



The Cobblestoner



“Come Experience the Heart of Cobblestone Country!”

In This Issue

Garden Bus Tour	1
Levi Barden Home	2
Trustee Board	2
Membership	3
Grants	3
Schedule of Events	4
Window Workshop	4
Historic Landmark	5
Cobblestone Camp	5
Cobblestone Artistry	6
Renewals Explained	6
New Summer Exhibit	6
Legacy Society	6
Donors	7
Window Restoration	7
Cobblestone Block	7
Membership Dinner	8
Brooks & Streams	9
Cobblestone Repairs	9
Director’s Report	10
Volunteers Needed	10
Museum Intern	11
Tour of Homes	11
President’s Message	11
Membership Renewal	12



Garden Bus Tour—Saturday, July 21

By Sue Starkweather-Miller, Tour Guide

This year’s Cobblestone Museum summer garden tour will travel the western side of Orleans County. We will start the day with cobble-scones and coffee. Our first stop will be the beautiful home garden of Ursula O’Connor. Enjoy a shade garden tour along historic Proctor Creek. Then we head to Lyndonville to visit the historic cobblestone home and gardens of Tom Wenhold. Our next stop will be in Shelby to visit the home gardens of Ruth Shewan. We will view her 18 perennial gardens, renovated glass greenhouse and pre-Civil War sugar maples.

Lunch will take place at Sourced Market & Eatery in Millville. This new business uses locally sourced products in the food they carefully prepare and items they sell. We will also view their raised bed gardens that feature herbs and micro-greens used in their homemade preparations.

After lunch we will head up the road to visit Cottage Gardens. If you like day lilies or want to learn more about them, this is the place to visit! Brent Ross will give us a tour of his stunning gardens and then we are on our own to explore his outstanding collection of day lilies. They will be at peak, so we are in for a treat! (You may also purchase day lilies at Cottage Gardens.)

Our last stop will bring us to Navarra’s Farm Market & Greenhouses for a “make and take” garden class using materials from their own greenhouses. There will also be a selection of flowers and plants for purchase as well as farm market items.

The cost of the trip for Cobblestone members is \$60 (\$65 for non-members). Payment is required to hold your seat. First come-first served. For reservations call (585) 589.9013 or visit CobblestoneMuseum.org.



Levi Barden Cobblestone , Geneva NY



Levi Barden House, 5300 Wabash Road, Town of Seneca, Ontario County, was built in 1836. Note Palladian window. It is a large, three-section window where the center is arched and larger than the two sided sections. This house was placed on the National Register in 2003.

This fine house took several years to build. The round, smooth cobblestones were hauled from Lake Ontario. It was occupied in 1836, although not completely finished. Built in a classically reminiscent Colonial style, it shows but slightly the ravages of a century of northern winters, having been always well kept. Protected by the spacious white-pillared porch is the hospitable doorway, also with narrow windows at the top and sides, and ornamented with carved spool-work and beading.

The door opens into a wide hall, quaintly papered, from which a really graceful winding stairway

ascends. Living rooms are on each side of the hall, the one at the south being unmistakably designed as the "parlor" in its appointments.

Against a background of delightful sky-blue, the white woodwork is rather elegantly carved—fluted window and door frames with a conventional lily design at the upper corners, and supporting the fireplace mantel, Doric columns. A fire screen, depicting a painted scene of long ago, and a number of oil paintings add interest.

The back part of the house "rambles," after the style of our fathers, but is staunch and neat as is the ornamental iron fence edging the lawn.

Levi Barden with his wife, Maria Bush, had two sons, Luther and Henry Vincent, and one daughter, Ruby Ann (McConnell). Early in the Civil War, Luther, the older son, was sent to New Orleans, with the 26th N.Y. regiment. His letters tell of common things - inspection, mosquitoes, sickness among the boys. He sounds a little homesick, although a sergeant.

Then in May, 1863, comes another letter, this time from an old neighbor, First Lieut. Adam Beattie. There is sad news. Luther was then suddenly ill - a slight fever, the hospital, and relapse. He discusses certain difficulties about sending home the remains. He is sympathetic, regretful. War is war.

At last, in July, the earthly part of Luther comes home. How plainly can imagination picture the flag-draped casket, borne out of the wide front door and down the walk, between rows of phlox and peonies, to start the winding way to a rest in Bellona Cemetery.

Becomes Owner in 1876

Henry Vincent Barden, born in 1837, became owner of the farm at his father's death in 1876. He continued to spend the more than 35 remaining years of his life in the management of his 200 acres, devoted to general farming and dairying. In 1883, he had the misfortune to lose an arm in a mowing machine accident.

[Excerpt from an article on the Barden family, Geneva Daily Times, November 14, 1936].

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Thank You to Our Grant Funders for Their Continued Support!

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Foundation

Genesee Orleans Arts Council (Go Art!)

Orleans County Legislature

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Preservation League of NYS

Rochester Area Community Foundation

2018 Cobblestone Event Schedule

Patriotic Service—Sunday July 1 (11am-12pm)

Celebrate our nation's Independence Day with style in the 1834 Cobblestone Church. An 11am patriotic service is planned with spirited music, readings and refreshments.

A Day in the Life of a Cobblestone Family—Friday, July 13 (6-8:30pm)

Guided Group Tour featuring a snapshot of 19th century family life including Father's activities as farmer, Mother's responsibilities in the cobblestone house, children's day at school, and the family's day of rest activities on Sunday.

Cobblestone Camp: Summer Classes for Children—July 18 & Aug. 15 (age 7-9) and July 25 & Aug. 22 (age 10-12), 1-3pm. Various age appropriate activities will be offered in each session.

Cobblestone Society Garden Bus Tour—Saturday, July 21 (9am-4:30pm)

Spend a lovely day traveling with your host, Sue Starkweather-Miller, who will guide you through some of Orleans County's finest home and business gardens.

Orleans County Heritage Festival—September 7-16

Stay tuned for more great information about this county-wide celebration in September.

Cobblestone Tour of Homes—Saturday, Sept 15 (11am-5pm)

Get up close and personal with cobblestone architecture in this self-drive tour of area cobblestone homes, schools and businesses. Many indoor tours, too.

Sports Widows Series—October 2018 to January 2019

Learn a new craft and enjoy fellowship and educational programs designed especially for your enjoyment on Game Days. Grace Denniston will teach a class, Gluten Free Cooking, on Sunday, Nov. 11.

Cobblestone Ghost Walk—Sunday, October 7 (1-5pm)

Prepare to be entertained in 19th century style with visits from famous people from Orleans County's past. This is year two for this walking tour favorite of so many people in 2017. A new cast this year includes several new spirits.

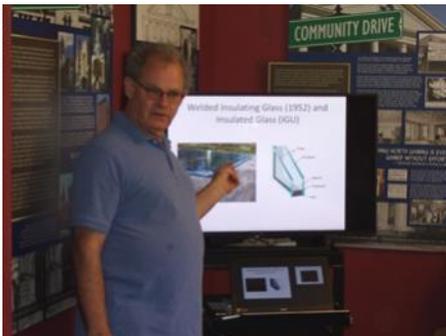
Holiday Shoppe—November 2, 3, 4, & Dec. 1 (1-5pm)

Start your holiday shopping at the Cobblestone Museum with many one-of-a-kind gift items and handcrafts.

Christmas Tour of Historic Homes—Saturday, December 1 (2-7pm)

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas on this self-drive tour of local homes that excel in decorating for the holidays. Many indoor tours for your enjoyment.

Window Restoration Workshop Completed



The Cobblestone Schoolhouse was the setting for the Historic Wood Window Repair Seminar, co-sponsored by the Cobblestone Society and the Landmark Society of WNY. Steve Jordan (left) taught the class with a combination of classroom presentations and hands-on window restoration.

National Historic Landmark District



By Erin Anheier, Trustee, Buildings & Grounds Chair

The core of the Cobblestone Museum complex is the three cobblestone buildings – the 1834 Universalist Church, the 1836 Ward House and the 1849 District # 5 Schoolhouse. These three buildings compose a district recognized on the National Register of Historic Places in 1993. That is quite the honor, but, this district also received a much higher honor by also being named a National Historic Landmark by the Secretary of the Interior.

Less than 3% of the properties on the National Register of Historic Places are selected as being worthy to be National Historic Landmarks. To be given this distinction, the property has to be important to the history of the entire nation, not just the local community or state. It also must possess a high, not simply good, level of historic integrity. We are the only National Historic Landmark located entirely in Orleans County. The NYS Canal System is also a NHL, but crosses several counties.

We are very proud of our National Historic Landmark status and take the responsibility for maintaining these important buildings very seriously.

(Right) Participants of the New Life Bus Tour on June 26 gather for a group photo at the Northfield Masonic Lodge No. 426 in Pittsford, NY. Their cobblestone building was originally the Stone Academy, built in 1842 by Samuel Crump.

Cobblestone Camp is Coming!



By Sue Bonafini, Assistant Director

Get ready to enroll your children, grandchildren, nieces or nephews for this summer's "Cobblestone Camp" offerings at the Museum! Activities will be different each month. Rain or shine, children will engage in age-appropriate hands-on activities based on the Cobblestone Era (1825-1860) and Victorian themes.

In July, activities will be focused on cobblestones. Hear some history, do some sorting, create crafts. Sing some fun songs to live music!

In August, Victorian culture is in the spotlight. Learn about Victorian times at the Ward House, especially pastimes. Play old-fashioned games and make a Friendship Wreath.

Sessions cost only \$5 and will be held from 1-3 pm on the following Wednesday afternoons:

(Ages 7-9)

(Ages 10-12)

July 18 & August 15

July 25 & August 22

Call 585-589-9013 or visit www.cobblestonemuseum.org to register today!

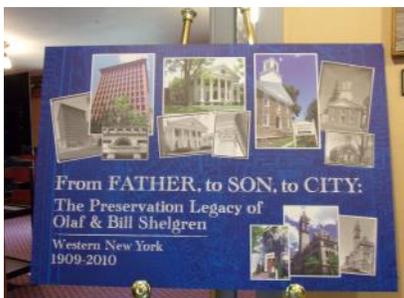


Cobblestone Artistry-Mason House, Marion NY



Richard Palmer sent along this architectural artistry at 5637 Mason Road, Marion (Wayne County), New York.

Summer Exhibit Features Cobblestone Preservation



The preservation legacy of Olaf & Bill Shelgren is the topic of the new exhibition in the museum's Danold's Room. The Shelgrens were important figures in the fight to save, preserve and restore many architectural structures in WNY, including the cobblestone buildings now owned by the Cobblestone Society. As early Board members and preservationists, the father-son duo loomed large in the Cobblestone Society's early days. Bill Shelgren is remembered for designing and helping to re-install the tower on our Cobblestone Church in the 1960s. This five-panel exhibit came to us on-loan from the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural National Historic Site. The Shelgrens were also involved with preserving the history of the TR Site and many other cherished landmarks in WNY.

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Membership Renewals Explained

By Gail Johnson, Membership Secretary

The growth of our membership is an exciting part of our vision for the future of the Cobblestone Society & Museum. Today we currently have 350 members, and we look forward to having 1,000 or more members in the coming years. To help manage our membership renewal process, we began moving everyone to a membership year that follows the calendar year. If someone joins or renews their membership at this point in 2018 (July, August, September, or October) they will be offered a special half-price membership that runs through the remainder of 2018. Beginning in November, 2018, all new memberships or renewals received will revert back to full price and will run through April 30, 2020.

Also new in 2018, all memberships will become cumulative. This means that any member may request an upgrade on their membership level and just pay the difference between the old membership level and the higher sustaining level. For instance, anyone with a Family membership (\$40+) can become a Patron member (\$100+) by paying the additional \$60. Current Patron Members (\$100+) can become Bronze Members (\$250+) by paying \$150, etc.

Renewing your membership at one of our three highest membership categories, Silver (\$1,000+), Gold (\$2,500) and Diamond (\$5,000), will also open up your membership payment to be included in our new Major Donor Program. In this new program, we will start to track your lifetime giving and your payments can be accumulated to help you reach a new Major Donor category. We will also accept Five Year Pledges to help you achieve your goal.

Expanding our membership is a key component of providing sustainability for the future of the Cobblestone Society & Museum. We're excited about accepting this challenge! Please join us as we "Embrace Change." You are an important part of our future success!



The Legacy Society - Providing for the Cobblestone Museum's Future

The Legacy Society recognizes friends who have provided for the Cobblestone Society by including the Society in their estate and financial plans.

For additional information about membership in the Legacy Society or to discuss a potential planned gift, please contact Douglas Farley, Museum Director. All inquiries are confidential and without obligation.

Cobblestone Block-Batavia, NY

Special thanks to our members & friends who have made donations to the Cobblestone Society since our last issue of *Cobblestoner*. Many people kindly donated materials, finances, in-kind services, or artifacts to help the Museum continue to grow.



Thank you to Richard Palmer for sending along this picture of the "Cobblestone Block" in Batavia NY from the early 1900s, courtesy Genesee County Historian's Office.

Church Window Restoration Project Completed



Erin Anheier
 R. J. Bannan
 Bison Baseball
 Deborah Bloom-Bloom's
 Flower Shop
 Jim Bonafini
 Sue and Jim Bonafini-in
 memory of Joycelyn Jen-
 nings
 Russ Bosch
 Shirley Bright-Neeper
 Joyce Chizick
 Christ Episcopal Church-
 Albion
 Lynn Condoluci
 Crosby's, Childs
 Grace Denniston
 Mary Dunbar
 Krys & Mike Elam in
 memory of Ellen Germeo
 Jan-Mikael Erakare
 Matilda Erakare
 First Baptist Church-Albion
 Gregory Gribben
 Melissa Ierlan
 Gail Johnson
 Gail Johnson-in memory of
 Ellen Germeo
 Gail Johnson-in memory of
 Joycelyn Anne Jennings
 Lynne Johnson
 Steve Jordan
 Grace Kent
 Ingrid & Roger LaMont

Galen Lewis & Meghan
 Sanders
 Main Street TV & Appliance
 Mayer Paint & Hardware
 Medina Sandstone Society
 Medina Veterinary Clinic
 Andrew Meier
 Ann Moore
 Pat Morrissey
 Mr. & Mrs. LeRoy Neeper in
 memory of Joycelyn Jen-
 nings
 Oakfield Historical Society
 in honor of Matt Ballard
 Richard Palmer
 Toni Plummer
 Doug Pratt
 Dick & Kim Remley
 Deborah Rodrigues-in honor
 of Diana Dudley
 Susanne Sack
 Christine Sartwell
 Rev. Aleka Schmidt
 Gary Simboli
 Darryl Smith
 Judith Spencer
 Sue Starkweather-Miller
 Ross Thompson
 SUNY Brockport
 Tops Markets, Albion
 Maarit Vaga
 Wegmans Food Market
 Zambistro Restaurant

(Photo at right) Robert Fisher replaces a window sill in the 1834 Cobblestone Church. This completed the preservation work begun in 2016 as provided by the Rochester Area Community Foundation Vitality-Preservation Grant of \$23,000. An additional \$3,500 was provided by our members in a 2016 Special Appeal with assistance received from the Dunn-Martin Fund.

In addition to the Cobblestone Church windows, the project included repainting the church woodwork including the tower, restoration of the front stone patio, and new stairs and masonry repairs to the Ward House.

Membership Fundraising Dinner Was a Huge Success!



Gail Johnson, Membership Secretary and Dinner Chairman, leads the Dinner Committee through the pre-event buffet served to committee members in advance of the dinner.



The Carlton Recreation Center was a great venue for displaying over a hundred raffle and auction items. Many guests went home very happy!

By Gail Johnson, Membership Secretary

Our first annual fundraising dinner is now history. I can't say enough about all 18 members of my dinner committee as everyone rose to each task facing them. Special thanks go out to Brenda Radzinski who headed the General Raffle, Sandy Heise who took charge of the Silent Auction, and Patricia Morrissey and Shirley Bright-Neeper who set up and ran the Money Tree Raffle. All of this would not have been possible without the backing of Cobblestone Director, Doug Farley.

As first time fundraising dinners go, ours was a huge success. The Auction with only 12 items brought in \$2995. The Silent Auction raised \$2050. The General Raffle brought in \$1150, the Money Tree Raffle \$495, and the Blitz Raffle \$290.

Membership was the basis of our fundraising dinner.

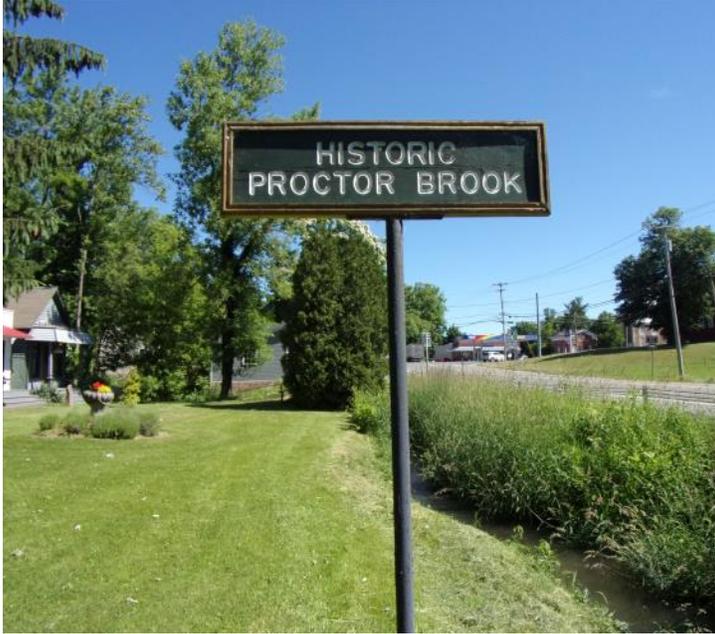
Thanks to all of our levels of membership who either attended the dinner or who designated that their membership donations go toward the fundraiser, our gross income was \$45,590 and our net income was \$40,316.32. In all, 114 dinner tickets were sold.

Underwriting, which brought in \$2,960, played a major part in our success. This effort cut our dinner expenses to \$2,158.68. This is an extremely low expense figure for any fundraiser! We have very generous Cobblestone Society members and community business members to thank.

Already we are at work planning the second annual membership fundraising event to be held at the Carlton Recreation Hall on Wednesday, May 1, 2019. Again, we are having a catered buffet by Zambistro. Look for more raffles, etc. to be added next year!



Brooks & Streams Named for Pioneer Families Along Historic Ridge Road



By Al Capurso, President, Orleans County Historical Association

Creeks, streams, brooks and springs were very important to our pioneer settlers. They provided a source of drinking water for humans and livestock alike, as well as a means to wash clothing and for cooking. Abundant fish were an important food source.

Traveling the historic Ridge Road in Gaines you will encounter a very unique circumstance, that to my knowledge does not exist anywhere else. There are three creeks or brooks adjacent to each other, all named after the pioneer families that settled on their banks. Moving from west to east, just past the Eagle Har-

bor Road we come to Beardsley Creek; named after the Levi Beardsley family who settled in Carlton in 1827. Born in Connecticut in 1777, Mr. Beardsley died on his homestead in 1867, aged 90 years.

Next is Proctor Brook; winding its way north through the Cobblestone Museum Complex at the intersection of Rts. 98 and 104. It was named after John Proctor who came from Massachusetts in 1810, settling near the brook in what is now Childs with his wife Polly Cummings. Perhaps there is no one more prominent in the development of Childs and the Ridge Road's famed cobblestone buildings than Mr. Proctor. Born in 1787, he suffered the tragic loss of three wives and several children to sickness but he himself lived to the age of 81.

Last, but not least, is Gilbert Creek. This stream originates south of Rte. 104, intersects Brown Road as it meanders north and crosses The Ridge where the Gaines Carlton Community Church now stands. It was on this site that Elizabeth Gilbert and her husband (his name not known) settled and built their cabin in 1807, becoming the first settlers to occupy land on the Ridge Road between Monroe and Niagara County. Elizabeth suffered the loss of her husband around 1808 of an apparent epileptic seizure. She and her niece, Amy Scott and two children under the age of 10 continued on for another 3-4 years before moving to Canandaigua presumably due to the threatening War of 1812. Proctor Brook and Gilbert Creek have similar wooden green signs with white lettering showing their location.

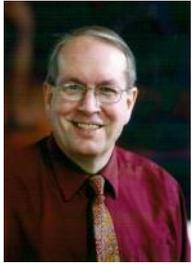
On Saturday, July 28, 2pm all are welcome to attend the unveiling of the Beardsley Creek Sign created by Jim Bonafini, Cobblestone Board President. Dignitaries will speak and refreshments served. The site is on Ridge Road, just west of Gaines Corners at the cobblestone home of Robert Bruning (Anderson Cobblestone).

Historic Cobblestone Home Repairs



Albion cobblestone home owner Theresa Ames is very familiar with the special challenges presented by life in a cobblestone house. This past winter, the outer wall of her historic home gave way to time and excess moisture. Theresa was fortunate that her brother Bill Ames was familiar with working with lime mortar repairs and was able to restore the front facade to its 19th century appearance, as demonstrated in these before and after images.

By Doug Farley, Director



We've covered a lot of ground already this year with several very successful events that took place in our "off-season." We are very grateful to local artist Patricia Greene who conducted four hands-on art classes during the winter/spring months of March-June. We also held our first-annual Membership Dinner at the Carlton Recreation Center with Michael Zambito catering.

(Chairperson Gail Johnson has included a full report in this issue.)

Our Summer Solstice II-Art in the Arboretum was also a great success. Over 150 people attended this wonderful evening of art, music and delicious food, held at Robin Hill, the home of Doug & Valerie Pratt of Lyndonville. Many thanks to co-chairs Shirley Bright-Neeper and Joyce Chizick and their hard-working committee.

We also enjoyed three bus tours so far this year. Georgia Thomas led the excursion to Maple Syrup Country where we visited a working Maple Sugar Farm and "stuffed" ourselves with pancakes galore at Cartwright's Restaurant in Angelica. The second bus trip was the Peony Tour led by Sue Starkweather-Miller. Attendees visited peony gardens and festivals where they took in all of the visual and aromatic splendor. The third bus tour was billed as the "New Life Tour" and took us as far east as Canandaigua where we visited several cobblestone buildings along the way that have found a new lease-on-life by housing thriving businesses.

Completing our 2018 schedule of bus trips will take place on Saturday, July 21. On that date, Sue Starkweather-Miller will lead a trip around Orleans County to visit six area gardens including those of Ursula O'Connor, Tom Wenhold, Ruth Shewan, Cottage Garden Lily Farm and much more.

Please make plans to join us for some of our upcoming summer and fall events. Of particular interest should be the Cobblestone Tour of Homes on September 15, the Cobblestone Ghost Walk on October 7 and the Christmas Tour of Homes on December 1.

WANTED

Docents

By Sue Bonafini, Assistant Director

Seeking volunteers to serve as docents to guide visitors of all ages throughout the complex.

Train to become knowledgeable about our Museum's history and collections. Our walk-in guests can choose to tour any one or two buildings, our cobblestone structures, or the entire complex. If you have a passion for one building in particular, your expertise can be useful during Special Events and Group Tours!

If you or someone you know would enjoy learning about our historic buildings and their contents, please direct them to me.

I can be reached at:

volunteers@cobblestonemuseum.org or (585) 589-9013 to discuss becoming a docent and other volunteer opportunities.

A Day in the Life of a Cobblestone Family



Join us on Friday, July 13 from 6-8:30pm and experience a day in the life of a family who would have lived in a cobblestone dwelling. The guided tour will offer a snapshot of 19th century life including the mother's duties in the cobblestone home, the children's day at the one-room schoolhouse, and the farmer's latest tools from the turn of the century. A typical 19th century universalist worship experience will also be shared in our Cobblestone Church.

Museum Intern—Madeleine Baum



My name is Madeleine Amanda Baum, but I also go by Maddie. I was born and raised in Brighton, just outside of Rochester, New York, where I attended Brighton High School in the class of 2015. I currently attend Rochester Institute of Technology, where I study Digital Humanities & Social Sciences, an interdisciplinary major which focuses on the furthering of the

possibilities of computing for the humanities, and has its roots in liberal arts, new media design, and computer programming.

I am also interested in studying psychology and digital literature at school. Some of my hobbies include skiing, reading, and embroidery/needlework, and I love to listen to music and spend time in nature. I enjoy listening to a wide variety of music, including jazz, rock, punk, classical, indie and alternative. I believe that education is very important, and I look forward to helping teach people, as well as learning more myself, about the history of cobblestone!

Save the Date-Cobblestone Tour of Homes-Saturday, September 15th

One of our most popular events last year was a revival of an annual classic from the Cobblestone Society's past: The Cobblestone Tour of Homes. You won't want to miss it this year, either, so mark you calendars today for **Saturday, September 15th**.



President's Message—June 2018

By Jim Bonafini, President



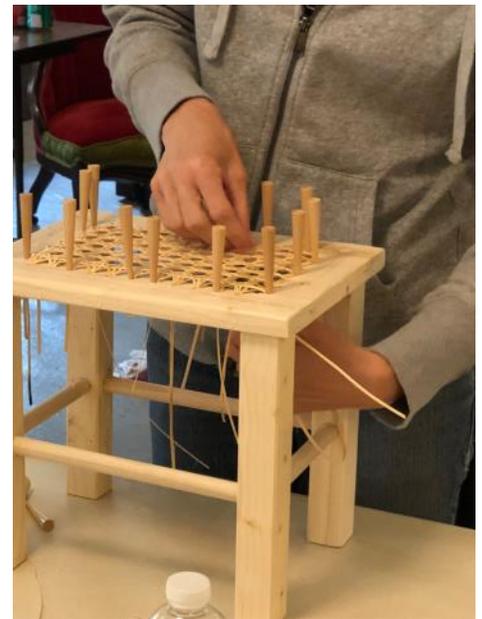
A little over a year ago, we unveiled our new logo and vision for the future. Our plans were varied, ambitious and sometimes “outside of the box.” As you can see by reading this newsletter, the Museum strives to bring activities and programs that reach all ages and highlight the local history. Alt-

hough some events do not fit into the Museum's historical or educational objectives, they bring together people of similar interests. This is important in connecting people and connecting our organization to the community.

Expanding the reach of the Cobblestone Museum interests many of our Trustees. We see this with expanded partnerships outside the county. Our “Window Restoration Workshop” jointly sponsored by The Landmark Society, was one new initiative demonstrating synergies between our two organizations. Other partnerships are being developed and will come to fruition over time.

On a closing note, I would thank all who donated money, volunteered time and performed the restoration of the Cobblestone Church windows. The planned restoration work was completed over a two year period, ending in the recent replacement of 19 deteriorated window sills. The sills were custom cut out of white oak at a local sawmill and dried for a year prior to installation. Although not quick work, the outcome was remarkable. Please stop by and see the results of this and other preservation efforts.





(Above left) Dedication of the wayfinding sign denoting Gilbert Creek, placed by Orleans County Historical Association (OCHA). (Center & right) Students from our Chair Caning Class participate in the hands-on craft workshop taught by local handcraft artist Judy Larkin. Special thanks to Jim Bonafini for making the stools used by the students!

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Diamond ~~\$5,000~~ \$2,500

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Bronze ~~\$250~~ \$125

Checks payable to:

The Cobblestone Society

P.O. Box 363, Albion, N.Y. 14411

Feel free to ask us if you have a question about your membership renewal. (585) 589-9013