

Bethinking of Old Orleans

C.W.Lattin County Historian

Vol. XVI

11-15-94

No. 45

ROCKEFELLER RALLY



My thanks to Susan Heard for sharing this older photo with us that she picked up recently at her church rummage sale. This picture was taken from the Court House steps on October 10, 1962 when Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller came to Orleans County campaigning for re-election. He was met at the Orleans-Niagara County line by a motorcade organized by the Young Republican Club and county officials. His first stop was at the Medina City Hall where he spoke at 3:30 p.m. at 4:30 p.m. he addressed a rally at the Orleans County Court House. As we can see from the picture a large crowd was on hand to hear the Governor.

I recall him speaking from the same spot in 1958 and being about six feet away from him on the Court House steps. When he took over the podium before addressing the crowd, I recall him leaning

over it and saying in a soft voice to the kids gathered there, including myself, "Hello boys."

Although Gov. Mario Cuomo has visited Orleans County during his present term, it was Gov. Rockefeller who was here more than any other governor in recent history. We notice in the photo his campaign bus and the First Presbyterian Church in the background.

Our readers may recognize some people they know in the crowd. Those that I can spot, sort of working from left to right are: Betty Doherty, Don Lovejoy, Mary Martillotta, "Bud" Strickland, Agnes Tabor, Linda Ludwick, Larry Poelma, Avis Lattin, John Gilbert, Winifred Brooks, Cary Lattin and Nan Parke.

I think the two tall men in suits and ties in the center of the crowd were Rockefeller body guards and/or assistants.