

Rethinking Of Old Orleans

Vol. XX C.W. Lattin, County Historian No. 17
4-27-8000

WHO REMEMBERS MUGGS

If you've always been an Orleans County resident are are "middle aged" chances are you may recall this gentleman boxer named Muggs. He was a real local celebrity forty years ago. He was born in Medina, N.Y. but resided most of his life in Fancher, N.Y. with his friend Thomas DiPalma.

As a mascot he performed for different causes of humanitarianism. He will be remembered by Legionnaires since he attended many conventions and was an attraction in parades marching along with Mr. DiPalma who also happened to be the Murray Town Supervisor at this time. Muggs traveled to Atlantic City, Chicago, Minneapolis, Miami Beach, Denver, Las Vegas and New York City where he sported fantastic "get ups."

Locally he was a social butterfly where he always attracted attention at Firemen's parades, fairs and even the Gaines Sesquicentennial parade in 1959. He was frequently seen with a corncob pipe in his mouth and his glasses were a trademark. Mr. DiPalma frequently said, "The reason he has so many friends is, he wags his tail instead of his tongue!"

In the photo of him shown here, taken by William Monacelli, he is wearing a banner stating: "Help Crippled Children EAS-TER SEALS 1959."

Following his death in 1963 Muggs was buried in the pet cemetery at Hornell, N.Y. but is fondly remembered, bringing a smile to anyone's face who remembers him.

