

Town of Pompey Historian's Report , 2021

It was another year of living with COVID, and its impact on all of us. We now have a file drawer full of COVID newspaper clippings. This epidemic will be well documented for future researchers.

The Pompey Historical Society postponed their meetings and closed the museum again. I met with researchers in non-peak COVID times. Two couples came from Texas and I spent a day with each of them. Two different families scheduled appointments and came from Florida. About twenty Central New York individuals came seeking information about their ancestors. Some came to donate artifacts to the Pompey Historical Society's Museum.

Stan Scott shared his boyhood memories of being the newspaper boy for Delphi Falls in 1949 & 1950. It will make a good newsletter article in the future.

Stub Estey from Florida and his nephew Brian McDowell a N.Y.S. book publisher came. Stub had made a research appointment for information on a book that he is writing. When Stub was a boy, his mother Emily Estey, Town Clerk, found Daniel W. Holbrook's diary in their attic. They lived on Pompey Center Rd. in the house north of the Pomeroy Research Center (Museum). Holbrook moved his young family to the mid west in 1848 from Pompey Center. He ended up leaving them and going to the California Gold Rush. We found he was eventually

seeking gold with a couple of other Pompey men (Dyer & Berry).

Francis McCarthy of Skaneateles is writing a book about his Irish Pompey relatives the Burke's of Burke Rd. and Gates Rd. We found his ancestors lived in the Burke house on Gates Rd. It is the older house after you cross Sweet Rd. going east on Gates Rd. on the south side of the road. His ancestor and the Burke on Burke Rd. were brothers. (It is always my goal to add information to existing files or creating a new one when needed. I try to locate when possible where their forefathers lived. Then we go visit that area.) Francis took pictures of both sites. He has photographed the the Irish donated stain glass windows in the Catholic Church at Pompey Hill. These are Keck Windows that were made in Syracuse during the depression. One of them is a donated Burke window. Francis McCarthy was one of the Grand Marshals of the Syracuse St. Patrick's Day Parade March 12, 2022.

We received numerous gifts that I accessioned in 2021 for the Pompey Historical Society. Donald Mugglin gave us an old quilt his first wife had bought in the Hamlet of Watervale before she died. Don registered it, with New York State, as a historic quilt. This will be a newsletter article.

Roy Dodge gave us the photos that he used in his 3 Volumes "An Historical View of Pompey Hill, NY (copyright 2013). Also included were his files containing newspaper clippings and information that he had collected about Pompey.

The Fosters former residents of Indian Hill Rd. gave the P.H.S. many old newspapers. They knew that we have 3 early sewing machines. Some of the papers are about early sewing machines.

The Moreland children gave us Gail's historical files & etc. One box will be offered to the Manlius Historical Society or the F-M School District. If they decline, we will keep it because several children in our Town attend school there.

A John Calvin Perry painting of Little Georgie was mailed from Alabama to the Museum. P.H.S. President Anne Shelly wrote to the Fenimore Art Museum requesting copies of Perry's 1861 & 1862 diaries to assist us in our search to identify Little Georgie. The child is about one year old and is wearing a dress. Boys at that time wore dresses. Is Georgie a Boy or a Girl? The Fenimore Art Museum's Trustees voted to de-accession all of their Perry Diaries and folders pertaining to John Calvin Perry because they had previously given us their Collection of Perry paintings and sketches. They felt that these collections should be together again. I have accessioned this gift of three boxes of Perry diaries and folders for the P.H.S. Come to the 7:00 April 20, 2022 meeting at the Fabius Village Center to discover who Little Georgie was. His family had significant historical ties to the history of Pompey and Fabius.

Sheridan Davenport made an an appointment and brought artifacts from her deceased mother Carol Neubauer's house in Delphi Falls. Some things will be

given to neighboring towns at the APHNYS Regional Meeting in May. Sheridan agreed to this. Her ancestor Lucy Davenport had been a secretary at the Fabius School for many years. There are several yearbooks, graduation programs, and etc.

Former Town Historian, Sylvia Shoebridge donated a box of old door hinges, door latches, and nails. She used them to help date houses and describe them on her house tours.

Nancy Sky gave us Myra Clapp's (Way) girlhood dress and hat. Plus the photo of Myra wearing the dress. The gift also included a couple of undergarments and some lace.

When the Museum Campus was closed, we did research for some online or by U.S. Mail.

Oh yes, and the "white rock" from Jerry Antil that sits between the schoolhouse and the Pomeroy-Coe Heritage Center (pole barn). You will be invited to the June 2022 meeting commemorating the white rock in Jerry's books. They are about growing up in the Pompey Hollow before and after World War II.

We continued to collect things for the Don and Nancy Edwards Continuing Presence Exhibit. Their children and relatives will be here on Sunday July 10, 2022 from 2:00 to 4:00. Stop by and share memories or learn about these 2 vital residents of Pompey for several years and their vast community service.

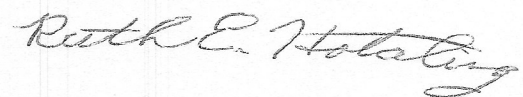
President Anne Shelly obtained a CNY Library Resources Council Grant. It provided money to have 46

Gary Lyon and Roy Clapp glass negatives to be converted to digitized images. It was a challenge for me to select these images from the many boxes of glass negatives. Plus the grant provided the funds for the digitized images to be hosted on the web nyheritage.org . When you get at their digital site, type in Pompey Historical Society and you will view these 46 pictures. At the same time you can view 75 of John Calvin Perry's paintings and sketches.

The Farm Days at the Heritage Hill Farm helped the P.H.S. to earn just over \$4,000. P.H.S. volunteer workers signed over their pay and the rest came from a share of the food profits. This help balance the P.H.S. budget because membership and raffle money were down.

All of these projects continue to provide a learning experience for me and a means of enlarging the P.H.S. files. The Town of Pompey Historical Society and your Historian thank you for all of your support in keeping an active Historical Campus in our Town.

Sincerely,
Town Historian

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ruth E. Hotaling".

Ruth E. Hotaling