

Town of Canandaigua

5540 Routes 5 & 20 West
Canandaigua, N. Y. 14424
585-394-1120

Established 1789

March 15, 2018

2017 Historian's Report

It is my continued effort to maintain the guidelines outlined of the N.Y. State's Registered Historian performance. Therefore it will continue to be my effort to reach the public and school children; to publish, speak, collect, preserve, and protect the Town of Canandaigua's history and heritage through the categories of Research & Writing; Teaching and Public Presentations; Historic and Organizational Advocacy.

Research & Writing

- Responded to approximately 29 research requests from Town residents and others interested in the history of the Town of Canandaigua and/or its early settlers. These were primarily email requests. In addition, many phone calls requesting information were handled on a weekly basis.
- Maintained Office hours at the Town Hall for 90 - 95% of all Tuesdays (8am to 4pm) and Wednesdays (8am to 12 noon). Also was available by appointment. Attended majority of Town Board meetings.

Teaching & Public Presentations

- Developed and presented the following Power Point Programs to Town residents as well as other members of the public:
 1. Farmington Chamber of Commerce - Steamboats 2/13.
 2. Centerfield Homemakers - District Schools 2/16.
 3. Legacy Fairways - Steamboats 2/23.
 4. Clark Meadows - Natural Science Camp 2/7; West Lake Rd. 3/9;
Steamboat 11/9.

5. Quail Summit - Steamboats 3/34; West Lake Rd 6/24; Natural Science Camp 7/24; English Barns 8/20; More English Barns 9/22.

6. Yacht Club Cove - Steamboats 9/20.

7. Rochester Squadron - West Lake Rd 11/8.

- Throughout the year I composed a new book entitled "A Walking Tour and History of the Village of the Hamlet of Cheshire". It was published in 2017.
- I assisted Judi Stewart, Town of East Bloomfield, in her publishing of "Mother Phillips" - The Story of E. Gertrude & Elnathan Phillips.

Historic Advocacy

- Dennis Brewer, the Canandaigua Town Director of Parks and Recreation, Peter Ellison of Ellison Conservation and I surveyed all the cemeteries to assess the amount of maintenance work (i.e. tree trimming, headstone straightening, etc.) that the Parks and Recreation Personnel could reasonably accomplish.
- In addition, at Doug Finch's (Town Manager) suggestion, Sarah Reynolds (Town Planning Aide) and I contacted several residents who agreed to keep an eye on our remote cemeteries.

Organization & Advocacy

- On Saturday, June 3, 2017, at the Town's request, and with the Town Historian's assistance, the Ontario County Historical Society hosted a "Canandaigua Day at the Museum" with free exhibits and tours of the archives for all Town Residents. The Presentations were by Town Parks and Recreation Committee, Environmental Conservation Board, & Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association.
- I have attended the Ontario County Historian's Meeting for the past dates: 3/13, 6/13, 9/20, 10/10.

Miscellaneous

- For the last two years I served on the Special Events Committee in setting up and preparing several programs/presentations including:
 1. The Fourth of July Parade;
 2. A Historical Display at the Ontario County Fair;
 3. A Town sponsored Square Dance at the Canandaigua Fire Dept. and;
 4. Halloween Party for children and adults at Onanda Park.
- On 6/7 I spent the better part of the whole day performing Oral Histories with the James Gilmore Family on the Entrenchment Hill in Canandaigua.
- On 7/12 Mr. Fred Sarkis, of Bristol Harbour, presented a program on the design and installation of the facilities on Bristol Harbour Mountain.
- I participated in the all day "Fun on the Farm", hosted by Ontario County Agriculture at the Fred Lightfoot farm, in Stanley.
- I have also been named as the Vice-President of the "Finger Lakes Farm and Ag. Museum" in Hopewell.
- I attended the New York Farmland Protection Forum from 1- 3pm at the Wood Library.

All in all this was a much busier than expected year!

Respectfully Submitted,

Raymond W. Henry
Town Historian