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# Bethinking of Old Orleans

C.W.Lattin • County Historian



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MEET  
MARCIA DE FILIPPS  
Historian, Town of Murray  
and  
Historian, Village of Holley

Marcia DeFillips serves in a dual position as historian for the Town of Murray and the Village of Holley. Both appointments were made around two weeks apart by the respective boards in 1979. A local girl, Marcia was born June 26, 1947 in Brockport, N.Y., the daughter of John and Zoa Ludington. She has one brother David. In 1965 she graduated from Holley High School and then worked for one year at Eastman Kodak. Following this, she married Lewis DeFilipps in July of 1966 and they have four children including: Jodi, Anne, Paul and Jimmy.

One of Marcia's greatest interests is genealogy which she first started on in 1966 when tracing back her own family on all eight lines. From this point on, she found her niche in life and has helped innumerable people search out their roots ever since. Marcia says she frequently becomes "backlogged" with requests, many of which are from other states.

Out of her interest in genealogy Marcia DeFilipps has become an authority on local history. Through her own research and collecting of archival material she has amassed a sizeable amount of historical data relating to Murray and Holley.

Marcia has the distinction of being the first official historian for the Village of Holley which has no salary with it but a yearly \$100 expense account. When she was appointed Town Historian for Murray, she replaced Joe Freido. In her dual historic roles she continues her search of the past and in so doing, has many things to her credit.

In June 1979 she published an index to Landmarks of Orleans County (1894) which she sells for \$6.00. This index took her over two years to compile which was done as an aid for looking up family names.

Through her interest and foresight she was able to acquire from Jas. O'Connor of Suburban News, bound originals of the Holley Standard 1878-1964 plus the same on micro film and a reader. These old Holley newspapers are of course, an invaluable resource with documented information for those years. This collection is now housed on the second floor of the village office in Holley. And yes, Marcia is indexing it too so that it will become totally usable for those seeking such information. Along with doing this, she is collecting old pictures which are being put on 35 mm slides in conjunction with new pictures of Holley for a visual history. This will eventually be available as a program for different groups.

These projects all form the basis for two different booklets which she is compiling. One is a history of the Town of Murray and the other a history of Holley. Unlike most communities, neither the village or town have ever had individual histories published for any milestone in their progress. She is also currently working on a history of Hillside Cemetery.

As a historian, Marcia is frequently consulted by educators and was involved in setting up the curriculum for teaching local history at the 4th grade level in Holley. She also works with the Girl Scouts on such programs as "Local Lore", "Family Heritage" and "My Community". She is a member of the Orleans County Historical Association and the Central New York Genealogical Society.

Marcia has a hope and dream that someday a museum for the Village of Holley and Town of Murray may be established, possibly by forming a local historical society. She states, "We need something in this village to remember the past for future generations."