



# CHARLTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

January 2017

**Volume 26 Number 1**

**<http://www.charltonnyhs.org>**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Put these dates on your calendar and join us for the Charlton Historical Society's 2017 spring events and activities. Invite your friends and neighbors to join you.

### **"History, What's Old is New Again"**

**Date:** Wednesday, February 1, 2017

**Place:** One Room Schoolhouse, 2009 Maple Avenue

**Time:** Refreshments 7:00, Program 7:30

**Presenter:** Rick Reynolds, Town of Ballston Historian

**Program:** Rick asks, "Any idea why an old desk is important to our local past?????"

Do you know about the "French Connection" to this area? How about the torrid love affair between Kitty Heaton and George Hulbert?"

Come hear all this and much more and see how the past truly connects to now!

### **"Local Teacher Volunteers Work in Liberia"**

**Date:** March 1, 2017

**Place:** One Room Schoolhouse, 2009 Maple Avenue

**Time:** Refreshments 7:00, Program 7:30

**Presenters:** Joan and Harry Thornhill. retired Shenendehowa teachers.

**Program:** Harry was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Liberia from 1964-66. Joan and Harry took their three sons to Sierra Leone for one year in 1980-81. Since 2004 they have made six trips to Ghana where they support the Akuffo Tom School located 40 miles north east of Accra, the capital. Their 501 (c) 3 organization has contributed to the physical and educational development of the school. They go every other year where they teach and run workshops for the teachers. Their presentation will focus on their work at the school and include information about African culture. We look forward to seeing you on March 1.

**Moveable Feast**, Saturday, April 1, 2017. Volunteers are needed to host the dinner portion of the event. Remember, the hosts do not pay, but provide a salad and bread to compliment the dinner. Call Alice Crotty at 399-4153 or Mari Fettke at 882-9502 to volunteer.

Wednesday, May 3, 2017 **Program: Charlton Schools from 1792 to the Present"**

Monday, May 29- **Memorial Day Ceremony**

June 3 and 4 - **Founders Day Weekend**

## **Post-Holiday Party**

The Charlton Historical Society would like to thank everyone who came to the Holiday Party, and we hope that everyone enjoyed their meals, visiting with friends, and having a good time. So many of you were very generous with your contributions to the raffle, for which we thank you. Many people were lucky to win great prizes. We want to thank the Crottys, George Eggleston, the Ellms, the Fettes, the Gentiles, Supervisor Grattidge, Dr. Grace Jorgensen, the Lathams, the Martins, Regular's Liquor Cabinet at the Point on Route 50, Gina Schuhl, Scott's Hallmark in Hannaford Plaza, Carolyn Setzer, the Walkers, the Wehrles, the Wilsons, the Woods, and the Yorks for your raffle donations. We encourage you to patronize these businesses that donated to the raffle:

George Eggleston - maple products – 399-5277

Chip and Sally Ellms – Christmas trees and Corn Maze – 884-8168

Annette Gentile - Annette's Signature Jewelry – 399-1748

Bob and Linda Martin - Looney Bin Woodwork & Crafts – 882-9792

Maria Walker – early Americana items – 882-7125

Regular's Liquor Cabinet at the Point on Route 50

Scott's Hallmark in Hannaford Plaza

We thank the Maloney's and staff at the Tavern for the special effort that they made to provide a great party, and we thank everyone who helped.

## **Welcome New Members**

The Charlton Historical Society would like to welcome our newest members, Larry and Sandra Ellis, and Charles and Ellen Alsdorf. All four new members are good friends of Annette and Don Gentile, and were their guests at the Holiday Party. We were glad to have the chance to meet them at the party and hope to see them at some of our programs. Sandra works for one of our generous race sponsors and race committee members, Paul Lewandowski of Burnt Hills Chiropractic.

## **Volunteers Needed**

As our spring activities approach, we will need many volunteers to make these events successful. Please plan sign up to give a few hours to the society events. In the near future we need help to make the Moveable Feast a success.

## **Museum**

Curator Bill Wehrle emphasizes that we welcome the donation or loan of items for museum display. Bill will be readying the museum for the summer with new displays so if you have items that can be used, please call Bill at 399-7695.

# CHUCK LATHAM'S CHARLTON HISTORY—FACTS and LEGEND

*Traveling to School—Then, And Now (con't)*  
*From REMINISCENCES by Winifred McConchie Palmateer, May 29, 1992*

...In the spring when the snow began to melt, we often had to walk the stonewall fences to get home if the water happened to be running down the road instead of in the creek by the side of the road where it should have been.

As soon as we became old enough to go to high school, we were allowed to drive a horse. I remember it cost father ten dollars a year for a place for us to keep the horse in a stable near the school.

Usually we drove a blind horse. Every time she went through the stable door she went in such a hurry that you got stepped on if you weren't careful. Once I forget to unsnap the strap from one of the shafts of the wagon before I started through the door with her. In desperation I tried to stop her when I saw the wagon was coming too. No double that little episode would have ended in a broken wagon if a boy who also kept his horse there hadn't been taking care of his horse at the same time. He raced for the wagon and undid the snap just in the nick of time.

Many times the lady who rented that barn warmed our soapstone on a cold winter night so that we could keep warm going home.

Thirty years ago the roads weren't plowed as they are today. If they weren't open so we could get through with the horse and cutter, we just did the next best thing—walk

Walking wasn't bad unless you got caught on the barbed wire fence as you went over it and tore clothes, or unless that little white poodle which one of the farmers along the way owned, happened to be outside and sent you running pell-mell down the road with him in hot pursuit. Then you were lucky to escape without a hole in your skin to say nothing of your clothes.

How I hated that little dog! Every time I went by and that dog was outside, he nipped at the horse's feet. He was the worst little pest I ever saw. (To be continued)

## Announcements and Reminders

- You are invited to the Charlton Seniors meeting on Wednesday, February 8 at the Community Center (opens at 9:30 for refreshments and at 10:00 for the Speaker). Anne Clothier, Director of Education at the Saratoga County Historical Society will speak about "The Civil War Letters of Alonzo Bump."
- Remember that the CHS is eligible to receive funds from the AMAZON SMILE FOUNDATION. If you would like to support the Charlton Historical Society with your Amazon shopping, you can log onto [Smile.amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/smile) and select the CHS to receive .5% of your purchase price, then proceed to shop.
- We are placing roadside signs out to remind residents about our monthly programs.

**Charlton Historical Society**  
**2009 Maple Avenue**  
**Charlton, NY 12019**

**OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES**

|                |                |                                   |          |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| President      | Alice Crotty   |                                   | 399-4153 |
| Vice-President | John Hussey    | Founders Day/Building and Grounds | 557-2417 |
| Secretary      | Nancy Bellamy  |                                   | 399-8508 |
| Cor. Secretary | Stacey Fenton  |                                   | 882-6009 |
| Treasurer      | Susan York     |                                   | 399-3797 |
| Curator        | Bill Wehrle    |                                   | 399-7695 |
| Trustee        | Ken Crotty     | Web Site /Buildings and Grounds   | 399-4153 |
| Trustee        | Chuck Latham   | Genealogy Buff                    | 384-0130 |
| Trustee        | Pat Parker     |                                   | 882-9099 |
| Trustee        | Carolyn Setzer |                                   | 882-9740 |
| Trustee        | Marv Schorr    | Trust Fund                        | 399-4161 |

Please call any member of the Board of Directors with questions and comments.