

# Marshall Historical Society

## *Looking to the past to inspire our future*

Newsletter

June, 2022

Marshall Historical Society  
P.O. Box 232  
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Janet Dangler

**Vice President &  
Inventory**  
OPEN – ANY TAKERS?

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Yvonne Brady

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Gen Cornelius (2021)  
Gary Ford (2022)  
Lawrence Gilley (2023)  
Joan McNamara (2024)

**Website:**  
www.marshallhistsoc.org  
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**Next Meeting**  
**The History of the  
Deansboro Library**  
**June 16, 2022 – 6:00**  
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**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.

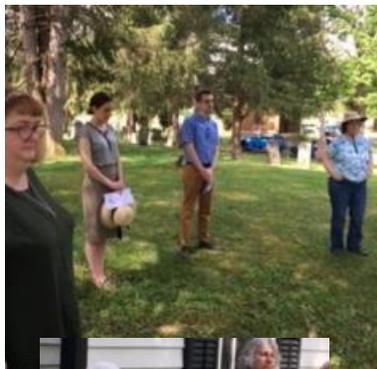
Greetings members and friends:

On May 19, Patty Louise, Publisher and Editor of the *Waterville Times* gave a really interesting program of the history of the local paper. She brought with her several past issues of the *Times*, which demonstrated how little things change: the issues were all from the month of May, which, she said, is meaningful to her because she bought the paper from Mary Cleary 21 years ago on May 21. They were similar because each issue told of the upcoming Memorial Day celebrations, and the results of the school board elections.

The first issue of the *Waterville Times* was published on January 1857, before the Civil War, when was owned by W.S. Hawkins. Even back then the *Waterville Times* was published weekly, carrying the news of the community to its residents. It was purchased in 1912 by Orrin Terry, who published it for many years. Douglas Sexton bought the paper and when he retired, Bill Jannone carried on the tradition of informing the people of the news. In the early 1970s, Mary Congelo Cleary purchased the paper and published and edited it until it was purchased by Patty Louise in 2001.

Our next program will be about the Deansboro Library and Reading Center. How did the name morph from Library to Reading Center? Come and find out! There will also be a tour of the library, which is also in the Town Hall, and if anyone wants to take a book out, they may do so.

Some members of the Brothertown Indian Nation traveled east on May 14 for a service remembering Esther Pouquenup and Prude Harry, who are buried in the Deansboro Cemetery. About 25 people gathered to honor the two women. Their grave stones, which are old and crumbling, now are enhanced with flush markers giving their birth and death dates, and detailing the inscriptions. In addition to an original poem given by Dr. Rebecca Pelky in both English and Mohegan, there was singing of the hymn *Mohegan*, written by Thomas Commuck, a Brothertown Indian. A reception followed. Many thanks to those who came to pay their respects.



An interesting artifact concerning the history of Deansboro came our way courtesy of Carol McLaren and her daughter Heather Dunshee, who have been incredibly helpful when coming across something about the history of the Town of Marshall and presenting it to the Historical Society. The artifact is a perpetual calendar from 1872



The August 1, 1872 edition of the *Watkins Express* explains the new invention:

“One of the neatest and handiest articles on furniture for an office that we have seen lately is a “Perpetual Calendar,” manufactured by W. S. Hathaway of Deansville, Oneida County, NY. Its lesser virtue is its beauty, being furnished in morocco and gilt, and as ornamental as a picture. Its greater virtue is its utility – the calendar being perpetual and not only “counting house” in form, but also showing the day of the month in numerals readable far off. Connected with the calendar box are also interest tables (proven correct) at seven and ten per cent rates; a table of values by the ton and fractions; a table of wages by the month and fractions; and a table to values by the pound. For ordinary offices we know nothing purchasable by a small sum that will give greater returns, in aids to business, than this little invention.”

Mr. Hathaway appears to be something of an inventor and entrepreneur, as the Roman Citizen of 1873 tells us that he had invented a churn and applied for a patent. “It seems to work well,” the paper reported. That same year, he purchased a self-acting switch from William Brigham from Deansville and improved it.

NOTE: According to the 1869 Oneida County Directory, the name was spelled Hathaway, in contrast to H.H. Hathaway in Oriskany Falls, who is described as the “father of local industry.” He manufactured Scotch caps in the Hathaway building on North Main Street, Oriskany Falls. I could find no familial relationship between the two gentlemen.

## Town of Marshall Veteran's Memorial Park

The Veteran's Park was the scene of much activity this past Memorial Day. Here is some history of the park:

After World War I, a fund was established by the citizens of the community to help the returning service men. A balance in the account, called the Marshall War Chest, remained. In 1969, it came to the attention of the Supervisor of the Town of Marshall, William Beerhalter, that, since there had been no action on the account for several years, the money was going to be turned over to the State.

The members of the Memorial Committee planned a memorial park to be dedicated to the deceased veterans of all wars.

John Cornelius, who was the Highway Superintendent at the time, found a boulder on a hillside in the Town of Marshall. Property near Oriskany Creek was purchased with the money from the Marshall War Chest. The plaque, which bore the inscription, "Dedicated with grateful tribute to those who served in the armed forces of the United States" was purchased and engraved with money from the same fund. The stone and plaque were installed by the Highway Crew, and trees were planted on each side of the boulder.



The Memorial Veteran's Park was dedicated on July 4, 1975. Legionnaires were present from Waterville, Clinton, and Oriskany Falls. Congressman Donald Mitchell was the speaker. Since then, Memorial Day services have been held there. A speaker delivers an invocation and a benediction, and includes brief remarks appropriate for the occasion. Members of a local boy or girl scout troop place the wreath on the stone, and members of the Waterville Central School's marching band or, more recently, Bob Allers, play Taps. Little Ben is deployed. The parade to the Deansboro Cemetery was formed there in the early days.

A new flag and wreath are provided each year and the maintenance of the grounds is paid for by the original funds. The Town of Marshall Parks and Recreation Committee also cares for the flowers and plantings which help to keep the park so beautiful. This year, they placed lights there to honor the veterans. The committee also arranged for the building of a fishing dock (which has since been torn down) by Oriskany Creek, and established picnic tables there. Bill Woodward installed a light so that the flag can be flown even in the dark.



Little Ben

