's home. Please be sure to mail to **Westville Historical Organization, c/o 19 County Route 20, Constable, NY 12926.**

FYI: It is unfortunate that Westville doesn't have its own post office in view of the fact it is served by four post offices in neighboring towns. At one time there were at least three post offices in Westville, that we have documented. The last closed in 1912.



Westville Historical Organization

WHO WEBSITE

Thanks to the wonderful skills of member Gail Ferris Beasley of Nassau Bay, Texas, our website, www.westvillehistory.net, is packed full of the latest information including photographs from our summer events. The site also gives information on becoming a member, books we have for sale, genealogies, and issues of the Chronicle for 2009 to 2013.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY

As you know, winter in the North Country can cause us to hibernate until spring. We have tried to have a Christmas party in December only to have to cancel due to bad weather. Our answer: have Christmas in July! We hold the event on the 4th Tuesday in July with everyone bringing a dish to share. It's a great time to get together and not worry about the weather!

DUES

Members are reminded that it's time for our yearly dues of \$8 a year per person. Our year runs from January 1 to December 31. The Board appreciates the continued support of the mission of the WHO to gather, research and preserve as much of Westville's history as possible. Please mail dues to WHO Membership Chairman Carolyn Shane Faubert, 3843 Route 11, Malone, NY 12953-3725.

A reminder to members who want to make a cash donation to WHO with their annual dues, and those who want to pay dues several years in advance, please make a note to us what the extra in your check is for so we can honor your wishes. Thank you!

2013 OPEN HOUSE

Our July open house honored the town's World War II veterans. We contacted several veterans, who are approaching 90, or their family members, and were able to gather a lot of service-related details and photographs. We also had the privilege of a group of World War II re-enactors visit us for the day, who brought uniforms, guns and items the soldier would have needed during the conflict. It was an exciting open house!

If you are receiving this Chronicle by snail mail and have a high speed internet E-mail address, please provide the E-mail 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!

CHRISTMAS MEMORY TREE - 2013

Donor	In Loving Memory Of...	
Frank and Jean Goddard	Kurt Capiello Arthur W. McGibbon Diane B. McGibbon Clive Goddard Reginald Goddard Edward Goddard Edgar H. Goddard Lillian L. Goddard Victor Goddard Emily E. Johnson Reginald W. Johnson	Kenneth W. Johnson Phyllis E. Castleman Harry E. Castleman Grace E. Wilson John A. Wilson John M. Johnson Robert R. Johnson Charles Saunders Lila Lamay Patricia J. Anne Miller
Larry Tummons	Marie Tummons Bertwell Tummons	Lillian Tummons Francis Tummons
Lois Tummons	Alfred Robinson Sr. Irene Robinson Alfred Robinson Jr. Rodrique Lauzon Gloria Almond Linda Brady	Millie Foote Palmer Foote Marie Fleury Dolores Mallette Beatrice Stowell
Ronnie and Marilyn Anderson	Edith Anderson Ralph Anderson Margaret Sherwin	Hollis Sherwin Shirley Willis Clifton Willis
Earl and Shirley Jackson	Ella Jackson Earl Jackson Robert Jackson Grace Dustin Howard Dustin Raymond Dustin	John O. Tillson Cora Tillson John E. Tillson Donald Tillson Gary Tillson Gloria Pearsall
Jim and Sandy Premo	Ann Premo Ernest Premo Sr. Marion Fleury Watson Fleury Anne Phillips	Judy Clark Corleen Premo Beatrice Kirby Robert Premo Della Fleury
Diane Tremblay	Lyle Tremblay Richard Howard	Eleanor Howard
Sharon and Rod Dustin	Sheldon & Agnes Avery Shirley Avery King Hermon Dustin Bev & Herby Rhoades Gary Dustin Ryan Dustin Melissa M. Muller Orien & Norma Avery	Linda Avery Brady Bryan Adams Wally Lamica Warren Gorrow Clark Gorrow Kenny & Gerry Spencer Steven Shantie
Sharon and Ronnie Capiello	Kurt Arthur Capiello Arthur W. McGibbon Emily & William Johnson	Walter & Bernice McGibbon John Capiello
Bertha Mae White	Wesley White Idah White Clayton W. White Leafy Savoie William Savoie Herman Savoie William Francis Savoie	Gerald Savoie Florence McManus Rita Durant George White Laura Gratton Adeline Savoie Evelyn Cook
Susan and Toby Tobias	Arthur W. McGibbon Bernice Spencer McGibbon Walter Stark McGibbon Joyce McGibbon White Harry White Lyle Spencer McGibbon Tom Brooks Kurt Arthur Capiello Annette L. Richard Marge M. Tobias	Mirza J. Tobias Myrna Tobias Stone William Spencer Tobias Shelly LeBow Ray Heininger Douglas Armstrong Robert Smellie Ruth Larkin Elsie Stark Lila Lamay
Ed and Dorothy Strong	Phillip & Mabel Strong, Ed's parents	Allen Lesperance, Dotty's father
Viola Travers	Jean Wood	Richard Travers

Carolyn McNamara	Vernon Wylie William Cameron Kathleen Cameron John Ferris	Rita Wylie Ross Wylie Reggie Wylie
Myron Brady	Linda Lee Brady Marion Brady Chester Brady Francis Brady James Brady Mary Lou Brady Tuper Clayton Tuper Terry Tuper Clayton Tuper Jr.	Orien Avery Norma Avery Bea Greene Joe Greene David Greene Frank Brady Lena Brady Francis Wood

Mom, Gail LaBarge	Aron B. DeLaire
Brother, Troy Avery	Aron B. DeLaire
Mom and Tom LaBarge	Aron B. DeLaire
Daughter, Gail	Ray and Irene Avery
Grandson, Troy	Ray and Irene Avery
Sister, Gail	Janice M. LaPage
Aunt Gail	Craig A. LaPage
Tom and Gail LaBarge	Lyle S. Tremblay
Tom and Gail LaBarge	Leonard LaBarge

Names submitted for the Christmas Memory Tree are entered into a burgundy velvet Memorial Book that is on permanent display at the WHO.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Expenses to Date (January 1 - November 25, 2013):

Alarm Services	\$ 189.00
Electric	462.35
Fuel	409.90
Insurance	(includes \$1 million liability)..... 812.26
Internet Web Page Hosting	94.04
Miscellaneous	(tree/snowplow) 40.00
Office Supplies	134.97
Open House Expense	(includes re-enactor expense)..... 240.00
Postage	<u>386.52</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 2,997.08

Capital Purchases

Printer.....	\$ 229.99
Bakers Cabinet	100.00

Building Project

Concrete.....	\$ 490.00
Builder	(labor and materials)..... 1,121.14

Checking balance	(to date) \$ 3,500.57
Savings balance	(yearly utilities fund)..... 2,505.00

October

Checkbook Balance	\$ 7,249.00
Donation	150.00
Balance	\$ 7,399.00
Expenses	<u>1,611.14</u>
Balance	\$ 5,787.86

— Judy Cushman Stark/Treasurer