

# Manlius Historical Society

## 2019

The mission of the Manlius Historical Society is to preserve the history of the Town of Manlius, including the three Villages of Fayetteville, Manlius and Minoa and the Hamlet of Kirkville. Founded in 1976 Manlius Historical has been providing for the communities above a source of education and preservation. We have two buildings, the Cheney House Research Center and the Museum Building.

At the Cheney House Research Center we house part of our collection and a significant amount of genealogical information about local families. We answer requests for information on both local history and genealogy. We are available three days a week in person and we are available 24 hours a day via the internet. History questions and requests are handled primarily by Barbara Rivett, Board Member, Town and Village Historian for Fayetteville and Manlius. Genealogy questions are handled primarily by Nancy Schiffhauer. We respond to 3 to 5 inquiries per week.

We work each year with the school districts of Fayetteville-Manlius and East Syracuse-Minoa; along with private day schools. We provide in the classroom and tours/activities on site. We provide lectures at Senior Living Communities and any organization or group asking for a program. We have off-site displays at the Manlius Library, the Manlius Village office, the Town of Manlius office and when available the Village of Minoa office. These displays change approximately six times throughout the year.

The Museum is open on Saturdays from 11 am to 3 pm from Spring to Fall. Along with our permanent display we have a display of "Turn of the Century Clothing". We also have on display the 200 year old "Seraph" which originally was on top of the Trinity Presbyterian Church in Manlius and the Manlius Municipal Building, before it was donated to the Historical Society. We recently have been working on the Blacksmith Shop at the Museum and are currently looking for a Blacksmith to operate it during our Museum hours.

Manlius Historical continues to fund raise with the Fine Arts & Craft Show, scheduled for November 2 & 3 and the Miniature Tree Festival scheduled for December 5 through 14. Each event plays an important role in funding our operations. Membership dues is another source of our income. We have one part-time employee, Linda Bailey, who works 15 hours per week. All other operations and functions are run by volunteers.

Manlius Historical has been successful in obtaining grants for the past three years to digitize some of our collections. Included have been photos of Manlius and the Fayetteville-Manlius High School "Echos" is currently being digitized. As the process is completed it is then placed on the New York State Heritage website. Manlius Historical was also the recipient of generous gifts from two families. The Petty family of Fayetteville donated items from their parents, including "LaFayette Ware", china made to commemorate General LaFayette's visit to the United States, valued at over \$1300. Dawn Cottrell, a Board member of many years donated

cc: Web Site File

through her will funds that will carry out repairs and maintenance to our buildings, a cause she was also very generous to during her lifetime. Another donation that we received came to us from the United Church in Fayetteville and the Syracuse University Brass Ensemble. Proceeds of around \$1300 from a concert held at the United Church of Fayetteville in early May were donated to Manlius Historical for educational programs.

This year a "Book Club" was formed and monthly meetings held at the Cheney House. The books selected have been local history, such as the Loomis Gang to New York State related. We are looking to expand by collaborating with the Senior Centers/Facilities within the Town.

Our Annual Meeting was held at Green Lakes State Park in June. They generously waved all fees for parking and building use; and provided our speaker, Dr. Michael Roets, Director of Lorenzo House Historic Site in Cazenovia. He spoke of his career as an archeologist and his work at State Historical sites and his work at Lorenzo.

It goes without saying that without the support of the Village of Fayetteville, the Town of Manlius and the Village of Manlius, none of the above would be possible. We thank the Village of Fayetteville and Town of Manlius for your financial support; and we thank the Village of Manlius for their in-kind support with lawn and snow removal maintenance.