

JAMESVILLE COMMUNITY MUSEUM  
 Post Office Box 76  
 Jamesville, New York 13078-0076  
 Phone: 492-4890  
 jamesvillecommunitymuseum.com



## 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.

## Membership Application 2018

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

Supporting	\$50	*Sustaining	\$ 75
Family	\$25	*Benefactor	\$150
Individual/Senior/Student	\$15	*Suitable for Corporate Members	

Membership runs  
 from January 1st,  
 2018 through  
 December 31st,  
 2018

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:

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

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



# Museum News

Jamesville Community Museum November 2017



## From the President:

## Holiday Happenings

Again, this year, the Jamesville Community Museum will conduct our Holiday Quilt Raffle. This raffle has become a tradition at the museum. Previous year's quilts have quickly become family heirlooms. The opportunity to participate in this year's quilt raffle begins with the tickets that are attached to this newsletter and will continue until the night of the drawing. Photos of this year's quilt are included in this newsletter and can also be found on our website: [www.jamesvillecommunitymuseum.com](http://www.jamesvillecommunitymuseum.com).

## Other Museum News

The Museum Board of Trustees is continuing its efforts to accomplish the necessary improvement projects for our museum home. Two of the three identified projects have been completed. 1.) The replacement of the aging roof 2.) The installation of a new handicapped accessible bathroom. The third and final project is the improvement of the museum's front entrance, including making it handicapped accessible. Our fund raising for this project will begin with this newsletter. If you are in a position to assist with this project, all financial contributions are appreciated. No donation is too small.

## Can You Help?

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.

Do you have a suggestion for a future exhibit or activity at the museum? We would like to hear it. Please include your ideas with your membership renewal or email us at [jamesvillecommunitymuseum@gmail.com](mailto:jamesvillecommunitymuseum@gmail.com).

## Light Up Jamesville/Museum Open House:

Saturday, December 2nd

5:00-6:30pm Museum Open House

Christmas Carols

Children's Corner Activities

Mrs. Santa Claus

6:30pm- Quilt Drawing

Museum will then close for Light Up Jamesville



# This Old House

-by Roger Baker

Christmas 1978, we moved into our house at 4432 South St., Jamesville. We previously looked at it, but my first impression was that it needed a lot of work. However, we did not see the interior, and my wife, not one to give up easily, took a second look, saw the interior, and was impressed. After some negotiations, we assumed the mortgage and purchased the home. Since then several old timers have told us they believe the house is a Sears-Roebuck kit house and was delivered on the railroad. However so far my investigation has produced several very similar homes, but not the exact replica. If anyone can shed some light on the subject, I would welcome their input.



To the best of my knowledge, the house was built in 1927, (which would make it 90 years old) by James McConnell and his wife Mae. McConnell was the owner of the local grocery store in Jamesville, which he bought in 1911. McConnell resided at 4432 South Street with his family until his death in 1956. His wife had gone to the hairdressers, as it was their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary and when she returned, she found him deceased in the office. A few years later, Ray and Pat Moran bought the house and moved in with their large family of nine children. They resided there until 1971 when it was sold to the Gleason family. The neighbors at that time were Katherine Oley (local postmistress, who kept a goat in the lot, south side) and the Dence family, Clayton and Mildred (local school teacher) on the north side.



James & Mae McConnell



McConnell's grocery store

Ray Moran stated that his children always felt the house was haunted by McConnell and heard noises at night in the attic. An interesting side note is that three other people passed away in the house. My Dad, Hubert Bud Baker in 1973; my sister-in-law Ellen Savory in 2000, and my mother-in-law, Frances Gannon in 2012. Therefore if the spirit of Mr. McConnell is still present, he is in good company. Earlier this year thru the efforts of Greg Titus, we were able to make contact with Martha Greer, granddaughter of James McConnell. She resides in the local area, and after a few phone calls, she and her husband Bill paid us a visit at our home, where she had spent many holidays with her grandparents and family. Martha was 13 when her grandfather died and has very fond memories of him. Martha stated her father Vincent had one brother, James. Her grandmother, Mae remained in the local area for several more years and died in the mid-1970s.

# New Exhibit from Bob Goode

Have you checked out the new exhibit now showing at the Museum? Bob Goode has set up an amazing display of memorabilia. The first of many themes throughout the year is *World War II; The Home Front*. If you would like to come see the new exhibit in person, come visit us during open hours on Sundays or call Greg Titus at 315-469-6681 to make an appointment.

Pictures have also been posted on our website: jamesvillecommunitymuseum.com



# Light Up Jamesville

Be sure to join us during Light Up Jamesville on December 2nd! The museum will be open from 5:00pm to 6:30pm. We will have Christmas carols, a children's corner activity, and Mrs. Santa Claus will be there to greet our visitors! The museum will close after the quilt drawing, so you can make your way over to the tree lighting in Town Square.

# Quilt Raffle

Our quilt raffle tickets are now on sale and included in your newsletter. Additional tickets can also be purchased at the following local businesses: The Yarn Cupboard, Cutter's Corner and M&T Bank. Tickets are \$1 each, six for \$5 or 13 for \$10.

Five winners will be drawn on Saturday, December 2nd at 6:30pm.



- First Place: Quilt (see picture below)
- Second Place: (1) 2018 Family Membership
- Third, Fourth & Fifth Place: Choice of (1) Jamesville Community Museum Book.

(For the list of published books, check out the History tab on our website or go to:

<https://www.jamesvillecommunitymuseum.com/history>)

\*You do not need to be present in order to claim your prize.



# Early Memories of Jamesville Reservoir

*As a water source for the Erie Canal, a reservoir at Jamesville on Butternut Creek was begun in 1872 and completed in 1874. After WWII the possibilities for recreational use the reservoir became obvious. Through the efforts of Frank Keough and Mrs. Laura White... in November of 1948, Onondaga County Parks Board purchased 42 acres of property on the west shore of the reservoir for a bathing beach and additional land in 1964. (summary extraction from "LaFayette, New York; A history Of The Town And Its People", J. Roy Dodge, 1975.)*

I got to thinking about the Jamesville Reservoir on one of those (rare) sweltering hot and steamy 95 degree days in Massachusetts this summer. We lived on a tired old farm on LaFayette Road, about six miles south of the city. We were sweating-out one of those unbearably hot days in 1951 when mom and my oldest sister decided to pack us five younger kids into our old Packard and take us to Jamesville Reservoir for a swim. To that point our only experience with water fun had been splashing in the creek that ran through the pasture on our farm and "swimming" in the cattle water tank in our barnyard, and none of us (except mom) could actually swim. For some reason, mom took us...not to Jamesville Beach on the west shore of the reservoir, but to a place she called "the rocks" off the road on the east shore. In later years my friends and I would sojourn to Jamesville Beach for teen-age type of fun, but we usually ended the evening at "the rocks" on the east shore.



Source: Facebook, Nostalgic Syracuse Page  
By Dan Ryan

Do you have a memory of Jamesville that you would like to share?  
Please email [jamesvillecommunitymuseum@gmail.com](mailto:jamesvillecommunitymuseum@gmail.com) to be added to our next newsletter.