

# Charlton Historical Society Being Formed

CHARLTON — Plans for a Charlton Historical Society were made at a pre-organization meeting recently at the Mission library on Maple avenue with Frank Lafforthun presiding and Mrs. Robert Bull acting as secretary.

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Anyone interested may attend the next meeting to be held there Feb. 21.

On display at the Mission library are sectional road maps of the Town of Charlton with pictures of the 18th and 19th century homes located there. There are about 325 pictures outlined on the maps.

Club members will endeavor to call at all residents of the homes to compile historical information, and a separate file on each home is planned. When completed, the material will be available to students and residents of the town, Lafforthun noted.

Lafforthun noted that there are facets in a town's history and urged anyone having any-

thing of value to contact him or a member of the proposed society. He added that a typist is needed to assist with the work.

In Sylvester's History of Saratoga County, mention is made that the history of Charlton is vague, as town clerks kept poor records.

Lafforthun, who served as town clerk, stated he took issue

with this statement since he uncovered the minutes of the first town meeting April 1, 1792, when Charlton became a town. Officers were elected at this meeting and the first law passed — curtailing roaming hogs.

Through the years succeeding, the town clerks kept accurate proceedings of the town meetings and these records are stored in the town vault on Jockey street, he added.

Attending the meeting were Rev. Leon Cartmell, Mrs. William Moffatt, Mrs. Albert Grunewald, Mrs. Robert Heineman, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bull, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Holbrook, Mrs. H. W. Norton, Mrs. William Gottung and the presiding officer.

Committees named were Mrs. Heineman, constitution; Mrs. Holbrook, genealogy; Mrs. Gottung, schools; Lafforthun, roads and maps.

Plans for a Charlton Historical Society were made at a pre-organization meeting recently at the Mission House Library on Maple Ave. with Frank Lafforthun presiding and Mrs. Robert Bull acting as secretary. Anyone interested may attend the next meeting to be held there Feb. 21.

*Feb 25, 1966*

## Charlton Historical Society To Elect 1st Officers March 21

*2-25-66*

By **BLANCHE HARTMAN**

CHARLTON—A proposed constitution will be presented and officers elected for a new Charlton Historical Society, March 21, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Grunewald on Jockey street.

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The society met recently at the Mission library to consider the constitution draft presented by Mrs. William Moffatt, Mrs. Grunewald, Mrs. William Gottung and Mrs. Barbara Heinemann, chairman.

With some additions the proposed constitution will be presented to the full membership

for adoption. Frank Lafforthun is acting chairman with Mrs. Robert Ball as temporary secretary until the society is formed.

On the nominating committee are Mrs. Grunewald, Mrs. Frank Holbrook, Mrs. Moffatt, Mrs. Gottung and Mrs. Heinemann with Mrs. Grunewald as chairman.

Residents of Charlton who have indicated an interest in membership in the society will be contacted by the committee and any others should call a member of the committee.

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William Moffatt verified the

definition of the German word "Schwager," for which Swaggertown road was named. Lafforthun noted that he had found at the Schenectady Historical Society the reference of Jonathan Pearson traveling in the vicinity of Swaggertown road on Sept. 6, 1864. This research definitely establishes the correct definition of the name of Swaggertown road, it was pointed out.

Lafforthun made an appeal to the members to canvass the community to find workers to aid in typing the research notes into filing material.

## Charlton Historical Group Elects

*3-21-66*

Members of the newly formed Charlton Historical Society met recently to adopt a constitution and by-laws and to elect officers.

Officers include Frank Lafforthun, president; William Gottung, vice president; Mrs. Ruth Bull, recording secretary; Mrs. Barbara Holbrook, corresponding secretary, and William Moffatt, treasurer.

Committee chairmen include Mrs. Phylis Gottung, program; Mrs. Barbara Heinemann, ways and means; Robert Bull, buildings and grounds; Mrs. Janet Moffat, research, and Mrs. Dorothy Graves, curator.

Others attending the meeting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Grunewald of Jockey Street included Mrs. R. Kenneth Hickey, Mrs. C. L. Lachtrupp, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Schaus, Mrs. Robert Bull, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kirschman, Miss Kristen Fobian and Mr. and Mrs. Bronson Taylor.

Taylor, a member of the Ballston Spa area Historical Society and well known local historian, was invited to suggest ideas for the Charlton group's program and to advise on organizing the society

*Mar 21, 1966*

## Becker to Speak At Charlton Meeting

*1-16-67*

CHARLTON — Howard L. Becker of Vischer Ferry, local author and historian, will be guest speaker at the Charlton Historical Society meeting, open to the public, at 8 p.m. Monday at the Charlton Heights elementary school.

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A retired employe of the General Electric Co., Becker has a hobby as historian and has written several books about the Niskayuna and Clifton Park area. He prints his own books and is also considered a photographer

and genealogist, having traced area families and their genealogy. He is also interested in Indian folklore.

Becker will show slides of southern Saratoga county and explain the process of making slides.

The historical society has had a sign designated and approved which is now being made to be placed on Stage road entering Charlton from the Town of Glenville. It is an historical marker in a colonial design.

*Jan 16 1967*

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