



# CANDOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

[www.candorhistoricalsociety.weebly.com](http://www.candorhistoricalsociety.weebly.com)

Vol. 20, Issue 2

**Happy Holiday**

December 2019

## President's Message

While spending time at the Candor Historical Society History Center I like to look over the varied historic resources that we have accumulated since we started organizing our collection. A group of dedicated Board members and volunteers has been spending Monday mornings carefully going through local newspapers and donated articles, clipping, cataloging and filing items that are relevant to Candor history.

One of the most valuable donations that we have received is a mostly complete collection of Candor Courier newspapers dating from the earliest years of publication until the paper went out of business. This donation was made by Joan Beebe Meddaugh, daughter of the long-time editor Arthur Beebe, who has diligently spent years trying to put together a complete collection of the paper. The Society expresses our great appreciation to Joan for her willingness to donate this collection which contains so many of the events that make up Candor history.

Since this is only one of the many resources in the History Center, I urge you to stop in on Mondays from 9:00 AM. to 12:00 noon and talk to some of the personnel about any subject you are interested in and they will be glad to show you what is in the collection.

One of the areas of interest that many people have is genealogy. This is an area in which we have limited resources. We would like to build up this area and are asking for contributions of family trees and relevant stories about those families. There are many interesting stories connected with families who live in our area and we would like to have those documented. Please consider how you can help us enlarge this collection.

I am excited that the History Center is becoming a great resource center for anyone interested in researching anything connected to Candor history and I urge you to make use of what is available. As we build up our resources we also are committed to improving the looks, convenience and safety of our building. To do this we need funds to pay for these upgrades. The Society participated in fund raising events this year that included the Flea Fix weekend, a chicken BBQ, Candor Fall Fest and ongoing can and bottle recycling. We are thankful for everyone who helped make these successful. If you can help with a tax deductible donation we can move forward with these improvements more quickly.

Our membership is the base of support to pay for the ongoing expense of maintaining our building so continuing your membership or becoming a new member is very important to us. Please fill out and return the enclosed membership form and be part of the growth of the Candor Historical Society.

I sincerely thank you for your interest and support and wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Milt  
Milton Dougherty, President (607-659-7357)

Nancy Riggs (Vice-President/Website) – 607-759-4001  
Rita Quinlan (Secretary) – 607-659-7254  
Patti Reichert (Treasurer) — 607-760-7551  
Eleanor Hurd (Board of Directors) -607-659-7109  
Melvin Foster (Board of Directors) — 607-241-2854  
Richard Zavatto (Board of Directors/FaceBook) – 607-236-4011  
Carol Henry (Historian/Newsletter Editor) – 607-659-7661

## RECAP OF MEETINGS YOU MIGHT HAVE MISSED SINCE JULY 2019

**JULY 4 PARADE:** Float Planners Gary Henry and Roger Westgate prepared our float again this year. The theme, Candor Past, Present, and Future. Our float won 1st Place for “Proud”. The sign says it all, The History Center Depends on you—help support the Historical Society and History Center.

**AUGUST Picnic**—Aug. 17, Moyer Park.



**SEPTEMBER 25,** The Candor Historical Society celebrated local railroad history when trains come back to Candor, in the form of over a hundred photographs presented as a slide show by local historian Tom McEnteer, on Wednesday, September 25, 2019. The photos covered over a century of railroading in Tioga County, featuring the Ithaca & Owego, the Lackawanna, the Erie, the Lehigh Valley, and about a dozen of the little short lines that operated in the area.



**OCTOBER 12—FALL FESTIVAL Bake Sale/ Christmas Market/Open House**—a success. Over-



stocked Christmas items are still available every Monday Morning 9:00—noon at the Candor History Center. If you are in need of anything Christmas, come check us out—we just might have what you need.



**OCTOBER 13,** Phil Jordan Cemetery Walk. As a special addition to The Candor Historical Society’s participation in the Fall Festival, again this year, Phil Jordan hosted another historic cemetery walking tour of Maple Grove Cemetery, drawing another large crowd on Sunday, October 13. Again, Phil narrated this guided tour giving highlights of his many remembrances of various locals now interred in Maple Grove.

**OCTOBER 23:** Phil Jordan presented entertaining, and sometimes somber, stories and anecdotes from the time he was in the funeral home business.



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## **I REMEMBER WHEN Stories still needed!**

Remembrances of living in Candor—short or long, are needed for the next “I Remember When” booklet. Our facebook posts by Dick Zavatto are viewed by a large number of people who have pleasant memories of Candor contacts and events, and make comments about the posts. Many of those memories would make great stories in the next “I Remember When” volume. Write those memories up and submit them for consideration. People love to read about “The Good Ole Days.”

Email your stories to: [carolhenry@frontiernet.net](mailto:carolhenry@frontiernet.net)  
or mail them to:  
90 Dry Brook Road, Willseyville, NY 13864

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## Candor, 125 Years Ago—1894— by Don Weber

### (Based on Owego Gazette Items)

- ◆ Veritas Lodge No.686 International Order of Odd Fellows was instituted with 32 Charter Members. Dinner for 80 members and quests was served at Nehemiah Griffin's "new hotel," a recently converted dwelling (90 Main St.—the Bob Bergs).
- ◆ "Socials" were held every two or three weeks at different rural homes. One on Anderson Hill at Luther Pultz', was attended by about 110 people (and some 40 horses, Pultz was apparently an excellent musician-fiddler perhaps—and ads for dances and socials contained "Music by Luther Pultz' Orchestra").
- ◆ Teacher candidates from around Tioga County attended two days of exams at Candor Free Academy, some coming by train and staying at Griffin House.
- ◆ Mrs. Wm. Howell killed a black snake 7 ft. long, 5 in. in girth in her berry Patch, north of Willseyville.
- ◆ A "large load" of young people from the Willseyville area attended a Speedsville Dramatic Club (most every village had one) production in Slaterville (about a 14-mile round trip).
- ◆ Some of the whole milk from Catatonk went to NYC (the start of shipping whole milk instead of cream).
- ◆ Pipe for the Standard Oil Co. pipeline, off-loaded at Catatonk, was hauled from the rail cars by farmers with heavy wagons to the proper place in the line. They received \$2 for 8 lengths, each weighing 400 lbs.
- ◆ Trotting horses were trained at the Candor Driving Park (probably behind 110 Main St.—George Hart—now David O'Konsky) and raced at the Owego Fair Grounds. Candor merchant F.L. Van De Bogart won \$40.00 in beating Owego horse farrier Oakley House.
- ◆ Peter Turner, Jr., eleven, was driving a load of apples down Catatonk Hill when the wagon tongue broke, causing the horses to run away. Young Turner was badly injured by a wheel and was not expected to live.
- ◆ John Taylor's new 40' X 116' milk station at Catatonk was nearing completion when it burned, "doubtless the work of an incendiary" (arsonist).
- ◆ A steam-tractor (like the Mead's in recent 4th of July Parades) towing a threshing machine, fell through a bridge at the foot of Griffin Hill, Willseyville (now Hand Hill). No wonder!

### **HISTORY CENTER RENOVATION FUND-RAISING PROJECTS UPDATE!**

A very hearty thanks to all who have given towards our Fund-Raising Projects to help with our renovation project of the History Center. Through the various projects and events we've instituted, and your kind donations, we have managed to acquire approximately \$7,000, enough to help get started on the electrical portion of the renovation. Our Contractor, Robert Ilg, has estimated that he will begin work sometime in January/February 2020. But we still need much more capital to complete our project. Although we have continued to apply for grants this past year, we haven't been successful. However, we have been encouraged to reapply for the next round, and have done so. Still, we won't know if we will be successful until the first of the year. In the meantime, we are still looking for alternative means of raising revenue , and by reaching out to the community for help in donating to this worthy cause.

**CAN AND BOTTLE DRIVE—ONGOING! Thanks to everyone who has already participated. And a special thanks to Gary and Carol Henry, and Patti Reichert for helping to facilitate this worthy drive. We have been able to raise close to \$430.00, as of the end of October. As a reminder, an account has been set up with The Neighborhood Redemption Center (Midstate Recycling) on 5th Avenue in Owego next to KFC (the old Paul's Dry Cleaning). To contribute to the History Center Renovation Project, drop off your bottles and cans, and simply tell them that the proceeds are for the Candor Historical Society.**

### **WANT TO SUPPORT OUR PROJECTS?**

#### **YOUR TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS CAN BE MADE IN SEVERAL WAYS:**

- ◆ Mail a check directly to the Society at PO Box 585, Candor, NY 13743
- ◆ From our website's DONATE Button at [candorhistoricalsociety.weebly.com](http://candorhistoricalsociety.weebly.com)
  - ◆ From our FaceBook Page DONATE Button at:  
<https://www.facebook.com/CandorNYhistory/>

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

**Candor Historical Society**

P.O. Box 585

Candor, NY 13743



**Visit Our Website to Learn More:**  
<http://candorhistoricalsociety.weebly.com>

Join the Candor Historical Society FaceBook Page to Share Your Memories of Candor at:

[Facebook.com/CandorNYhistory/](https://www.facebook.com/CandorNYhistory/)

**IT'S TIME TO  
RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP  
FORM TO PAY 2020 ANNUAL DUES IS  
ENCLOSED,  
OR AVAILABLE ONLINE**

Your Dues helps us maintain our facility and offer programs

Thank you for your support!