

November 2010 Wayne County Historian Newsletter Time –
Breaking News – “Canal Corp. begins canal draining for winter”

What is on the agenda these days? Probably way too much to report here:

- Digitizing the Hoffman Essays continues
- Kirtas is ready to accept the Sanborn Map project the Wayne County Map Club. Loreen Jorgensen, a museum volunteer and club member, has been inventorying and cataloging all the maps from around the county into a database. The project would be very grateful for any donations to the project. A donation guarantees you a full set of digital images – Sanborn Maps plus many other maps and county atlas books.
- The questionnaire regarding the use of PastPerfect software or an alternative has produced an interesting list of historic sites, museums and historical societies. You know, we have a very impressive list of sites here in Wayne County.
- Speaking of Historic Sites of Wayne County, I am still working on a revised list to use as the template for the updated Guide to Historic Sites of Wayne County.
- **Archives and Museum Studies Venturing Crew Forming in December**

For those who are not familiar with Venturing, it is a co-educational program for those ages 14-20. It is administered locally by the Seneca Waterways Council, Boy Scouts of America, which extends from Rochester to Geneva.

Venturing Crews are run in a very similar manner to the Explorer Posts many of you are familiar with. A Venturing Crew was selected instead of an Explorer Post since Venturing offers several additional opportunities not available to Explorers.

This will be a great opportunity to educate the next generation about our organizations and how they can get involved as a volunteer or to take that first step towards a professional career.

Some potential activities include:

- Visiting and getting behind the scenes tours of museums, archive & historical societies
- Gaining hands-on experience creating exhibits & displays
- Learning how to properly preserve & store collections
- Sharing personal collections & interests
- Hands-on experience processing collections
- Learning how to create digital collections & how to make online exhibits
- Meet local curators, archivists & historians
- If you have an interest in participating in the development of such a program here in Wayne County, please tell me.

- **The 25th Annual Regional Preservation Conference is scheduled for:**

DATE: Saturday, APRIL 30, 2011

LOCATION: Village of Dansville, Livingston County.

We are VERY excited, as this is the “silver anniversary” of this popular &, as you know, MOST informative event! Having it in Dansville will make easy access for people from both the northern part of our region (via I-390 Expressway), as well as the Southern Tier/northern Pennsylvania area (via Route 17). We look forward to a GREAT turnout! Will keep you posted as details/topics are decided. Many thanks, Cynthia Howk, Landmark Soc.

- New York State is interested in learning about plans you may have for the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 and the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War. Think about it, you will be hearing more about these topics until you are sick of it. Only WW II eclipsed the Civil War with respect to impact on our central New York communities. I do not plan to stuff these topics down upon you but you ought to be aware of what will be on people’s minds as they venture out on the vacation and tourism travel trail over the coming seasons.
- Visitation here and other research activity has remained very high all Fall. I have had quite a few people come into the office looking for rehab and restoration grant help for their historic homes and properties. Remember, there is tax credit assistance for private homes that are designated as historic. One way is to be listed on the State/National Register of Historic Places. Another way is to receive the designation from your local town or village Preservation Board. Another good way to drive up your membership numbers is to get your society and community involved in this worth while pursuit.
- New publication projects – If organizations or members are embarking on any new publication projects please keep me informed. I tried very hard to involve everyone in the new Seaway Trail book which is open to legends and folklore tales along the Seaway Trail. You supply the ideas and a picture and they have professional writers to take it from there to completed book. True,

they are particularly interested in lake shore and maritime tales but I believe they will entertain any topic or location within the county.

- Are you aware of all the trail development activity here in Wayne County this year? Make sure your museum, tours and gift shop are acknowledged and listed on these preliminary study maps and trail plans. I always mention this to the trail planners and consultants but I can not cover every project in every town or village.

Some examples are:

1. Marion to Pultneyville Trail
 2. Rt 104 Webster to Sodus Trail
 3. Canal Trail Newark to Lyons
 4. Rt 14 Trail (part of Rt 14 repaving project)
 5. Marion to Newark Trail (old RR right of way)
- Just to name a few that come to mind

Spike Herzig – remember he joined us in Rose to talk about the new New York State Tourism Initiative he has organized? He is planning a conference and would like input from Wayne County. The next meeting will be on December 2nd. Again, if anyone would like to attend contact Spike for details on time and location (I believe it will be in Syracuse).

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Peter



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