

Bethinking of Old Orleans

Vol XXI

1-4-99
C.W. Lattin County Historian

No. 1

1998 REFLECTIONS OF PUBLIC HISTORIANS PART I



Our photo, taken around 60 years ago by Fred Holt, shows a person in costume from a local play. Could it be Father Time bidding farewell to a year gone by? At any rate, so long to 1998. Here are some highlights from this year just past as assembled by your local public historians.

Town of Barre, Helen Mathes, Historian

The water district east of Barre Center has been completed. This has helped many families that were short of water. After much discussion by the Town Board members a race track proposal was dropped. The Highway Department purchased a new International truck in February.

On Jan. 18 several from the Barre Fire Company went to Watertown to help because of the ice storm. In August the fire company was able to purchase a new fire truck.

The farmers and muckers say they have never had a better growing year. The crops are all harvested and many have been doing fall plowing. Charles Hartway received a "Farmer of the Year" award. Many young people from Barre were prize winners at the Orleans County 4-H Fair where the new cattle barn was officially opened. On Aug. 5 old time music and square dancing was held in the Grange Hall by the Arts Council.

West Barre Methodist Church held the 166th anniversary of its founding in July. A historical marker was erected near West Barre Cemetery for the Rev. Marvin Frey. Barre Center Presbyterian Church received one of the highest awards a Presbyterian church can earn, the "Excellence in Evangelism" award.

Another successful Hot Air Balloon Fest was held in August. Many people enjoyed rides.

It is nice to know the town tax rate is going down again.

Town of Carlton, Lysbeth Hoffman, Historian

The New York State Route 18 bridge at the Bridges was reopened following \$1.9 million of refurbishments taking only one and a third years, thus bringing the community of Two Bridges back to its full complement of three bridges. As a finishing touch NYSDOT engineers painted the bridge battleship grey, the same color as when the bridge first opened in 1937.

Thirteen new homes were built in our town during this past year.

Carlton's water line has been extended to bring service from near the Bills Road to past Sawyer Road along Marsh Creek Road.

Marsh Creek Road has been resurfaced from Sawyer Road to the Kent Road.

Another ball field is being developed and a pavilion has been built at the Town Park.

Town of Yates, Virginia Cooper, Historian

The town is now in the process of building a new highway garage with many improvements over one which burned around a year ago.

Joe Rosato, a well-known figure and owner of the Rosato Hotel in Lyndonville, died during 1998.

A video store located in Lyndonville has closed and been replaced with a hair salon.

Village of Lyndonville, Elena Ames, Historian

Meland's Home Furnishing Store, located at 11 Main St., closed after being in operation for many years. Provision Pharmacy has since purchased the building and moved their business into it.

Town of Kendall, Alida Clow, Historian

Municipal water was expanded with District No. 3 in Kendall. Also, a grant in the amount of \$400,000 was received for creating Water District No. 4.

The town raised money to build a physician's office. This effort was assisted by Lions International with a gift of \$75,000. This now keeps a doctor in town.

Both boys' and girls' soccer teams in Kendall won Section 5 championships.

The Elementary and High School buildings have been brought up to date with improvements.

Town of Clarendon, Alan Isselhard, Historian

Clarendon now has a new landmark in a 185-foot-high water tower which was erected last summer. Water District No. 2 was put into operation while Water Districts 4 and 5 were approved for future construction.

Several Clarendon residents have seen and heard coyotes in their neighborhoods. Wild turkeys have also been spotted.

At Halloween time the Clarendon Historical Society created a spook house and had wagon rides for children.

Bad windstorms were felt on July 4 and again on Labor Day. In the fall, area residents also felt a minor tremor in an earthquake.

There is now a web site on the Internet concerning Carl Akley, one of Clarendon's most famous residents of the past.