

MARION HISTORIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Volume 2021

ISSUE 3



🎆 *Happy 2022!* 🎆

Progress and a Parade!



Despite being rainy and cool, December 18th was a red-letter day in Marion! The Marion Fire Department coordinated with several other local organizations including the Marion Historic Association to hold a parade down Main Street. The Marion NY Event Organization held a Holiday Decorating Contest, the Marion NY Betterment Organization held a Gingerbread House decorating contest and the Marion Museum opened its' doors so the community could see the progress that has been made since the Fall Festival. Our floors have been stained and sealed, our walls painted and work will continue throughout the winter to finish the first floor.

In addition, we had wonderful help from the Bucks and Does and Four H Friends 4H clubs. Seen below from L to R: Back: Jenna and Alysha Kuhn. Front: Madelyn and Eliza Frey, Morgan Hunter and Carly Chapman. As you can see, these young women enjoy Civil War Reenactments too. They also helped with our first Haunting in the Hamlet, another successful event this year.

The parade included units from surrounding towns including East Palmyra, Palmyra, Williamson, Walworth, Stanley-Gorham-West Seneca, West Walworth and Sodus. Floats were made by the Jon and Jen Hunter family for the Marion Historic Association, Lollipops and PolkaDots, Moms for Liberty, and the Brooks family farm.

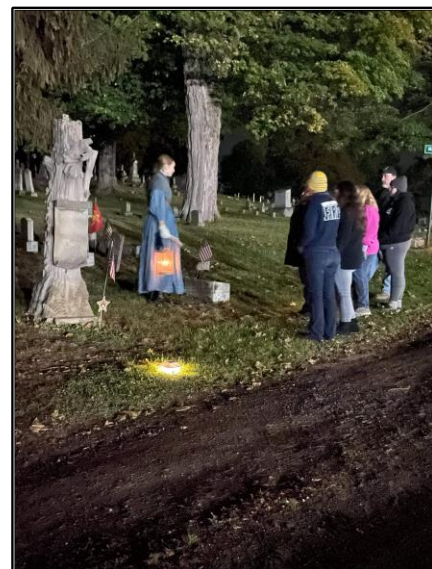
After traveling down Mill Street, the parade proceeded to Main Street, continuing all the way to the Town Park where Santa greeted the children. This event was well received by all! Thanks to all who made it a success!



HAUNTING IN THE HAMLET UPDATE

This year was our first time hosting an event called “A Haunting in the Hamlet.” This was the brainchild of Marion Historic Association President, Jennifer Hunter. The membership, with the help of the 4H groups, created an event that was well received by the community. Time staggered groups were lead on a walk down Main St. to the cemetery lane on N. Main. They then proceeded to through the cemetery, back out on Buffalo St. and up to the museum for refreshments. Actors spoke at various points throughout the walk telling stories about people who have lived in Marion like Love Seymour.

Miss Love F. Seymour donated many of the monuments in the main cemetery including the entry gate on Cemetery Lane, the Soldier’s Monument, the Helen Green Memorial Chapel and the angel statue and vault near the Seymour/Green lot. Her donations were in memory of her family, principally Eli and Margaret Green who were her grandparents. Eli was a Revolutionary War veteran. Her donation of the Soldier’s Monument to honor him made the news in papers throughout the country well into the Midwest. Other subjects included Friend and George Kenyon, a father/son set of Civil War veterans. Because some of our 4H group members also do Civil War re-enactment, they already had costumes appropriate to the period which really enhanced the experience for those who paid for the tour.

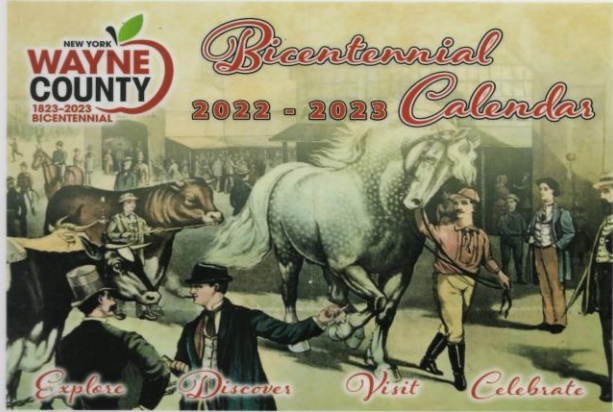


We had about 40 people take part in our first tour. Thanks to Mark Haskins for allowing us to open the vault in the Marion Cemetery.

WAYNE COUNTY BICENTENNIAL PLANNING *update*



AVAILABLE FOR \$15 EACH



This 2-year commemorative calendar contains around 800 historical facts related to Wayne County as well as over 300 images that represent all aspects of Wayne County Life.

This is a keepsake that you will enjoy looking at for many years, AND it would make a GREAT Holiday Gift.

These wonderful calendars are the collaborative work of all the Wayne County historians. Calendars are \$15 each and available through the Marion Town Clerk, the Marion Historic Association by emailing me at marion.ny.historian@gmail.com or calling me at 585-738-6577 for local pickup.

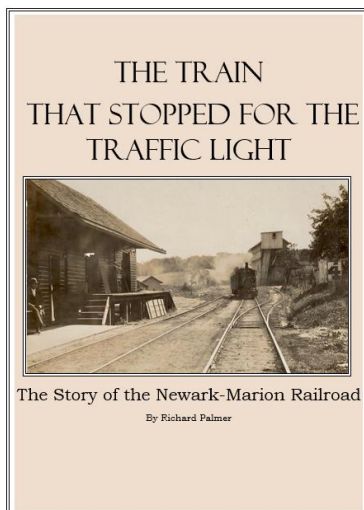
To have a calendar mailed out of town, send me a note c/o MHA, PO Box 330, Marion, NY 14505 and enclose a check for \$19 (\$15 plus \$4 for shipping). If you are ordering 2 calendars the shipping increases to \$5. If you order three calendars it goes to \$8. The calendar is about 9" x 11".

The Marion Historic Association receives \$3 each from the sale of the calendars and we hope you will support us in this fundraising opportunity as every little bit helps us continue the project at hand.

If you would like to be involved in the Marion Bicentennial committee, please contact me either by phone or 585-738-6577 or email me at marion.ny.historian@gmail.com. We are looking for members from the Legion, local churches, school administrators/staff, businesses and any other interested folks. I appreciate your support in this wonderful celebration of our history.

NEWARK-MARION RAILROAD

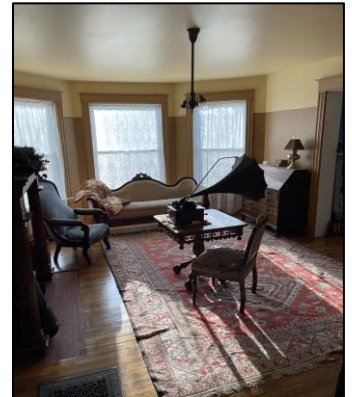
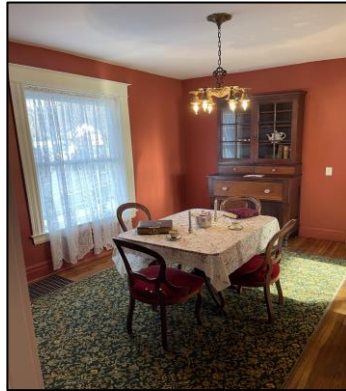
There is a new FaceBook page dedicated to the Newark-Marion Railroad. It is administered by local railroad afficianado, Ken May. He has many photos he has shared so far and we will be sharing more soon. Look for it at [Newark and Marion Railway Facebook Page](#).



The books have not arrived in time for Christmas giving but I do have some information. The books should arrive shortly after the first of the year. They will sell for \$15.00. We are ordering 100 initially but can reorder as the need arises. Postage will probably be an additional \$4.00 to ship.

If you would like to put your name on the list to receive one, please email me at marion.ny.historian@gmail.com or write to me at PO Box 330, Marion, NY 14505.

WHAT'S NEW AT THE MUSEUM?



Much work has been done at the museum. Thanks to Jon and Jen Hunter and family for sanding and sealing the floors. Jen's mother and father, Doug and Karen Knapp, were instrumental in the refinishing of the fireplace. The fireplace had been stripped years ago and parts made by Gordon Van Hall to replace the damaged sections, but had never been stained and sealed. John Bovet helped with painting and scraping trim around windows and doors. In addition to that work, Karen Knapp stripped the paint off the tile of the fireplace. As a result of their work, we were able to show the beginnings of what the museum will look like as the displays start to come together over the winter. It was great to have this available for the open house we had before the parade on December 18.

The setback cupboard in the dining room is from the family of Dr. Allen Steele Russell. We recently installed a Pomeroy Foundation marker in front of his old home. The dining room chairs are from the Order of the Eastern Star from the former Masonic Lodge in Marion. The dining room light was donated by an antique dealer from Palmyra. The light fixture in the living room is identical to one that appears in a photo from the 1900's of the living room. It was found in a barn sale in East Palmyra. We hope to begin work on the kitchen over the winter.

HOFFMAN GRANT AWARDED

The Marion Historic Association is the proud recipient of a Hoffman Foundation grant. We applied for one to help with the publication costs of the new book "The Train That Stopped for Traffic Light." We received \$400 towards this purpose. Some of you may remember writing a Hoffman paper as seniors in high school. These papers are still utilized by the Wayne County Historian's office and local historians for their insights on local history and personal recollections of local events. The Hoffman Clock Museum is located in a wing in the Newark Library and is also funded by the Hoffman Foundation. The clock museum showcases the collections of Augustus and Jennie Hoffman and opened in 1954. The Hoffmans established their foundation to preserve their collections. The museum has a wonderful collection of clocks, as well as lusterware, porcelain and glassware. Take time to stop in to see it!

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know the First National Bank of Marion had it's own currency? Recently, Dr. Barry Thorne and family donated a \$10 bill dated 1929. The First National Bank of Marion was chartered in 1914. It holds the distinction of being one of the few banks in the country that did not shut down for several days after the market crash in 1929. This bank issued notes dated 1902 (\$10 and \$20 denominations) and 1929 (\$10 and \$20 denominations). Bank notes were printed from 1914 to 1935. During this time, national currency in the amount of \$284,320 was printed.

On June 1, 1974, this bank continued operations as Central Trust Company. Later it was purchased by M and T Bank. In the last few years, it has been open only as an ATM location. We are pleased to have this bank note to add to our future display on the First National Bank of Marion, New York. The charter for the First National Bank is still active under the umbrella of the M and T Bank. It has assets of over \$10 million dollars.

NEXT MEETING: January 13, 2022 6:30 pm at the museum

Future Newsletters:

If you have any topics you would like information on, send them to me at marion.ny.historian@gmail.com. I would be happy to research an article and publish it in the newsletter for everyone. OR if you have an topic you have researched and would like to include in the newsletter, I would be happy to include it.

Thank you again for your membership donations to the Marion Historic Association. It helps us bring relevant programs to our community and we appreciate your support.

Wishing you all the best this holiday season and into the New Year!

Caryn Devlin

Historian

With Many Thanks to our Corporate Sponsors and Members!

Without the continued support of the community, we can do nothing. We currently over seventy members plus three corporate sponsors!

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Art Stone

Margaret Curtis

Carolyn Adriaansen

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Sally and Bill Hoffman

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Supporter:	John Lonneville	Bette and Don Fisher	The Joseph Bovet Family
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	John Baker	Perry and Dotty Howland	Liz and Gene Bavis
	Mark and Caryn Devlin	The John Bovet Family	Richard and Gwen Shoales
	John and Barbara Stevens		

Family:	Bush Family	Mary Devlin	Bill and Barbara DeWandel
	Pete and Esther Hutt	Alex and Gina Shumski	

Individual: Dennis DeGroot

We covet your support and hope you will think of us when considering your giving plans for 2022. The Marion Historic Association is finally gaining momentum on the huge project we have in front of us. There is much to do and your support (both via donations of Marion historic items and financial support) are what help us to accomplish these goals.

Over the winter we hope to have the whole downstairs wired, insulated and drywalled with displays in place. We hope you will contact us if you are in town so we can show you the progress in person.

TENTATIVE MEETING SCHEDULE 2022 – all meetings at the museum unless otherwise noted

January 13	6:30 pm Board of Directors and all interested parties
February 10	6:30 pm Board of Directors and all interested parties
March 17	6:30 pm Board of Directors and all interested parties
April 13, Sunday	2 pm Program (TBA)
April 24, Sunday	2 pm Program (TBA)
April 30, Saturday	10 am Spring Clean Up
May 12	6:30 pm Full Membership meeting
May 22, Sunday	2 pm Program (TBA)
June 16	6:30 pm Board of Directors and interested parties
July 14	6:30 pm Board of Directors and interested parties
August 18	6: 30 pm Full Membership meeting (planning for Fall Festival)
September 10, Sat.	all day Marion Fall Festival
September 15	6:30 pm Board of Directors and all interested parties
October 13	6:30 pm Board of Directors and all interested parties
October 15	6:30 pm “Haunting in the Hamlet”
November 17	6:30 pm Full Membership meeting (planning for winter celebration)
December 17, Sat.	5:30 – 7 pm Holiday Parade and lighting contest