

Marshall Historical Society
Looking to the past to inspire our future

Newsletter

February/March, 2018

Marshall Historical Society
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Janet Dangler

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John DeForest

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Bill Koren (2019)
Amy Buchholz (2020)
Gen Cornelius (2021)
Gary Ford (2022)

Website:
www.marshallhistsoc.org

Next Meeting
Thursday, March 15
History of Barrel Making
Bob Allers

Join!
Provide your name and address (and email, if applicable) to the secretary and pay the membership fee:

Individual: \$10:00
Family: \$15.00

Donate!
Your donations to the Marshall Historical Society are tax deductible.

Greetings Members and Friends:

On February 24, many of you joined us for a potluck luncheon, while we looked through some photography albums and other memorabilia found in the back of the room, had many conversations about the history of the Town of Marshall, and just enjoyed each other's company very much. There was much food - all different kinds, from goulash to chili to deviled eggs, and loads of desserts: brownies, pumpkin cake, molasses cake, to name a few. We ate well and had a wonderful time, too. Wish everyone could have joined us!

Here are a few pictures, courtesy of Yvonne:



About a full dozen of us were able to attend. It was good day!



We will have to plan another day to go through the items at the back of the room - there just wasn't enough time to do that!

On March 15, we welcome local resident Bob Allers, who will give a presentation on the history of Barrel Making. Bob will discuss how barrels were fabricated and used. The business meeting begins at 6:30 and the program at 7:00. Join us for another interesting evening. Refreshments will be served.

Spring will be along soon, so if you are a snowmobiler, enjoy the snow while it lasts; otherwise, hang in there - better days are coming! See you on the 15th!

Janet

What's in a name? The small diner adjacent to Buell's Fuel (formerly the Musical Museum) has had many names over the years. Built by Art Sanders in 1955 next to the increasingly popular Musical Museum, it was first intended as a place visitors could go for coffee, ice cream, pie, as well as use the expanded rest rooms. But after some thought, it was decided to make it larger with a manager, cook, wait staff, several tables and a separate kitchen, offering three meals a day. It was called the Music Box, and was opened July 5, 1955.

George Rittenberger was the first person to rent the restaurant, with the help of Barney Quakenbush and several local workers. He was there until the fall of 1955, when Johanne Jipson, Doris Hinman and Sue Kennard took over, which lasted until 1962.

After that, a series of people ran the Music Box restaurant with varying degrees of success. At that point, the Sanders family, who owned the building and the equipment associated with the restaurant, decided that they would be responsible for insuring and maintaining the building only. The renters from then on out should purchase their own equipment, insure it, and maintain it.

The next people to manage the Music Box restaurant was in 1962, when the Carroll Dow family, who lived on Route 315, where Jackie Williams lives today, were responsible for day-to-day operations. They planned to open at 6:00 a.m., and remain open until 9:00 p.m. The Dows planned a noon special every day. The restaurant was also the scene of a bake sale, for the benefit of the Deansboro Grade School.

Following the Dows, the restaurant was operated by the Bernard Tucker family of Dugway Road, including the older and younger generations. They came in 1965 and stayed until 1968. A few months after the Tuckers left, the Music Box restaurant was heavily damaged by fire and smoke. A passing motorist spotted smoke coming from the building, which had been closed, and the Barton Hose Company was quickly on the scene. They were successful in preventing the fire in the kitchen from spreading but found it necessary to open the roof to allow the intense heat to escape, thus preventing an all-out blaze. The remainder of the interior was extensively damaged by smoke and water. Art Sanders, owner of the Music Box and the adjacent Musical Museum, commended the quick action of the firemen and reported that the restaurant would be opened again soon under new management.

The new management was in 1968 under Leona Ludwig from West Winfield, who renamed the restaurant the Dinner Bell. That continued to be the name until 1971. Then it was taken over by Joyce Leaf of Deansboro, who, with her husband Edward, ran it for several years until his death in 1974, and then she continued to run it until 1982. At that time, it was called Joyce's Dinner Bell. The restaurant was closed for a couple of years, and was then re-opened by Gene Bickford and his wife Beverly from Crogan.

After the Bickfords, the restaurant was rented by Edna and Paul Bickoski and Bev Kennard in the mid-1980s, still called the Dinner Bell. In 1992, Wesley Wendt took over and called the restaurant Apple Betty's Dinner Bell. That continued until 1997 when Joan McNamara, who worked at the diner, purchased the equipment from him and went into business. A few years later, she acquired the entire property, including that which was formerly the Musical Museum, at auction. She operated the diner for many years as Joan's Country Cafe. Joan's staff consisted of Kathy Tallman, Helga Rush, Linda Elliot, and Helen Wormouth, as well as part-time help including her daughter Cami on weekends. The atmosphere at Joan's was friendly and cozy, and the food was good.

In the mid 2000s, Joan sold the property to Mike Buell, who operates a thriving business dealing in heating oil, kerosene and diesel fuel. He rented the restaurant to Kris Eisenhut, who ran it until Kristen Jones took over in the fall of 2014. Kristen, with Scott Jones and Howie Jennings, manage what is now called Kristen's Kountry Kafe, with the same homey, cozy, familiar ambiance and good food. It's a great place to meet and greet fellow townsfolk. Deansboro is very fortunate to have maintained a quality diner for so many years

From the January 31, 1963 Waterville Times:

DEANSBORO NOTES

Mrs. Alexander MacLeod Phone. Deansboro 2-2-F-5

DEANSBORO METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Rudolph Grossman. Pastor 9:30 a.m.: Morning Service. 10:45 a.m.: Sunday School.

DEANSBOKO CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH Rev. Darrell J. Westlake, Pastor 10:00 a.m.: Sunday School. 11:00 a.m.: Morning Service.

Weather dominated the news in Deansboro this week as elsewhere, with a school closing supplementing the half-holiday of Friday.

Doug Sango gave a report on the Congregational Camp at Lisle, in observance of Youth Week, at the morning service of the local Congregational church January 27. Mr. Westlake is leaving for vacation on February 4 and on February 10 and 17 sermons will be preached by Philip West, a senior at Hamilton College who is entering Union Theological Seminary in the fall. The preacher on February 24 will be Warren Wright, professor of public speaking at Hamilton college.

The Barton Hose Company members saw a busy week end with alarms Friday and Saturday nights. On Friday they were called when an oil stove exploded in the, garage adjoining the house occupied by Mr. and Mrs. William Kennard. Although the building was gutted, prompt response saved the Kennard house and that of Chester Stolarczyk from danger. The Kennards got their car out safely also. Saturday night a passing motorist reported at Lints Garage that there was apparently an oil stove on fire in the former Milton Risley home, now owned by Donald Hinman. Lints notified Chief Cecil Edwards and help was dispatched to the scene, with the flames confined to the kitchen, the damage mostly from smoke. The department was then summoned to a truck accident on Burnham Road to avert a possible explosion.

Despite their busy week end, firemen enjoyed the Barton Hose Co. Auxiliary card party which was sufficiently successful to warrant a repeat some time next month. The date will be announced later.

Sympathy is extended to the FitzGerald family on the death of Miss Ellen FitzGerald last week. Sympathy is also extended to Mrs. Ray Kelley and Mrs. Hugh Matteson Who had a death in their family last week.

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More pictures from the archives to enjoy!!