

JAMESVILLE COMMUNITY MUSEUM
 Post Office Box 76
 Jamesville, New York 13078-0076
 Phone: (315) 492-4890



Museum Hours

- May through December
Sundays 1-4 p.m.
- March through April
Sundays 2-4 p.m.

The museum is open anytime by appointment.
 Please call Greg Titus at 469-6681.

NOTE: Your membership is current for December 31st of the year shown on the mailing label.

We would like to reduce mailing expenses by making greater use of our website and email. Please supply us with your email address when renewing your membership.

Membership Application 2022

Jamesville Community Museum
 P. O. Box 76
 Jamesville, New York 13078-0076

Supporting	\$50	Patron	\$150
Family	\$25	*Sustaining	\$ 75
Individual	\$15	*Benefactor	\$100
		<i>*Suitable for Corporate Members</i>	

Membership runs from January 1st, 2022 through December 31st, 2022

Please make your check payable to: Jamesville Community Museum. Your contribution is tax-deductible.
 ___ Check here if Membership cards are desired.

Name: _____ Telephone: _____
 (As you would like it to appear on museum list)

Address: _____

Email address: _____

I am interested in:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> helping with Memorial Day parade activities | <input type="checkbox"/> landscaping and gardening |
| <input type="checkbox"/> planning exhibits for coming year | <input type="checkbox"/> helping with refreshments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> planning children's activities
(field trips from the elementary school and/or kids' corner) | <input type="checkbox"/> telephoning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> helping with cataloguing and record keeping | <input type="checkbox"/> publicity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> serving as host/greeter on Saturday and Sunday afternoons | <input type="checkbox"/> carpentry, exhibit setup, etc |
| <input type="checkbox"/> planning a special program for next year | |

Your response will help the museum plan for the future exhibits and programs. Thank you!



Museum News

Jamesville Community Museum November 2021



Dear Friends,

In spite of the current pandemic, your museum has had a successful year. This is a result of continued support from our membership and the very valuable volunteer work done by many. Just to highlight a few of these volunteer efforts: Greg Titus, curator, has completed an exhibit recognizing Jack McCabe, who was a long time Jamesville Elementary teacher, coach, and local golf legend. Roger Baker, board member, arranged for our first summer concert. We plan on having additional concerts in the summer of 2022 because it was so successful. Kurt Hill, board member, is currently in the process of replacing rotted wood on the lower perimeter of the museum. Marv Bodley, Chairman of our Board of Trustees, is currently coordinating our holiday quilt raffle. Mary Ewing and Kelly Nye produced the newsletter you are now reading.

During the summer of 2021 a number of museum officers and our museum photographer, Pam St. Germain visited Sycamore Hill Gardens in Marcellus, NY. Sycamore Hill Gardens is important to the museum and the Jamesville Community because the owners acquired the stone from the former Jamesville Penitentiary when it was demolished. These stones were then used to create unique structures and walkways in the gardens. Using Pam's photos, we will create a unique photo exhibit that will be called, "New Life for Old Stones" in the spring of 2022. In addition to allowing us access to the gardens and the opportunity to take photographs, the very generous owners also donated a set of penitentiary window bars, as well as stones, to the museum for any future projects.

Yours truly,
 Robert T. Catney, President



The museum's annual holiday quilt raffle is our only annual fund raising activity. This raffle is a tradition that has taken place for many years. Previous quilts have already become family heirlooms.

This year, our annual raffle will be held on Saturday, December 4th. The opportunity to participate in this year's raffle begins with the tickets included in this newsletter. If you need additional tickets, please contact us at:
 jamesvillecommunitymuseum@gmail.com



This year's quilt is a lovely queen size, spider web design and was hand quilted by a group in Munnsville, New York. The colors of this quilt are beautiful with navy blue and some fall colors. To see a colored picture of this quilt, visit our website at:
 jamesvillecommunitymuseum.com

This Old House..... The Freeman House

Shortly after the Revolutionary War, Jeremiah Jackson and his wife, Phoebe, moved from New England to Onondaga County. Jackson followed his fellow war veteran, Asa Danforth, and purchased a sawmill Danforth on Butternut Creek in Jamesville, 1791. Most of Central New York was divided into military tracts at that time and probably had some bearing on the transaction.



Jackson used the lumber from his water-powered sawmill to construct the first wooden frame dwelling in the Jamesville area in 1797. Hand hewn beams are exposed through the kitchen and living room. They are still as beautiful now as they were 200 years ago. The house still stands today at 4723 North Street, just south of Christiana Millworks. Jackson's oldest child was born here and is believed to be the first child of settlers born in Onondaga County.

History of the house ownership for the next 100 years is unknown, but we do know that in 1915, it was owned by the Millen Cement Plant (forerunner of Alpha Portland) and had been converted into a two family house. It was divided into a residence for Mertie Reals and her family and a boarding house for the cement plant employees. The boarding house half was a dormitory type setting with bunk beds, housing up

to eight or nine boarders. Mertie was the caretaker and provided breakfast and lunch for the boarders, while raising her five children. In 1925, Paul Reals, son of Mertie, married and moved into the house with his wife.

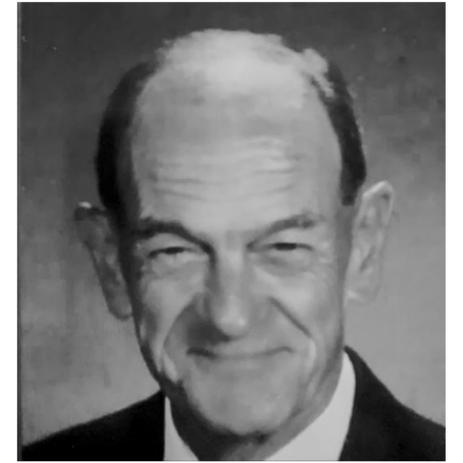


*The Reals family that moved into the Jackson House, 1915, in the front yard of the house. Pauline, Belle, Mertie (Mother), Ida, Walter (Grandfather) Floyd, Arnold, Howard, and Paul
This is my Grandmother, my Great Grandfather and my father Paul.*

By 1933, the boarders no longer resided there. Paul remodeled the house. He lived in one half with his family and rented the other half of the house for fifteen dollars a month. In 1949, the Reals family moved out and the house was rented from Alpha Portland cement Company by Watson Freeman. He raised his family there and purchased the property in 1955. Finally, Dave (son of Watson) and Nancy Freeman (granddaughter of Mertie Reals) purchased the home from the family in 1974. They raised their family there and the house is still owned by the Freeman family today.

If you have and additional information on the house, please contact the Jamesville Community Museum.

We remember Dr. Bradley Strait who passed away in April 2021. Dr. Strait was a long time member and supporter of the museum. He joined the museum in the early years and was a member of the first Board of Directors. With his background as a Professor of Electrical Engineering at Syracuse University and later as Dean of L.C Smith College of Engineering, he was well equipped to represent the museum in its dealings with New York State Board of Regents. He became our "compliance person". The Board of Regents oversees the creation and operations of museums, such as ours, and requires documentation of compliance with their rules and regulations in order to obtain a charter, first provisional, then permanent. We obtained both! Dr. Strait served on numerous committees, assisted his wife Nancy, our long time curator, with displays and also found time to be our landscape engineer. During Dr. Strait's tenure, our museum grew in membership, as well as reputation. Much of the success happened because of people like him. His commitment to "give" of himself was unlimited.



Our Museum books make great holiday gifts!

Water, Wheels, and Stone; Heritage of the Little Village by the Creek

Price \$22.00 with index

This book is all encompassing history of the Hamlet of Jamesville. It spans the early years and extends to the late 1900's and contains many pictures and stories of the people, businesses, schools and historical buildings.

Life on the Back Road

Price \$20.00

People from many countries immigrated to the Jamesville area because of the availability of work. One of the largest employers in earlier years was the Jamesville Quarry and many immigrants worked there. The Quarry built a number of homes on Solvay Road for those workers and their families. Some of these homes are still standing but most have been demolished. This book describes what was once called "The Back Road" and its people.

A Jamesville Heritage Cookbook

Price \$20.00

This cookbook is a collection of recipes from early hamlet residents that have passed down through many generations. This book also contains many short stories about the history of certain recipes and why they were and still are popular.

If you would like to purchase any of these books, contact Greg Titus at: gregtitus@hotmail.com These can be picked up at the museum by appointment OR during open hours on Sunday. If shipping is needed, please note that a charge of \$5.00 will be added to the price of each book to cover shipping.