



The Cobblestoner



Our Third Annual Membership Dinner Is Cancelled

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Our third annual Membership Dinner originally scheduled for May 6, and later rescheduled for

August 19, is the latest in a long list of events and activities that have been postponed and eventually cancelled in the wake of the COVID-19 worldwide pandemic. It has become apparent that NYS Guidelines will not allow events such as ours in the near future.

For those who have purchased tickets, you will receive a refund in the mail. Our pledge to you is we will hold the event at a safe time in the future when everyone can enjoy themselves in a public setting. We have established a tentative date of May 12, 2021 for next year's dinner. More info will be shared in upcoming newsletters.

2020 Membership Benefits Extended to April 2022



In light of the current situation we are all facing in regards to COVID-19 and the disruption of our everyday activities, the Cobblestone Society board of trustees has decided that anyone who has paid their annual dues for 2020 will have their membership extended without additional payment until April 2022. This decision was made as a result of the great number of events and activities that we had to cancel in 2020 that we feel diminished the value of your membership.

If you have not paid your new or renewal membership for 2020, there is still time for you to do so and take advantage of your Cobblestone Society membership without additional payment in 2021. Also, if you have already paid your membership and would like to increase your membership level, we would be happy to ac-

cept an incremental payment to bring you to a new level. That new membership level will continue for the rest of 2020, all of 2021, and continue until April 30, 2022.

Quite honestly, many of our regular annual members either forgot or neglected to renew their memberships this year, so please consider this a polite request to check on the status of your membership. If you can't find your paid membership card, just give the museum a call at (585) 589-9013 and we will be happy to look into it for you.

A membership form is included on the back page of this "Cobblestoner." Please use this form to take advantage of this special offer and to keep your membership in force until April 2022.



Roe Schoolhouse, Wayne County



By Richard Palmer (CobblestoneStructures.blogspot.com)

Built in the 1820s, the Roe schoolhouse in the town of Butler, Wayne County is believed to be the oldest existing cobblestone schoolhouse in North America. Now a museum, it is located at 12397 Van Vleck Road at the intersection of Route 89. It was built by Daniel Roe, an early pioneer. It was often referred to as the Watson Schoolhouse. Rather than using the smooth-washed lake stones characteristic of later cobblestone buildings, it is constructed of rough field stones that were taken from the property on which it rests. Some of the stones were split in half because of their larger size. This structure is very early as shown by the 12 over 8 window panes. Photo courtesy Richard Palmer.

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Maarit Vaga

Staff:

Director: Doug Farley

Assistant Director: Sue Bonafini

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In Memoriam—Cobblestone Society Life Member Bernadine Ross (1920-2020)



Cobblestone Museum life member Bernadine Ross passed away on March 6, 2020. Over several decades, Bernadine was active with the Cobblestone Society and supported her husband Donald, who served as Cobblestone Museum treasurer and president for many years.

In addition to her life membership with the Cobblestone Society, Bernadine was a dedicated member, elder and deacon of Albion Presbyterian Church, and faithful member of Order of Eastern Star #381 Medina Chapter for 77 years. She also received the DeWitt Clinton Masonic Award, the highest award given to a civilian.

Many folks described "Bernie" as the "power behind the throne," as she faithfully kept the museum's books during the years her husband served as Cobblestone Society treasurer. She was also a very supportive volunteer at museum events and could be frequently seen lending a hand wherever a hand was needed.

Bernadine is survived by her husband of 78 years, Donald Ross, and daughter Deborah Ross. She will be missed by her many friends, family and members of the Cobblestone Society.

Membership Program

DIAMOND BENEFACTOR (\$100,000-\$249,999)

Gail Johnson*

SILVER HERITAGE (\$20,000-\$29,999)

David Mitchell—Christopher Mitchell Funeral Home

HERITAGE (\$10,000-\$19,999)

Gary & Grace Kent *

SILVER (\$1,000+)

Erin Anheier & Russ Bosch

Roy Bubb

Doug & Lois Farley

K. Peter & Patricia Hurd

BRONZE (\$250+)

Albion Agencies-Bill & Jackie Bixler

Orleans Chapter DAR

Kim Charron

Mike & Krys Elam

Shirley & Stanley Farone

Jay & Maryellen Giese

Gerard & Patricia Morrissey

LeRoy Neeper & Shirley

Bright-Neeper

John Nipher

Suzanne Pilon

Mariana Rhoades*

PATRON (\$100+)

Don & Sharon Algeo

Doris Antinore

Jack & Debby Batchellor

Robert & Evelyn Blackburn

Jim & Sue Bonafini

Victoria Christopher

Grace & John Denniston

Mendal & Alberta Dick

Sheri Egeli

Donna Farley

Barbara Filipiak

Gail Foss

Linda Fuller

Leigh & Kevin Hamilton

Henry & Barbara Lehning

John & Ruth Mathes

Fred & Betty Sue Miller

Dr. Robert Moynihan DDS

Martin Naber-Nabershood Restorations

Thomas Noon

Maureen O'Donnell

Diane & Keith Palmer*

Richard & Leona Pazasis

Maura & Tim Pierce

Toni Plummer & Tom Stark

Mark & Brenda Radzinski

Pauline Radzinski*

Ann & John Raskopf

Beverley Reeves

Joyce Ann Riley

Christine Sartwell

David & Peggy Schreck

Bradley & Patricia Shelp

Bruce Schmidt

Sue Starkweather-Miller & Doug Miller

Georgia Thomas*

Tillman's Village Inn

Sherry Tuohey

Kay VanNostrand

Doreen & Gary Wilson

Mary & Tom Zangerle

FAMILY (\$40+)

Bill & Cindy Applegate

Doug & Linda Beech

Mark & Karen Bower

Earl & Marlene Brundage

Linda Cantor-Jaffe

Joyce Chizick

Margaret Ciechanowicz

Brian Daddis

David & Kathleen Greenfield

Ashley King

Susanne Maloy

Jeanne Martillota

Brad & Marti Ryan

David & Trudi Schwert

Ross & Christine Thompson

Bradley Ward & Mollie Totman

INDIVIDUAL (\$25+)

Rozenn Bailleul-LeSuer

Christine Bannister

Dawn Borchert

Rita Burrell

Kathleen Clarke

Carol Flores

Lynne Johnson

Ingrid Lestorti

Sheila McAtee

Meredith Minier

Anton Schwarzmueeller

Linda Spierdowis

Rosalind Starkweather

Gloria Stefaniak

* Denotes Life Members

As an additional membership benefit, Sustaining Members (Patron Level and higher) are recognized in every issue of the Cobblestoner. Members at the Individual and Family levels are recognized in one quarterly issue at the time of their payment.



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

The Legacy Society recognizes and honors members and friends who have provided for the Cobblestone Society & Museum by including the Society in their estate and financial plans. Legacy gifts of every amount help ensure that the Cobblestone Museum's tradition of promoting life-long learning through innovative programs, exhibitions and collections continues for future generations.

Anyone can become a member of the Legacy Society simply by letting us know that they have remembered the Cobblestone Society & Museum in their will or other planned giving arrangement. Gifts can be designated for the Cobblestone Museum's general purposes or restricted to a specific area, such as endowment or preservation. In appreciation of their efforts on behalf of the Museum, Legacy Society members will receive our newsletter, *The Cobblestoner*, which will list their names permanently in the Legacy Society section.

For additional information about membership in the Legacy Society or to discuss a potential planned gift, please contact Douglas Farley, Museum Director, at director@cobblestonemuseum.org or call 585.589.9013. All inquiries are confidential and without obligation.

Thomas Barron House in Geneva, NY



By Richard Palmer

Many of the best examples of cobblestone houses are found in the Finger Lakes region. One of the most striking is this

one at 1168 Routes 5 and 20 just west of Geneva. It was built in 1848 by Thomas Barron who came from England and cleared the land and built a log cabin on the site.

Several trips were made to the shores of Lake Ontario. Wheat was carried by wagon to Sodus Point for transshipment. Cobblestones were then sorted and loaded and returned which went into the construction of the present house. Great care went into the sorting of the lake-washed sandstone cobblestones for their red color and uniform size. The house took two years to build.

The main two-story section of the house has an Ionic portico, and on either side are one-story wings with porches across the front. The west wing has a false door, never used from the inside of the house, but added to the outside to give the two porches perfect symmetry. Two of the interior walls of the home are as thick as outer walls, 18 inches to support the weight of the construction. The portal is enflamed by egg and dart moulding; the door fittings are German silver.

In Memorium - Life Member Ronald Radzinski (1934-2020)



Cobblestone Society Life Member Ronald "Butch" Radzinski was a good neighbor to the Cobblestone Society & Museum. Literally, because for many years he owned and operated the H&A Superette next door to the museum. And, a good neighbor in other ways, as he worked to achieve Cobblestone Museum goals and advance museum projects.

Butch served for many, many years as a Town of Gaines Councilman, then Town Supervisor, then Orleans County Legislator. The photo at left shows Ron helping to dedicate the Cobblestone Museum's historic Ridge Road sign which was placed at the Village Inn in 1984 as part of the Town's 175th Anniversary celebration.

In 1998, Ron came to the aid of the Cobblestone Society again, when a kerfuffle ensued regarding the sale of the Brick House, which was originally part of his store's property. The proposed new owner suggested the Brick House be torn down. Ron's decision favored the Cobblestone Museum's request to purchase the building for museum purposes, therein preserving it for historical use and enjoyment of future generations.

Ronald "Butch" Radzinski passed away on July 16, 2020. We offer our sympathy to his many friends and loving family.

Thank You to Our Grant Funders for 2020

Central New York Arts/NYSCA
Documentary Heritage & Preservation Services for NY
Dunn Martin Fund
Elisabeth Dye Curtis-Orleans County Foundation
Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor
Genesee Orleans Arts Council (Go Art!)

Greater Hudson Heritage/NYSCA
Museum Association of NY (MANY)
Orleans County Legislature
Pomeroy Fund for NYS History
Preservation League of New York State
Rochester Area Community Foundation

J. G. Peters Harness Shop



the campus on August 28, 1987 through courtesies performed by Rice Homes of Barre Center, the Orleans County Sheriff's Department and the Town of Gaines.

Two years later, on July 9, 1989 the building was dedicated on the Cobblestone Museum campus as the J. G. Peters Harness Shop. The building was fully restored to house the artifacts from the harness shop of John. G. Peters of Lyndonville. The Peters family greeted the celebration with a full family reunion, including a group photo in front of the restored harness shop.

John G. Peters was born on July 4, 1877 and following common school, served a three-year apprenticeship under Reuben Pridmore, harness maker, in Albion. In 1909, Peters opened a harness shop of his own in Lyndonville. In 1918, Mr. Peters "saw the handwriting on the wall," and knew tractors were taking over for horses. He decided to take up shoe repair to earn his livelihood when the harness business became a thing of the past.

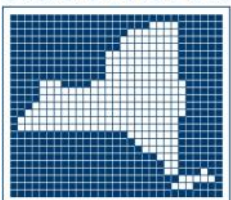
The J.G. Peters Harness shop serves today as a memorial not just to one man, but to an entire trade. Peters represents the countless craftsmen who plied their trade for hundreds of years, providing a needed and valuable service to their communities.



Our J. G. Peters Harness Shop was originally built in the Town of Gaines as a shoe store by Starr Chester in 1838. He used the shop until his death in 1880. The next owner, Gates Knickerbocker, purchased the building for \$30 and moved it to another location where it served as a jewelry and clock repair business until his death in 1914. A series of other owners used the building for various purposes until it became connected with the Chatterbox Restaurant and served as living quarters for the restaurant during the 1950s.

The little shop passed to the Cobblestone Society in 1987 when then-owner Rose Welles, notified museum director C. W. Lattin that she would donate the building to the Cobblestone Museum complex. The building was moved intact to

State of the Arts



NYSOA



Museum Resumes Summer Full Campus Tours



We are very pleased to report that the Cobblestone Museum has resumed guided tours of its seven building campus effective July 15. Tours are available by appointment every Wednesday through Saturday at 11am, 1pm and 3pm through Labor Day. New Guidelines have been established in compliance with NYS Department of Health safety measures. Those taking a tour are reminded that masks and social distancing are required.

As in the past, tours are free for Cobblestone Society Members, kids under age 13, and active military personnel. A small admission charge applies to everyone else. Please call the museum to schedule your tour at (585) 589-9013 or online at cobblestonemuseum.org.

Beautiful Enhancements to Cobblestone Museum Artisan Shops



In case you haven't taken the time to drive by the Cobblestone Museum artisan shops on Route 98 in the last month or two, you are missing some truly iconic imagery that almost resembles a "storybook village." The Cobblestone Society owes a big debt of gratitude to a lot of folks who have invested time, energy and money into preserving our Farmers Hall, Harness Shop and Print Shop. Through generous grants from the Rochester Area Community Foundation, Orleans County Foundation and U.S. Small Business Administration we have made structural and aesthetic improvements to our

buildings that will benefit us now and in future generations. Robert Fisher and his son installed new half-round gutters, and installed and painted cedar siding on the rear of Farmers Hall, along with painting trim and much more. Freeman Lattin (Bill Lattin's grandson) began his summer internship by painting the Print Shop and Harness Shop. Bill Lattin was also frequently on site with paintbrush in hand. Russ Bosch and Erin Anheier helped with scaffolding, moral & physical support and much more.

Victorian Mourning Art

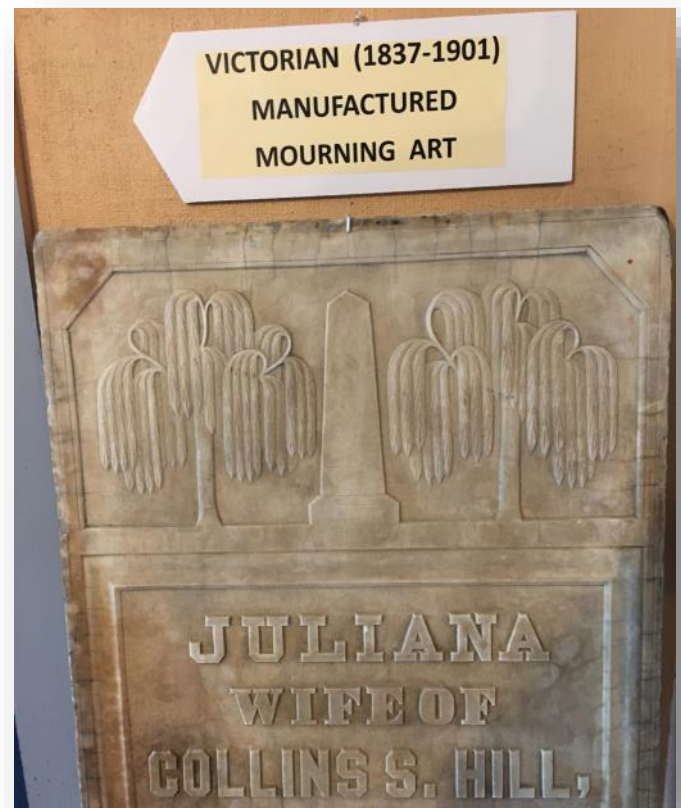


Mourning and the personal response to death are unique to every culture and even every person. The Cobblestone Museum is currently looking at this through a new exhibit entitled, "Victorian Manufactured Mourning Art." Created and curated by Bill and Freeman Lattin, this three-dimensional exhibit takes a look at the various objects found in American art pertaining to death and loss during the Victorian Period.

Besides art displaying the motifs of angels, wreaths, pillows and lambs, the exhibit displays many artifacts related to mourning, including a cremation urn and a bone china teapot

with a family mourning scene. One of the most unique artifacts in the museum is a beautiful tombstone donated to the Museum by the Memorial Art Gallery in Rochester that depicts a stand of weeping willows and an upright obelisk pointing to heaven. The Memorial Art Gallery donated the artifact to the Museum because they were not able to properly display it and wanted it to reside in a location where many people would enjoy its artistic and symbolic beauty.

This exhibit is located in the display case in the Proctor Room and is available for viewing throughout 2020. In accordance with new COVID-19 guidelines, please call the museum in advance of your visit.



Director's Message—Doug Farley



I am very thankful for all of you who have stuck by our side during this challenging year. I would never have imagined that we would end up cancelling most of our events and closing down completely for three months.

You have been very faithful to offer your moral and financial support all throughout this period. Over 100 of you made dona-

tions to our Sixty for Sixty Fund that was created to help us make it "over the hump" when most of our celebrations were cancelled for our Sixtieth Anniversary Year. That fundraiser

went a long way in making up for missing revenue caused by the pandemic.

Our board of directors has continued to meet via Zoom throughout this period and have helped us weather the storm. With their support, we reached out to the Small Business Administration for a federal Payroll Protection Plan (PPP) grant to keep our small staff working from home. That funding provided a significant portion of our budgeted funds to literally keep the lights on during the closure.

We are confident that the plan we have created to move forward will keep us on track for the rest of 2020 and into a brighter and safer 2021.

Donors and More!

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

Erin Anheier	Grace Denniston	Chuck & Gwen Hughson	Pat & Gerard Morrissey	Linda Smith
Henry & Susan Beamer	Brenda Eheart	Peter & Patricia Hurd	John Nipher	Georgia Thomas
Jean Benson	Michael Haines	Grace & Gary Kent	Richard Palmer	Maarit Vaga
Shirley Bright-Neeper	Kevin Hamilton	C.W. (Bill) Lattin	Toni Plummer	Diane Ecker Wadsworth
Roy Bubb	James Harold	David Mitchell—	Joan Rachel	
Kim Charron	Dave Hawley	Christopher Mitchell	Brenda Radzinski	
Marsha DeFillips	Linda Hedley	Funeral Homes	Chris Sartwell	

Donations in Memory of Bernadine A. Ross

Jay & Jaci Beeton	Grace & Gary Kent	Dale & Helen Root	Klaus & Linda Shigley
Warren & Trudy Beeton	Mickey & Molly Pilon	Christine Sartwell	Nelda Toussaint

Sixty For Sixty Fund—60th Anniversary

Albion Agencies	Paul & Joan Casterline	Grandfather,	Funeral Home	Christine Sartwell in
Don & Sharon Algeo	Kim Charron	Grandmother & Aunt	Charles & Kim Nesbitt	memory of Lester Roth
Theresa Ames	Margaret Ciechanowicz	Janice who all taught at	Linda Nielsen in memory	Edward Sawken in
Erin Anheier & Russ	Gene & Ann Czjowski	the Cobblestone	of J. Howard Pratt	memory of Great
Bosch	Sue & Gary Davy in	Schoolhouse #5 and	John Nipher	Grandfather Frank H.
Anonymous	memory of Elsie Davy	three siblings who	Tom Noon in memory of	Lattin
Doris Antinore in honor	Grace & John Denniston	attended the school	Patricia Noon	Charles Scroger
of grandson Ryan Pask	Mendal W. Dick	Bonnie Howlett	Lorraine Oakley	Ed Sheats
Rozenn Bailleul-LeSuer	Duane Ecker	K. Peter & Patti Hurd	Maureen O'Donnell	Brad & Pat Shelp in
Jack & Debby Batchellor	Sheri Egeli	Mary & Alan Isselhard	Diane & Keith Palmer	memory of B. James
Bill & Jeanette Behnke	Legislator Bill & Pat Eick	Gail Johnson	Richard & Leona	Shelp
Jean Benson	Krys & Mike Elam	Grace & Gary Kent	Pazasis	Joann Smith
Jackie & Bill Bixler	Doug & Lois Farley	Betty Kirby	Maura & Tim Pierce	Kathleen Smith
Mark & Karen Bower in	Barbara Filipiak in honor	Dr. John Klahn	Richard & Sibyl Pilon	Linda J. Smith
memory of former	of Bill Lattin	Francis Kowski	Toni Plummer	Loretta Smith
history teacher, Michael	Frederick W. Fladd in	Linda Kozubal	Mark Pommerenck &	Roz Starkweather in
A. Charles	honor of Shirley Bright-	Roger & Ingrid LaMont	Carl Russo in memory of	honor of Bill Lattin
Bread Crumbs Press	Neeper	Cary Wilson Lattin	Louis Molisani	Georgia Thomas
Nancy Breslawski in	Gail Foss	Ingrid Lestorti	Andrea Rebeck in	Ross & Christine
memory of Daniel	Doug & Lisie Freier	Douglas H. Lockwood	memory of Marilyn B.	Thompson in memory of
Breslawski	Linda Fuller	Janice Mann-Beech	Rebeck	Charles Henry
LeRoy & Shirley Bright-	John & Sandy Heise	Ruth Mathes in memory	Deborah Roberts	Thompson
Neeper	Scott Galliford &	of Charles & Hannah	Mark & Brenda	Kay VanNostrand
Marlene & Earl	Christine Hunt	Thompson	Radzinski	Diane Ecker Wadsworth
Brundage	Maryellen & Jay Giese	Sheila McAtee	Pauline Radzinski	in memory of Esther
Robert Bruning	Dave & Kathy Greenfield	Mary McMillan	Mariana L. Rhoades	Root Ecker
Roy Bubb in honor of the	in tribute to those with	Brenda & Sean	Ken & Janet Root	Mary Jean Welser in
Cobblestone Volunteers	the wisdom to lead the	McQuillan	Jocelyn Rowley in	memory of Elwood &
Rita Burrell	Society	Doug Miller & Sue	memory of Arthur	Joyce Lawrence
David & Nelda Callard	James P. Harold	Starkweather-Miller in	Rowley	Jean Wetherbee
Christine & Al Capurso	Deanna Houck in	honor of Bill Lattin	Susanne Sack	Mark Woodward
in memory of Donna	memory of her Great –	David Mitchell-	Betty Salpekar	Glenn & Irene Woolston
Rodden		Christopher Mitchell		Mary & Tom Zangerle

Charles H. Thompson: A Legacy of Historic Preservation



Charles Thompson's children, (standing) Ross Thompson, (seated) Ruth Mathes and Gail Johnson beside the tree their father planted about 1915.

The Cobblestone Museum is fortunate to have a lot of beautiful shade trees that grace its historic campus. One of these trees has even more history than the rest. It all began around 1915 when Charles H. Thompson and a few of his classmates at the District #5 Cobblestone School set about

planting a sapling Sugar Maple Tree in front of their one-room schoolhouse for Arbor Day. Charles lived east of the school on Ridge Road and selected a young tree from a wooded stand near the school. Many years later, Charles married and raised his family in the same neighborhood. He was a farmer and canal bridge operator. His daughters Gail and Ruth were students at the cobblestone school during the very last years it operated. When describing the tree project to others, he often remarked that he and his friends also "planted" a bottle next to the roots with info about the school and students.

Fast forward to about 1960 and we find Charles and his wife Hannah still interested in that little schoolhouse he attended and the Sugar Maple Tree he planted. The school had closed in 1952, but the many memories for Charles and his family persisted. There was discussion in the town that the old schoolhouse might serve as a farm housing complex, the prospect of which caused some concerned citizens to raise a red flag about preserving the school for historical purposes instead. Charles contacted Orleans County Historian Cary Lattin and the two, along with others, created a plan to form a society to save the school and the nearby Universalist Cobblestone Church from similar fate.

Later in 1960, the grassroots citizens created the Cobblestone Society to help preserve the buildings and to educate the public about Cobblestone masonry. Mrs. Thompson served as the group's first treasurer.

Today, several of Charles Thompson's family members are still involved in the Cobblestone Society including his son, Ross, and daughters Gail Johnson and Ruth Mathes.

The site Charles Thompson selected for the tree has indeed stood the test of time. If it had been any closer to the school or to the highway it most likely would have been removed many years ago. Ross remarked that he thinks the old Sugar Maple Tree is the "tallest tree in the Hamlet of Childs."

Looking Back: Town of Gaines Sesquicentennial 1984



Looking Back: Long time Cobblestone Museum supporters Roger and Ingrid Lamont enjoy the 1984 Town of Gaines Sesquicentennial Parade. (Right) The Lamont Storage float passes by the Cobblestone Church..

President's Message—Erin Anheier



What a strange year it has been! We were looking forward to celebrating our 60th anniversary with over 20 on-site events. But, that was before we heard the strange term "COVID-19." Now we have learned how to live during a pandemic and it is much

different than our cheerful plans. We were unable to open for tours until mid-July and can only do that with many new protocols in place. All those planned events have been cancelled or modified.

It has been difficult, as we miss socializing with our volunteers and visitors. The Board of Trustees has learned how to conduct meetings via internet and dedicated volunteers perform

work on the grounds alone. We added new features to our website to stay engaged with our audience. It certainly isn't like last year, when we had nearly 200 volunteers and about 5,000 visitors! It's been a tough year financially, as those events would have raised funds to support our operating costs. We are very thankful to the many people who helped out by contributing to our \$60 for 60 fund drive.

We haven't lost sight of our mission and vision. We will survive this year and come back strong and refreshed next year. We hope to see you all at our "60 plus 1" events as we reschedule our planned 60th anniversary events to 2021. In the meantime, you can still tour our museum by appointment, you can visit our website for interesting videos, and peruse the Cobblestone Info Base with thousands of photos. Thank you for supporting the museum. Remember we are now open. Be well and stay safe. We are all in this together!

Cobblestone Infobase Now Active at CobblestoneMuseum.org



If you haven't visited our website recently you have missed an exciting new development. The Cobblestone Infobase is a virtual library and repository of information about all known existing and previously existing cobblestone structures in North America. If that sounds like a lot of information (and a lot of work!) you are right. The Infobase is a joint project of the Cobblestone Society and the Landmark Society of WNY undertaken by Gregory Lawrence, a retired Service Engineer from East-

Infobase creator, Greg Lawrence

man Kodak. The Infobase has benefited from additional contributions from other sources including Richard

Palmer, frequent contributor to this newsletter, who has spent many years and countless miles photo-documenting nearly all existing cobblestone structures in New York State and beyond.

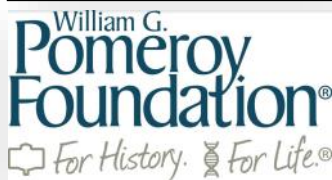
In the spring of 2018, Cobblestone board member Erin Anheier

contacted Greg Lawrence about scanning 3,500 photographs from the Robert Roudabush Cobblestone collection, archived at the Landmark Society of Western New York. Greg suggested that the survey and accompanying photographs would be a perfect fit for a web Info Base.

The creation, design, programming, management and implementation of the project went through four planned phases, taking about 1500 pro-bono hours of Greg's free time over about 22 months to achieve the public release in March 2020. Almost 1,000 structures with about 6,500 photographs were represented in the initial public release. Both existing and previously existing cobblestone structures are represented with the same emphasis in order to complete the historical record.

This project will be a work in progress for years to come as the archives, holdings, documentation and knowledge contributed by the Cobblestone Museum and others (e.g. historical societies, libraries, publications, internet contributors, historians, structure owners, and cobblestone enthusiasts) becomes available. If you have information or photographs to contribute, or have a question or concern, please contact the Cobblestone Museum at director@cobblestonemuseum.org or (585) 589-9013.

Pomeroy Fund for NYS History Challenge Grant



We are pleased to report that the Cobblestone Museum has been selected to take part in a unique challenge grant through the Pomeroy Fund for NYS History. This grant will match funds that

we raise beginning August 1 and running through September 30, 2020. They will match \$1 for every \$2 we raise to a limit of \$6,000.

The Pomeroy Foundation is trying very hard to help NYS mu-

seums survive the financial hardships created by forced closures as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Cobblestone Museum Board has agreed to move up our Annual Campaign which is usually received in October to coincide with the requirements of the Pomeroy Grant.

A special return form is included on the last page of this newsletter if you wish to make a contribution in response to the Pomeroy Fund challenge Grant. Membership payments received during this period will also be included in the matching funds program.

Assistant Directors Report—Modified Tours During A Pandemic



Docent F. Dean and Intern F. Lattin observe social distancing on the church steps while training.

By Sue Bonafini—Assistant Director

The year 2020 held the promise of festivities with record numbers of guests to mark the occasion of the Cobblestone Museum's 60th anniversary. No one would have predicted that a pandemic would strike in 2020 forcing non-essential businesses to close. However, museums in Orleans County, considered to be part of the Finger Lakes Region of NY, were allowed to open their doors to the public during Phase 4 of the NY Forward Reopening Plan.

Much time was spent reviewing mandatory guidelines and suggestions for best practices to implement to safely greet

the public, while also protecting staff and volunteers from any potential spread of the virus that causes COVID-19. Tours have been available by appointment since July 15, and docents and interns leading them have been trained to share the history of our campus buildings following a new protocol.

Guides and visitors self-monitor to determine the absence of symptoms that could be caused by the coronavirus before they meet. Everyone over age two must wear a mask this season, and groups maintain a physical distance of at least six feet from their guide during tours. Smaller campus buildings which don't allow this required separation standard are discussed at the exterior of the building, with "peeks" inside permitted at open doors with a rope barrier. More talking points are being shared outside, and sanitizing agents are used between tours. Groups are limited in size and no more than three tours per day are offered, Wednesday – Saturday at 11 am, 1 pm and 3 pm.

Visitors have always been discouraged from handling objects in the collection without permission, and this year, even guides will adopt a "no touch" policy to prevent any potential viral spread.

Four veteran docents – Kim Charron, Fred Dean, Gerard Morrissey and Erica Wanecski will be available to provide tours during our shortened season. They've assisted in training our two interns who will also lead tours in 2020. Guides will each carry a green tote bag sporting the Museum logo during tours. Bags are filled with a docent's supplies, such as sanitizing wipes that can be used for cleaning handrails and door knobs along the route.

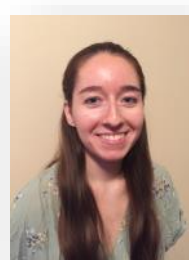
The practice of sharing history is alive and well at the Cobblestone Museum during this unprecedented time. *How* we share that narrative has changed, so in fact, we are *making history* by fulfilling our mission to educate the public in a new format amid the current health crisis.

Dunn Martin Summer Internship Program

Note: This is our third year of our Summer Internship Program sponsored by the Dunn-Martin Fund of the Rochester Area Community Foundation. The Fund has provided stipends for our summer interns who help with leading tours and individualized research related projects that will assist them in their college studies and career goals.



Hi all, I'm Freeman Lattin and I'm one of Cobblestone's summer interns. I grew up here in Gaines and I've been interested in local history from a young age, so I'm very excited to be working at the museum. I've been involved with several local organizations including Scouting, and I earned the rank of Eagle Scout after repainting and replacing road signs at Mount Albion Cemetery. This experience came in handy for this internship as I've painted several of the



buildings on the campus this summer, including the Print Shop and Harness Shop. I'll also be hosting future episodes of Cobblestone's "History At Home" podcast so stay tuned for that. I am currently a double major at SUNY Albany where I'm studying history and public policy. After graduating, I plan to pursue a career in politics.

Eliya Cooper is 21 years old, and is currently working as an intern for the Cobblestone Museum. She volunteered at the museum for four years before applying for an internship. Eliya graduated from Kendall Jr./Sr. High School and currently attends SUNY Geneseo majoring in history and anthropology. She will be graduating in the Spring of 2021. Eliya is also currently working as a moderator for MasterMinds and as a housekeeper for Genesee Country Village and Museum.

Cobblestone Museum Membership & Pomeroy Fund Challenge Grant Registration
All New & Renewing Memberships Will Remain Effective Until April 30, 2022.

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Telephone Number (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

Email Address _____

_____ I am a new member _____ I am renewing _____ I am a life member

_____ I have a current 2020 Membership and would like to increase my level by paying the incremental increase only

_____ Please contact me about volunteer opportunities.

_____ I prefer an electronic copy of the newsletter.

Membership Category

_____ Individual \$25+ _____ Silver \$1,000 +

_____ Family \$40 + _____ Gold \$2,500 +

_____ Patron \$100 + _____ Diamond \$5,000 +

_____ Bronze \$250 +

_____ I wish to make a contribution towards the Pomeroy Challenge Fund \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Credit Card info: Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Checks payable to:

The Cobblestone Society

P.O. Box 363, Albion, NY 14411

(585) 589-9013

Feel free to contact us if you have a question about your membership at (585) 589-9013 or director@cobblestonemuseum.org.

Donations to the Cobblestone Society are tax deductible under IRS Code 501c3. Please consult your financial advisor.

I give permission to the Cobblestone Society to apply my donation towards the Pomeroy Fund for NYS History and any other matching or challenge grants that are now or will become available.