

Nanticoke Valley Historical Society

2017 Newsletter # 1 Match *edited by Phil Childs*



1850



1830



1840



1845



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Officers 2017

President:	Philip M. Childs	862-3405
Vice President:	Anita Shipway	
Secretary:	Carla Sullivan	862-5385
Treasurer:	Sandy Halliday	862-3470
Museum Curator:	Sue Lisk	862-9705
Mill Curator:	Tom Kotasek	862-3636

The Board of Trustees*

- 2017: Nancy Berry, Sandy Rozek, Pat Stacconi
2018: Lucas Kaczynski, Rita McKeon, Clark Gardner
2019: Gordie Gottlieb, Rachael Lawler, Cyrena Summers

* New positions are voted on each year. The term of a trustee is three years. This provides for an ever changing but ongoing board coverage.

A special thanks for three years of service to NVHS as Trustees. John Haggerty, Diane Fleenor, Betty Welch . They have guided our society through many wonderful times. Thanks. . Our new trustees 2017—2019 are Gordon Gottlieb, Rachael Lawler and Cyrena Summers ...Welcome

NVHS Museum Sites
located at 13 Nanticoke Road
Corner of Route 26 & Nanticoke Road
P.O. Box 75
Maine NY 13802

www.nanticokevalleyhistoricalsociety.com/

Check us out on Facebook.



Curator's Corner by Sue Lisk: Shirley Woodward, who is a Charter member, has donated many pioneer items to our museum over the years. Many of her items are important parts of our exhibits. These artifacts once belonged to the Woodward, Ketchum and Howard families of Union Center. The most recent item we received is an oil lamp once sold by the Rockefellers and initially owned by Gordon Woodward's grandmother who's family settled in Union Center in 1792. Note John D. Rockefeller was born July 8, 1839, Richford, NY.

"Old William Rockefeller came to the US from Germany and settled in this area. He grew potatoes. William and his wife had two sons who started making and selling these lamps to promote the use of this newly discovered oil instead of whale oil. This didn't last long as electric lighting was soon invented." Thank you Shirley and your family.

As of January 1st I am now the Town of Maine Historian. I will still be serving as the Historical Society curator and archivist. You can reach me by email nvhscurator@hotmail.com or by phone (607) 862-9705.



IN MEMORIAM

Berchard H. (Bud) Lee, December 4, 2016

Alice Tartanian Hopkins December 23, 2016

Leo W. Welch January 10, 2017



Shamrocks and Violets; Happy St. Patrick's Day, Vintage Postcard.

The United States Postal service and Maine, New York

In 1982 our small family moved to Lewis Street in the Hamlet of Maine. One of the first things we had to decide was whether we would "live" in Maine (13802) or Endicott(13760). Two choices for mail deliver were available, a street mailbox or buy a box at the post office to receive our mail. We went to the post office and were greeted by a very friendly person who welcomed us to Maine. It was the postmaster Betty Welch who continued to greet us each day and she just made us "feel at home", it was an easy decision we moved to 13802.

The first post office serving this region was in the John Curtis home located next to today's Maine Cemetery. Back then this was the center of population for the new settlers. In 1825 the Congregation Church was located where the old section of the cemetery is today, Jedidiah Dudley's farm was just south of the Curtis farm and the toll post road south to Union started. In 1828 Mr. Curtis operated the first post office from his home and but a few years later the post office moved into the Hamlet of Maine. In 1855 the Lincoln Store housed the P.O., 1866 F.H. Marean & Son Store (photo) 1908 The Columbian Block (photo) owned by F. C. Curlhair and then the Tymeson store (today's location) (photos). A few months ago a "conversation" was started on the Maine Community Public Group(2000 + members) Facebook page about the old post office. Many memories were shared especially about how the post office was on the side of the Tymeson store in the late 1940's and a trip home from school always included a stop at the store. Much of the information and photos for this article come from three sources: Betty Welch (a true historian), Ann Lewis Page's book (town historian in 1996)(out of print) *Then & Now A Pictorial History of the Town of Maine, New York, May 1998* printed by the Nanticoke Valley Historical Society and *Images of American Maine and the Nanticoke Valley*,2012 by Susan H. Lisk (NVHS Curator and in 2017 town historian) which is available at The Country Wagon Produce and our museum (proceeds go to NVHS). Phil Childs



TYMESON BROS.

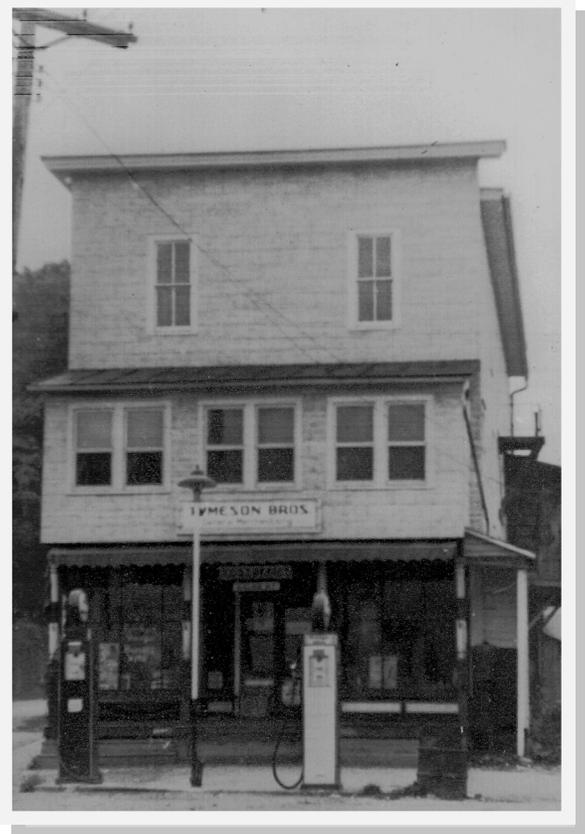
Quality Service Grocers

Telephone Maine 13

Maine, N. Y.

QUALITY Merchandise + Service + Cooperative Buying — Gives You These Prices for Week Ending Thursday Nov. 1st

<p>Home Grown Potatoes 49c bu.</p> <p>ONTARIO FIG BARS 2 lbs. 25c</p> <p>Lux Toilet SOAP 3 bars 19c</p> <p>LUX FLAKES large pkg. - 23c small pkg. 2 for 19c</p> <p>Morning Glory MILK tall cans 4 for 25c</p> <p>SUN-KIST Fruits for Salad 16 oz. can 19c</p> <p>Sweet Pickles Qt. Jars 27c</p>	<p>STOCK UP NOW! On These Bargains in Canned Vegetables</p> <p>Argyle Cut Wax Beans, No. 2 cans Argyle Cut Green Beans, No. 2 cans Argyle Golden Bantam Corn, No. 2 cans Argyle Golden Bantam Succotash, No. 2 cans Silver Floss Kraut, large cans Our Best Pumpkin, large cans Fancy Cut Beets, large cans Tomatoes, large cans YOUR CHOICE 3 cans 35c : 6 cans 68c</p> <p>Pillsbury's Pancake FLOUR large pkg. 29c</p> <p>SUN-KIST PINEAPPLE Sliced or Crushed Largest Can 2 for 45c</p> <p>FOULD'S MACARONI SPAGHETTI NOODLES 3 Pkgs. 25c</p> <p>DROMEDARY Pitted Dates 2 Pkgs. 25c</p>	<p>Day and Nite Coffee Sani-Fresh Vacuum 27c lb.</p> <p>Franco-American SPAGHETTI 3 cans 25c</p> <p>Cala Hams 15c lb.</p> <p>Celery Hearts 2 bunches 13c</p> <p>FANCY GRAPE FRUIT 4 for 19c</p> <p>ONIONS LBS 4 for 11c</p> <p>SWEET Potatoes 5 lbs. 13c</p> <p>Baker's Moist COCONUT 4 Ounce Cans 2 for 25c</p> <p>KELLOGG'S CORN FLAKES or POST TOASTIES 2 pkgs. 13c</p> <p>CAMPBELL'S Tomato SOUP 3 cans 20c</p>
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The Post Office was to the side of the Tymeson Store as you entered. Mobil Gas was sold in front.



<http://www.broome-county-postal-history.com/>

Above: Oct 30, 1863 Probably mailed at the Lincoln Store

To the right: Betty and Leo Welch combined their woodworking and artistic talents to create 3-D replicas of many of the towns buildings. To the right is our Post Office on Main and Church Streets. Betty served as postmaster for many years.





The Fred H. Marean and Son store (1865—1900) housed the post office starting in 1866. The stores location was found at todays parking lot of the Most Holy Rosary Church. The photo below taken in 1895 shows the original Gazebo and the Marean store. The LeRoy Brooks building is on the left, later it became the Tymeson Store 1912—1945

F.H. Marean and Son Post office 1866-1898

Did you know that as far as the US Post Offices were concerned, they were moved around from different stores depending on who was president of the US. If the president was a Democrat, the owner of a store that was Democrat would get it. If next election was won by a Republican, the P.O. would go to the Republican store owner. I don't know what happened if all the shop owners were the same party!



Post Office Columbian Block 1898—1908



F.C. Curlhair owner of Columbian block which would be found located in parking lot of The Maine Event. "The family appears in the 1880 United States Census living in Maine, Broome County, New York, where Freeman was working as a harness maker. Freeman worked as the postmaster of Maine in 1898 and had the same job when he appeared in the 1900 United States Census." [http://familypedia.wikia.com/wiki/Freeman_C._Curlhair_\(1837-1910\)](http://familypedia.wikia.com/wiki/Freeman_C._Curlhair_(1837-1910))

(Written for Good Templar Lodge)

"MAINE VILLAGE IN RHYME - 1874"
By Miss Hattie Tucker

In the valley of the Nanticoke is the village of Maine
For what it is noted I'll try to explain. We are a
peaceable people and live by hard labor. Each man is as
good, every whit as his neighbor.

Our school by Miss Roxie Eldred is taught, To
keep it in order, she has faithfully sought. Of
merchants, Taylor Bros, first I will mention, To
say aught against them, I have no intention.

They run a fine store, and sell all they can,
And Henry, their clerk is a model young man.
Ferdinand Sherwood also has a store, With
Lincoln and son at the very next door.

There's another store kept by Charlej G. Bowers, Where
you can furnish your house in a, very few hours. You'll
find Marean and son the very next place, Where you can
buy calico, linen and lace.

There's the post office too, which makes it quite handy,
You can call for your mail and buy you some candy. Miss
Muzzy too, is right up the stairs. She'll make you a
bonnet, in style, she declares.

The whole poem will be printed in future newsletters

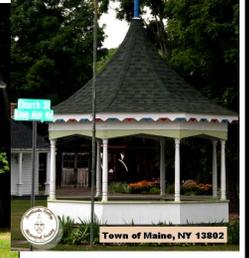
(Mrs. Harriet (Hattie) Tucker Ingalls was Ralph,
Earl and Fred Ingals' grandmother.)

This poem by Hattie Tucker Ingalls is very descriptive of the entire town as it was in 1874. The Good Templar Lodge was an anti-alcohol society where members, of all ages, swore against drinking of intoxicating beverages. It was extremely popular at this time throughout NYS and culminated in the 18th amendment to the U.S. Constitution which was ratified on January 16, 1919.



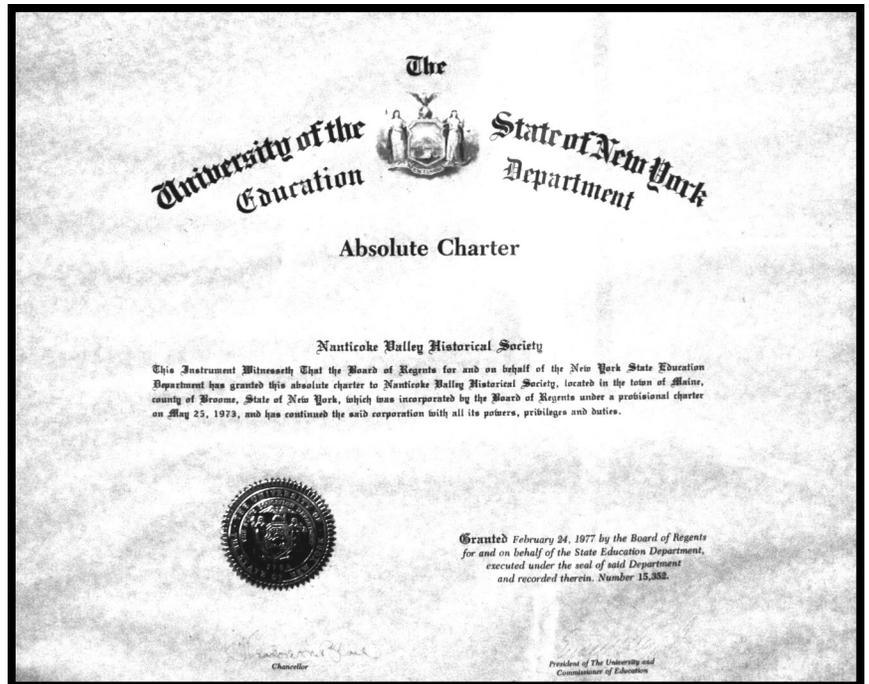
**F.H. Marean & Son store
would have had the post
office in 1874.**

**For Sale Original Maine Postcards 1.50 each 4 for \$5.00
On sale at: the Country Wagon Produce & At all our sites.**



We have an active website which you can find at: www.nanticokevalleyhistoricalsociety.com. If you wish to read our: "old" newsletters, cemetery tours, the Bowers and Dudley Families presentations go to the website. Thanks to Gordie Gottlieb who is the site manager and designer. He has done a great job and this site is an asset to our society. Check it out. PC

So how old in the Nanticoke Valley Historical Society? On October 21, 1969 individuals came together to organize the society. January 1973 we received a provisional charter from New York State. Our permanent (absolute) charter is dated February 24, 1977. So how old are we? ... 48 years in October, 44 years last January or 40 years in February 2017. What do you think?



HISTORICAL SOCIETY SIGNING CHARTER

(Left to Right) Elton Parr, Marion Gallager, Shirley Woodward, Paul Gunsalus, Chester Carlson, Gloria Oliver, Clarence Stratton, Lillian Ames, Eleanor Swan, Peg Parr.

January 1973 Provisional Charter signing

Nanticoke Valley Historical Society

"A meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Gloria Oliver on October 21, 1969, to discuss the formation of an Historical Society primarily concerned with local history. There were eighteen present including Mrs. Marjory B. Hinman, President and Richard Haberlen, History Curator at Roberson Center. A second meeting was held at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Emerson Comstock on November 18, 1969, at which twenty-one were present. A "Steering" Committee was appointed to determine time and place of meetings and nominations for temporary officers.

The next meeting was held in the J. Ralph Ingalls School with sixteen present. Temporary officers were elected: Mrs. Burton Oliver, chairman; Elton Parr, Vice Chairman, and Mrs. David Lasing, Secretary-Treasurer. These three together with Mrs. Gordon Woodward, Dr. Clement Bowers, Robert Adams, Mrs. Rodger Gallagher, Mrs. Myrle Bauer and Clarence Stratton were to act as a Board of Directors. Paul Gunsalus was appointed chairman of a By-Law's Committee and subsequently added to the Board.

Regular meetings were held on the third Tuesday of each month with an average attendance of 15-20. At the meeting of February 17, 1970, four members of the Fire Department appeared and suggested a community celebration to recognize the 125th Anniversary of the formation of the Town of Maine. At the April 1970 meeting a set of By-Law's was adopted which provided, among other things, that the name of the organization would be the Nanticoke Valley Historical Society and that its aim was to collect and preserve the history of the Nanticoke Valley and its environs.

The year ended in June with a picnic at the Gunsalus home with an attendance of approximately 80, including wives and members of the Town Board, Planning Board and Zoning Board.

The second year started off with an average attendance of 25-40. Meetings were held at the J. Ralph Ingalls School until December when a super was held at the Federated Church. Subsequently the meeting place was changed to the Maine Memorial school where they have been held ever since. The June meeting was a picnic held at the Gunsalus home with the Maine Community Band as guests. Approximately 80 attended. The Band provided a concert after dinner. During this period considerable planning was done on a proposed community celebration recognizing the 125th anniversary of the town. The Town Board passed a resolution setting the Memorial Day weekend in 1973 as the time of such celebration and designating the Historical Society as the agent for planning and carrying out such celebration.

In 1972 our average attendance was 35 and many interesting programs were presented. In view of our involvement with the celebration it was deemed advisable to incorporate the Society. After much work with our lawyer, Stuart Pearis, an application was made to the Board of Regents for a charter and new By-Laws adopted to conform with the Regents requirement. At the January 1973 meeting this charter was presented and signed. "

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Events may be subject to change. If schools are cancelled due to weather events we will be closed and rescheduled.

PROGRAM: March 20 Monday at 7 PM Janet W. Bowers Museum 13 Nanticoke Road Maine NY Presentation by Betty Walsh (this was originally schedule for November however 27 inches of snow fell!) WHEN THE HAMLET OF MAINE, NY WAS THE HOME TO MANY PROFESSORS OF HARPUR COLLEGE, ENDICOTT, NY 13802 Meets 13760 In the late 1940's and early 1950's Maine NY was home to over 20 faculty members of Harpur College, Endicott, NY.. Betty Welch will share her personal stories of these Maine residents while they lived here. In 1946 the new Triple Cities College of Syracuse University began in Endicott on Lincoln Ave. It morphed into Harpur College of the State University of New York eventually moving to its campus in Vestal.

FUNDRAISER: Tuesday, March 28th from 6 to 8 at Lampy's Mediterranean Restaurant located in the Union District 105 W. Main Street Endicott, New York. The NVHS will have "guest" bartenders ready to serve you your drink of choice. Join Stan, Kerin and Phil who will be there, behind the bar, for a great time.

SUGGESTION: As you do your "spring cleaning", set aside items to donate to the NVHS for their annual Memorial Day Sale at the school house.

PROGRAM: Monday April 17 7 PM at the Museum Join Mr. Kurt M. Eschbach, Funeral Director & Owner of Hopley & Eschbach Funeral Home to learn about "The surprising buildings that were at one time funeral establishments".

FUNDRAISER: Sunday April 23 from 1 – 3 PM At The Maine Event 2626 New York State Route 26, Maine, NY 13802 607-759-0811
Elegant Tea with a European Theme.



PROGRAM: May 15 Monday 7 PM "Where to Look for the Past in Maine NY". Phil Childs Power Point and Discussion. How "old" maps and publications give you a different perspective on the town you drive through each day....Where did it go?

FUNDRAISER: Monday May 29 Join us at the junction of Nanticoke Road and Route 26 after the parade. You'll find "Smokey Legends BBQ" from 11 –2 plus raffle baskets, bake sale and a NAEOS event* (new and exciting opportunity sale) aka rummage sale. All the above is at the one room school house. Also available for tours will be our: 1845 One Room School House and 1830 Pitcher's Mill and Janet Bowers Museum 13 Nanticoke Road.

PROGRAMS: June 17 and June 18

Saturday: In conjunction of NYS PATH Through History Weekend. 1-4 PM *The Dudley Family 1608—1989*; Museum Exhibit and Power Point Presentation.

Also available for tours will from 1 –4; 1845 One Room School House, 1830 Pitcher's Grist Mill and Janet W. Bowers Museum

Sunday: Gala opening of THE GALLERY AT MAINE, NY. Supported by a grant (details to come) June 18 Sunday Art Gallery Opening 1-4 with reception; Join Broome County Artist; To Be Announced. Exhibit runs June - July. Gallery open on Saturdays from 1-3 or by appointment. **The June meeting scheduled for Monday 19** is not being held. It was hoped you attended the Saturday and Sunday Events.

PICNIC July 17 Monday 6 PM (note time) at the Bowers Museum along with the dedication of our 40th Absolute Charter anniversary. Details to follow...This will be Huge.

*** Are you aware that the NVHS has elementary students tour the museum and our other buildings. We have set lessons that are geared to 1-2 and 3-5 grades. Each visit is taught by NVHS and it is an extremely positive experience.. We invite you to volunteer and join as an **NVHS educator**...NO Experience Needed Contact Sandy Rozek if you have any questions. 862 9480 or SjRozek@aol.com

**** **Docents** wanted for summer hours. We need individuals to guide visitors through the Mill, School House and Museum (1st and 2nd floors) (scripts and training provided.) Contact Sue Lisk for more information. 862 9707 or nvhscurator@hotmail.com

Nanticoke Valley Historical Society,

PO Box 75 , Maine, NY 13802

March 2017 Issue # 1

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: (Home) _____ **(Work)** _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Newsletter: **Mailed or Electronic**

Dues: _____ **Individual** _____ **Family** _____ **Senior/Student** _____ **Patron** _____ **Business** _____ **Other** _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____