

Bethinking of Old Orleans

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COUNTY OFFICIALS



As we cross the month of October off the calendar, we find ourselves in the height of the political season. With election day next week, we realize that all the candidates' signs will soon be obsolete. Since this is the year for Town and County races, I thought it would be appropriate to look back at who our elected officials were a couple of generations ago. For many of you, you will remember all of these people at their respective jobs.

The photo here was taken on Thursday, Nov. 6 1947 at Marti's Restaurant in Albion. I assume it is a post election party for our officials. From left to right around the table they are: Herbert Holt, Clerk Highway Dept.; Celia Keeler, Clerk Board of Supervisors; H. Justin Roberts, Supervisor Town of Shelby; Kathrin Mathews, Secretary to Child Welfare Agent; Murray Richardson, County Clerk; I. J. Beach, Supervisor Town of Ridgeway; Ole Orsland; Supervisor Town of Kendall; Earl Strickland, Supervisor Town of Carlton; and behind him is Henry DeLano, Supervisor, Town of Barre and Chairman of the Orleans County Board of Supervisors. At the head of the table is Ross N. Wilson, Supervisor, Town of Albion. On the opposite side of the table is Harold Farnsworth, Secretary of the Civil Service Dept., and behind him is Mark Heath of Holley, the County Attorney. Next in line is John Kast, Supervisor Town of Gaines, Mrs. R. Beebe, Supervisor Town of Murray; Henry Hannan, County Highway Superintendent; Malvin Harris, Custo-

dian of County Buildings; Geraldine Barry, Deputy County Treasurer; (Burt Ludington, County Treasurer was absent from the photo;) Manley Morrison, Supervisor Town of Yates; Unidentified; and Cassius Webster, Supervisor Town of Clarendon.

As a side note, I've included a letter which is part of the Supervisors Proceedings of 1947. It is as follows:

Board of Supervisors

Dear Sirs;

At a special meeting held at my home Friday, Sept. 19, 1947, Marian Beebe, wife of our deceased Supervisor R. Beebe, has been appointed Supervisor of the Town of Murray to fill his term of office which would have expired Dec. 31, 1947.

Yours Truly,
James Sunseri,
Town Clerk of Murray

Since this picture was taken, Marti's Restaurant has gone out of business and later became the Albion Elk's Lodge. Likewise, over the past forty-eight years many of the people pictured here are now deceased.

As a final note, you may wonder what was the bottom line back then. With the input of the department heads seated here and the discretion of the Board of Supervisors, our total county budget for 1947 was \$853,614.24.