

# SANBORN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## *SALUBRIS*

### **President's Message**

Great to start the activities again!!

We had our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and Open House in July, Basket Palooza in August and the Lewiston Bicentennial Fundraiser Dinner in September. We have a Ham Dinner in October and are looking at additional events in the Fourth Quarter. Thanks to **Bonnie Haskell and Glenn Wienke** for coordinating these events and thanks to **Pat Thompson and Bonnie** for their work on the Basket Palooza. We started our monthly Regular Meetings again in September now at the Farm Museum.

We need our members support to work on events and as **Museum Sitters**. Please help us with our activities as we get going again after COVID-19!! You can contact any Board member if you can help.

Thanks to **Gary Townsend** and his helpers getting a lot of work done this summer on the Farm cleaning up and fixing up. The summer work included moving the Schoolhouse Coal Shed to the Farm. **Gerry Treichler** also got us a grant for a new roof on the garage and part of the cold storage building. The Farm looks great!

Thanks to everyone involved in getting things going again!! Come out and join us!!

*Bill Read, President*

### **Your Board of Trustees (Museum Ph 731-4708)**

(Board Meetings are held at the Museum on the 3rd Tues at 7:00 PM )  
(MUSEUM ADDRESS- 2822 Niagara St, PO Box 172, Sanborn, NY 14132)

President- **Bill Read (870-6263)**; Vice Pres-**Bonnie Haskell- (957-4851)**; Recording Sec-**Ruth Pirinelli (471-4677)**; Corresponding Sec- **Gerald Treichler (731-9510)**; Treasurer-**Glenn Wienke (731-5982)**.

Trustees-at-Large- **Paul Calkins (471-4422)**, **Ron Craft (818-0360)**, **Jim Ditzel (433-7439)**,  
**Gwen King (704-2961)**, **Gordy Hermanson (731-9650)**, **Scott McEldowney (471-5637)**, **Jane Schultz (731-9404)**, **Elaine Timm (471-2217)**, **Pat Thompson (731-2666)**, **Gary Townsend (523-0743)**.

Farm Museum Curator- **Bonnie Haskell- (990-6909)**  
Schoolhouse Curator- **Elaine Timm (471-2217)**

## SAHS 25 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OPEN HOUSE

The open house was held July 25 with both dignitaries **State Senator Robert Ortt** and **Niagara County Legislator Chairwoman Rebecca Wydysh** attending and providing SAHS with Proclamations recognizing our anniversary and providing their best wishes and continued success.



**Senator Ortt presentng Proclamation to Bonnie**



**Legislature Chairwoman Wydysh presentng Proclamation to Bonnie**

### REGULAR SAHS MEETINGS ARE NOW AT THE FARM (NOT THE FIRE HALL)

The program for the October 28 meeting will be "Update from Niagara Military Affairs Council" by **John Cooper**; and for November 23 will be "Niagara Gospel Rescue Mission" by **Tom McLaughkin**.

## ANNUAL ELECTION 2022

Since our January 2021 Newsletter, **Lynn Hoffman and Bill Hooter** have resigned from the board of Trustees and **Ronald Craft and Gordon Hermanson** were approved to replace them. All the officers and five trustee positions will be up for 2022 election at our November annual and regular meeting at the **Farm Museum**. The current officers have agreed to be nominated for 2022. Also the trustees whose term expires in 2022 (**Gordon Hermanson, Ruth Pirinelli, Elaine Timm, Gary Townsend and Gerry Treichler**) have agreed to be nominated for re-election. Additional nominees will be accepted from the floor.

### SOLAR PANALS:

Our Solar Project is currently on-hold pending resolution of National Grid substation capacity issue in taking the electrical power generated by our Solar Project.

### GRIGG LEWIS GRANT:

We received a grant of \$7,000 from the **Grigg Lewis Foundation** of Lockport. This was used to replace the garage roof at the farm by Tuscarora Roofing and re-shingling a portion of the cold storage building using our own people. We thank the **Grigg Lewis Foundation** for considering SAHS to be worthy of their support and to **Gary Townsend** for overseeing the project.



**Shingling of Cold Storage Building**

### SAHS MUSEUMS NOW OPEN-

The Farm Museum is now open from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Wednesdays and Sundays through mid-October. The Schoolhouse is open every Sunday from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

through mid October and 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month during the winter months. Also; both museums will be open throughout the year by appointment by calling Glenn Wienke, 731-5982.

### WEST ST SCHOOL CHILDREN NOW USING SIDEWALK

A meeting was held with **Theron Mong, Principal of the West Street School** and **Officer Anthony Nicoletti, of the Lewiston Police Dept.** regarding the West Street students walking to our Farm Museum. **Principal Mong** saw no reason why the West Street School students couldn't use the sidewalk to visit the Farm Museum with Police escort offered by Officer Nicoletti to act as a buffer to Route 31 traffic. West Street school students are now making visits using the sidewalk.



**West Street School students using the sidewalk to visit our Farm Museum**

### SAHS 2021 EVENT SCHEDULE-

SAHS will host their annual Ham Dinner from 4 to 7 PM at the farm on Saturday October 23. Tickets are \$12 advance sale and \$13 at the door.

We have been asked to announce that the Lewiston Town Hall will host a Chia-vetta's BBQ Chicken Dinner drive thru on October 9 beginning at 4 PM until gone at a cost of \$14. Proceeds will benefit the upcoming Town Bi-Centennial.

### BASKET AUCTION PALOOZA

The recently held Palooza with **Pat Thompson & Bonnie Haskell** as cochairmen was a huge success. We had a net profit of \$5684 with 559 baskets as prizes.



**Pat Thompson & customer at Palooza**

### COAL SHED MOVE:

The coal shed has been moved from the Schoolhouse property to the Farm. Thanks go to **Mike Townsend** for donation of his time for operating the bulldozer and to **the Milleville's** for donating the use of their bulldozer for the move. This will help with storage needs at the farm. The building was previously used as a coal shed for the original 1874 Sanborn School on West Street.



**Mike Townsend moving our Coal Shed used by the 1874 West Street School**



## SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Please inform any SAHS board member with names of those members needing “Thinking of you” or “Bereavement” cards. Martin Kroening has recently passed away.

## MEMORIAL SERVICE-

A memorial service for **Don Calkins & his wife Ann** will be held on Saturday, October 23, 2021 at the Hope Methodist Church at 11AM with a reception afterward. Contact **Eileen** (622-4018) for info.

**LIBRARY/COLLECTIONS-** **Jane Schultz, Chair Person (Ph.-731-9404),** assisted by **Elaine Timm,**

**Donations of artifacts may be made by contacting Jane.** Final acceptance is determined by our Board of Trustees. New items received and approved by SAHS since last reporting are a bassinette and high chair from the **Arlene Brontmire estate,** an six-foot wide 1852 map of Niagara County received from **Loren Fish** and a gas pump, oxen yoke and a wood/coal fired kitchen stove from **Norm Human.**



1852 Niagara County Map

## USDA LOAN:

The USDA approved a second one-year postponement in our payments on our loan until August 1, 2022 to help us remain solvent. The approximate \$180,000 remaining on our \$215,000 loan taken out in 2002 will then be refinanced back to 30 years at an interest rate of 4 5/8%.

**REMINDER TO PAY MEMBERSHIP DUES-** **Shirley Simrell (417-9767)**

We are closing out 2021 with 515

members. Present membership for **2022 is 81.** This is a reminder to pay your dues for 2022 if you have not done so. Your label on this newsletter shows if you are paid or not for 2022. We have discontinued sending out membership cards. We thank **Sandra Canton, Jim & Joanne Cowe, Nancy Franklin, Wally & Donna Friert, Warren Glover, Lynn B. Hoffman, Bonnie Lajoie, Shirley Mabon, Ray & Lucia McGovern, Lawrence & Nancy Pfohl, Christine Stumpf, Down & Pat Thompson, Gary & Linda Treichler, Merv & Sue Treichler, Gerry Treichler, Posemary & Bob Warren, and Jay and Susan Wendt** who have paid their dues of \$100 or more as patrons for 2022, This helps us to remain solvent since our normal annual income of about \$19,000 from our fundraisers will only be only about \$3000 due to carry over of Coid-19 into 2021.

**WORK PROGRAM - Gary Townsend Chmn (Ph 523-0753)**

The Niagara County Legislature is providing 2 students to work up to 29 hours per week including paying their insurance until the end of August. This will continue on an on call basis during the winter months. This has worked out very well for us since their **Sheriff's Work Program** has been abandoned.

## FARM MUSEUM USAGE-

**SCHEDULE- Bonnie Haskell, Chair Ph. 957-4851.**

Our members and others are requested to contact **Bonnie** for use of the hall in accordance with our “Hall Rental Agreement”. Information can be viewed on our [www.sanbornhistory.org](http://www.sanbornhistory.org) web site.

## PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR SOCIETY-

Please consider the Sanborn Area Historical Society as part of your tax-deductible gifts short term as well as long term giving program, as memorials, in your will or for special recognition and endow-

ment gifts. Your gifts and generosity will help assure the completion of our goals...long-term viability of our historical society and our museums.

### 3 TOWNSEND GENERATIONS

3 generations of Townsends donating their time in extending our east road at the farm. From left- Mike Townsend, past Town Water Dept Supvr, his daughter Kyla, of the Town Parks' Dept, and Gary Townsend their father, grandfather. We thank them as well as our neighbors, the Milleville's who donated the use of their frontend loader tractor.



**3 generations of Townsends donating their time in extending our east road at the farm. From left- Mike Townsend, past Town Water Dept Supvr, his daughter Kyla, of the Town Park's Dept, and Gary Townsend their father, grandfather.**

### HISTORICAL CORNER

**Talk on Grange prepared for the Sanborn Area Historical Society March 26, 2002**

**(By Marcia Rivers)**

**(The Grange Hall building is in disrepair across the road from the Hope Methodist Church in Pekin)**

**THE BEGINNING:** In 1866 President Andrew Johnson gave Oliver Hudson Kelley a commission to survey agricultural conditions in the Southern states because there wasn't much reliable information following the Civil War.

The War Between the States had of course devastated the Southern farmer, but it had affected others as well. Many northern rural people were cripples or lost members of their farm families as a result of the war. Widows were left to run farms.

**NATIONAL GRANGE WAS OFFICIALLY FOUNDED ON DEC 4, 1867. Kelley and six others were the founders of the Grange.** Although there was an agricultural background among the seven founders, five were currently Washington government officials, one a banker, one a minister and none were active farmers. While much of the early history of the Grange was aimed at assisting farmers in the South and West (now our mid west) all of the founders hailed from north and east.

At this time in history the fraternal orders of Masonry and the OddFellows were popular among city dwellers. So Kelley decided to make the new organization a fraternal order. **Kelley based the movement on the dedication farmers and their families had to their farms, their religion, their country, and family life.**

**1874 DECLARATION OF PURPOSES OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE:** *"We cherish the belief that sectionalism is, and of right should be, dead and buried with the past. Our work is for the present and the future. In our agricultural brotherhood and its purposes, we shall recognize no North, no South, no East, no West."*

The Grange, unlike other fraternal organizations was for men & women. Women were treated as equal voting members. Of the 13 offices in the Grange, 4 of them were reserved for women only. This was quite radical for the time. Children

were also included. A junior Grange was created later. At the age of 14 they could become full voting members of the Grange. The Grange was family oriented.

Probably because many of the founders were Masons the order and rituals of the Grange were patterned after the Masonic Order. The Grange is based on the Book of Ruth from the Bible. The Bible is opened to the Book Ruth on the Altar in the center of the hall during each meeting.

**GENERAL OBJECTS” OF THE ORDER WERE:**

United by the strong and faithful tie of Agriculture, we mutually resolve to labor for the good of our Order, our Country and Mankind.

We heartily endorse the motto: “In essentials, unity; in non essentials, liberty; in all things, charity.”

By the mid 1870s **interest in the National Grange was intense and membership** exploded. This was influenced by the financial panic of 1873 and also partly by a general awakening of the farmer to **fight against the middleman, the railroads and others with hostile or unfriendly interests. Membership was especially strong in the South. While** carpetbagging was a regional issue there were also middlemen and railroad barons who, as many farmers saw it, were feasting on the life’s blood of the working man of all regions.

Another part of the 1874 Declaration of Purposes of the National Grange states:

*“We propose meeting together, talking together, working together buying together, selling together, and in general acting together for our mutual protection and advancement, as occasion may require.”*

**Buying co-operatives were established, middlemen were eliminated and prices reduced.** Other co-operative enterprises, such as grain elevators and mills, were introduced. The Grange took on a

**more economic role than** was originally planned. In some ways the Grange replaced the middleman more than eliminated him. **Grange Federation League (GLF feed & seed store)** The Grange movement is perhaps best remembered in history for **battles with the railroad magnate**, or robber barons, depending on one’s point of view.

The US government gave the railroad companies vast amounts of farm land and, of course, railroads had monopolies on carrying grain and other farm produce and supplies. The railroads were viewed as high handed, greedy and unscrupulous. War with the railroads was not an original purpose of the national Grange, but taking on the railroads turned out to be a natural extension of the theme of equal opportunity and condemning exorbitant profits taken by middlemen. Many state legislatures enacted what were known as the Granger Laws lowering freight rates and establishing state railroad commissions to regulate railroads and eventually other public utilities. The railroads fought back. The final outcome was the creation in 1887 of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

From the beginning the Grange has been very active in legislation, but the Grange backs issues, NOT political parties or candidates. The ties with religion honor no single faith, but there is an open Bible present at all meetings. In the patriotic spirit, an American flag is displayed at Grange meetings.

Many issues legislated by the Grange still effect us today. Rural Free Delivery of mail is something that each of us takes for granted today.

During the 1870s the Grange put on a campaign for the rural free delivery of mail. Before that time city dwellers had the mail delivered to their door while country folk had to go into town to the post office to pick up their mail. Interesting results

of this were: value of farm land increased by \$2.00- \$3.00 per acre and roads had to be improved to deliver the mail.

**1887 National Grange proposed establishment of the parcel post system. Today National Grange opposes the subsidizing of junk mail by first class mail rates and also is fighting to keep Saturday delivery of mail.**

The Grange worked for a **graduated income tax** so that all would be taxed more fairly.

Temperance and opposition to the use of tobacco products was encouraged. The programs of the lecturer's hour stressed education, homemaking skills, entertainment, health and safety issues.

**THE FIRST GENUINE GRANGE** that "Lived, breathed, & had being was organized in Fredonia, NY by the founder Oliver Kelley, himself, in 1868. Today in Fredonia, the conspicuous Grange Hall on the main street continues to stand out with its front lettered windows on a white background and the **'Fredonia', Grange NO. 1. A large tablet says, "Organized April 16, 1868. Building erected 1915"**.

**PEKIN GRANGE #1202 WAS ORGANIZED IN 1910.** The number 1202 signifies that this was the 1,202 Grange established in the country.

The Pekin Grange was organized by Rev. P.T.Parker who was Pastor of the Pekin Methodist Church at that time. The first officers elected March 21, 1910 were:

By the year 1921 Pekin Grangers built a new hall on Upper Mountain Road west of the Methodist Church. This hall still stands although in disrepair.

Many events have taken place at the hall over the years. Round & Square dances were regular features soon after the hall was built and continued until sometime in the mid 1960s. Many young people met their life partners there. Many attended dances and other functions. Fairs, produce exhibits, community auctions, minstrel shows, 4H plays and competitions and many other func-

tions took place because it was the largest meeting hall in the area at the time before the time of the large fire halls. During the 1953-1954 school years, Lewiston District 7 or Pekin School rented the basement of the Grange Hall for 7th & 8th grade classes until a new elementary school was built on Carney Drive.

The Pekin Grange Hall was sold in 1974. The other Granges in the county have been torn down or sold also. The Pekin Grangers met in home, the Methodist Church in Pekin or restaurants until they turned in their charter in July 2001. Many of the eight remaining members had been members for over 50 years.

When the Grange was organized, approximately 97% of the people earned their livelihood directly through agriculture. Today that percentage has dropped to approximately 2%.

The Grange today is a rural/suburban family oriented, community service fraternity that has a special interest in agriculture. Remember-

- 1) You are having mail delivered to your home 6 days a week
- 2) Telephones were extended to the rural areas
- 3) Co-operatives were established to help cut prices
- 4) Roads were improved

**In 2002 one of the issues the Grange is working on is reform of the federal tax system to preserve family farms and rural businesses.** Within a decade, the majority of US farmers **will be over 65** years of age. The Grange wants **those men & women to be able to retire with dignity & wants to give their children the opportunity to keep the farm in the family.** The Grange will continue striving for total elimination of the "death tax" and will work to obtain **the same kinds of capital gains exclusions on farm as those enjoyed by urban Americans on their homes.**

**SANBORN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE**  
(Regular Meetings, all at the Farm Museum- 4th Tuesdays at 7:00 PM)

**PROGRAM**

Regular Meeting - October 26, 2021 ..... (See Below)

Annual Meeting - Nov. 23 ..... "Niagara Gospel Rescue Mission"

Regular Meeting - ... No December Meeting- "Merry Christmas"

Program for the:  
Reg Meeting:  
Oct. 26, At 7:00 PM

"Update from Niagara Military Affairs Council"  
Presented by John Cooper of N. Tonawanda

**Sanborn Area Historical Society**

**PO Box 172, Sanborn, NY 14132**

(PUBLISHED QTLY BY SAHS SEC. GERALD TREICHLER)



**Visit our Web Sites**  
**[www.sanbornhistory.org](http://www.sanbornhistory.org)**  
**Find us on Facebook**

**Membership Application & Donations: *Sanborn Area Historical Society***

**(Annual Dues are \$15 for Family; \$10 for Individual; \$100 for Patron, Business, Professional)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Classification ( ) New Member ( ) Renewal Donation Amt \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

(Make checks payable to: Sanborn Area Historical Society, PO Box 172. Sanborn, NY 14132)

(We are a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit Society. Donations are appreciated in the form of cash or artifact donations or from that of an estate. They are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law)

**SAHS is an Equal Opportunity Provider.**