

DRYDEN HISTORY HOUSE AT SOUTHWORTH HOMESTEAD

October, November,
December
Volume 40 (2017)

Dryden Town Historical Society
14 North Street, Dryden, NY 13053
607-844- 9209

WINTER HOURS – JANUARY – MARCH
1ST AND 3RD Saturdays, 10am – 1pm
and always by appointment 844-9209

FRIENDS AND MEMBERS MEET-UP

Wednesday, January 17, 2018

6:30PM

14 North Street, Dryden

plenty of parking in lower lot and drive

January is cold and dark. Let's have some fun. Join us **Wednesday evening, January 17, 2018, at 6:30 PM at Southworth Homestead** to share winter stories. Nothing formal - just tell or listen to stories about skating, ice fishing, ice making, ice surfing, winter storms. Whatever means winter to you. Maybe we'll talk about making ice candles... or snow plowing. This could be the beginning of a regular monthly evening of sharing history.



DTHS EXHIBIT coming SPRING 2018 "DRYDEN FOOTLIGHTERS: Local Theater Group"

We are looking for your **HELP**.

DTHS Archives contain a sizable collection of **Dryden Footlighters** items, consisting of organizational records, programs, posters, albums, photographs, and many boxes of VHS tapes. There is even a trunk of costumes that may have been used in productions awaiting confirmation. DTHS would like to make the **Footlighters** material in the collection accessible. This community group presented a huge number of productions, over a lot of years, involving many, many people. To prepare for the 2018 Spring DTHS exhibit and program, we really need assistance. Before being transferred to DVDs, a selection of the tapes need to be reviewed.

If you were once active in the group in any way during its 30 year history, you can **HELP** by contacting former **Footlighters** members, looking over the videos, or helping plan the exhibit and program and add important information about this well regarded local theater group. If you can help join the pursuit, contact any DTHS exhibit committee member - Trish Sprague, MaryLou Taylor, Gina Prentiss.



2018 DTHS Membership

Enclosed is a membership renewal for 2018, please check your mailing label to see if you need to renew or if you are already paid through 2018.

Thank you. Shirley Price, Membership Chair



One of the many POSTERS in the Dryden Footlighters collection in DTHS archives.



"DRYDEN, NY" plate
Made by Jacques Schickle
MaryHill Clayworks
\$58.00 plus tax
A Unique gift
(50% of sale benefits DTHS)

THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY ORNAMENT-MAKING PROJECT is a great opportunity to visit with friends and meet and acquaint others in the community with our historical society while making a take-home ornament. Volunteers Mary Lou Taylor, Gwen Beck, Christine Georgakakos, and Jane Converse provided energetic enthusiasm along with materials and instruction for making orange pomanders and intricate paper snowflakes at the fun event. Happy Holidays to all, and hope you will join us next year!



Mary Lou and Christine led the pomander brigade.



Gwen calculates dimensions as Jane demonstrates various snowflake configurations.



Creative participants with their individualized pomanders - Lia and Jenna Quick

2017 Pie and Bread Sale

The 2017 DTHS Pie and Bread sale will go down in the record books as the year of the "Lemon Meringue Pie!" In past years, we were lucky if we had one of these luscious beauties; this year we had SIX or was it SEVEN?! In the flurry of sales, we weren't able to keep track of who brought them in but, suffice it to say, those pies didn't stay around long.

Of course, we had a wide selection of other delicious pies and breads plus a few cookies. At the end of the sale (around 11 AM) there wasn't a crumb left and the DTHS had made **\$709**.

A heartfelt "thank you" to the DTHS members who donated baked goods – you all are worthy contestants for the "Great American Baking Show" – and special thanks to Patti Kiefer (calling), Trish Sprague (calling), Sue Morrie (calling and sales), Clay and Jane Converse (sales and photography), Deb Fisher (emails), and last, but not least, the First National Bank of Dryden for hosting the event.

Shirley Price and Mary Hornbuckle



DTHS Pie Sale, November 4. Quite a success!



HOMESTEAD HERITAGE DAY

Homestead Heritage Day Fair was held on October 7th, a perfect autumn day. Thanks to a \$2,000 Tompkins County Tourism grant, the fair was packed with even more activities. Under the big tent, The Cortland Old Timers Band filled the air with lively show tunes, patriotic selections and marches. Cornell's Raptor program gave us an up close acquaintance with these beautiful birds. Pamela Poulin presented a portrayal of Amelia Jenks Bloomer to mark the centennial of women's suffrage. Horse drawn wagon rides surveyed the grassy area below the house. A Quilt Show at the Presbyterian Church, spinners, chair caners, arts display, needle work, historic house tours, animals, kids games, good eats, all made it feel like a day at the old Dryden Agricultural Fair. Thanks to the volunteers who donated their time and enthusiasm to make this Fair day a success.



2017 Heritage Day, Cortland Old Timers Band kept things lively with rousing show tunes and patriotic marches



2017 Heritage Day, October 7th, Tom Crane leads his horses and wagon around the Southworth lawn

Dryden Town Historical Society Winter 2017/18

Southworth Homestead Tree Planting Plan

In last fall's Newsletter we wrote about the loss of trees at the Homestead and noted that a landscape committee was working on a plan to plant replacement trees.

Formed last June, the task for the committee was to:

"Develop a landscaping plan to enhance the Homestead property with special consideration for aesthetic appeal, intended use, historic authenticity, ease of maintenance and budget planning. The committee's work should include preparation of a tree planting plan showing tree locations, varieties, sizes and a cost estimate by the end of 2017 for board approval and implementation in spring 2018."

The committee enlisted the help of Dan Krall. Dan is a professor emeritus in the Landscape Architecture department at Cornell and has donated his time on numerous occasions to provide guidance for landscape design in Dryden. For example, Dan prepared the landscape plan for the Dryden Village Green when the fountain was replaced in 1997 in commemoration of the Town's bicentennial. Dan participated at the start of our landscape project with development of design guidelines. We invited him back after we developed preliminary plans to critique our design concepts and prepare a general layout.

At the first meeting of the committee last July we developed some guidelines for adding new plantings at the Homestead:

- The planting plan should take a minimalist approach in keeping with a mid-19th century central New York farmstead. Avoid having lots of ornamental trees, hedges, flowerbeds, and plantings around the foundation that hide the stone foundation walls.
- In general we can keep the shrubs and flower beds that were here when we moved in but should be sparing about adding new ones.
- We should plant new, large shade trees to replace the ones that are dying. We might plant one or more oaks on the north property line and a maple in the lawn between the house and barn, perhaps some large shade trees in the east lawn. We should pick varieties native to the area.

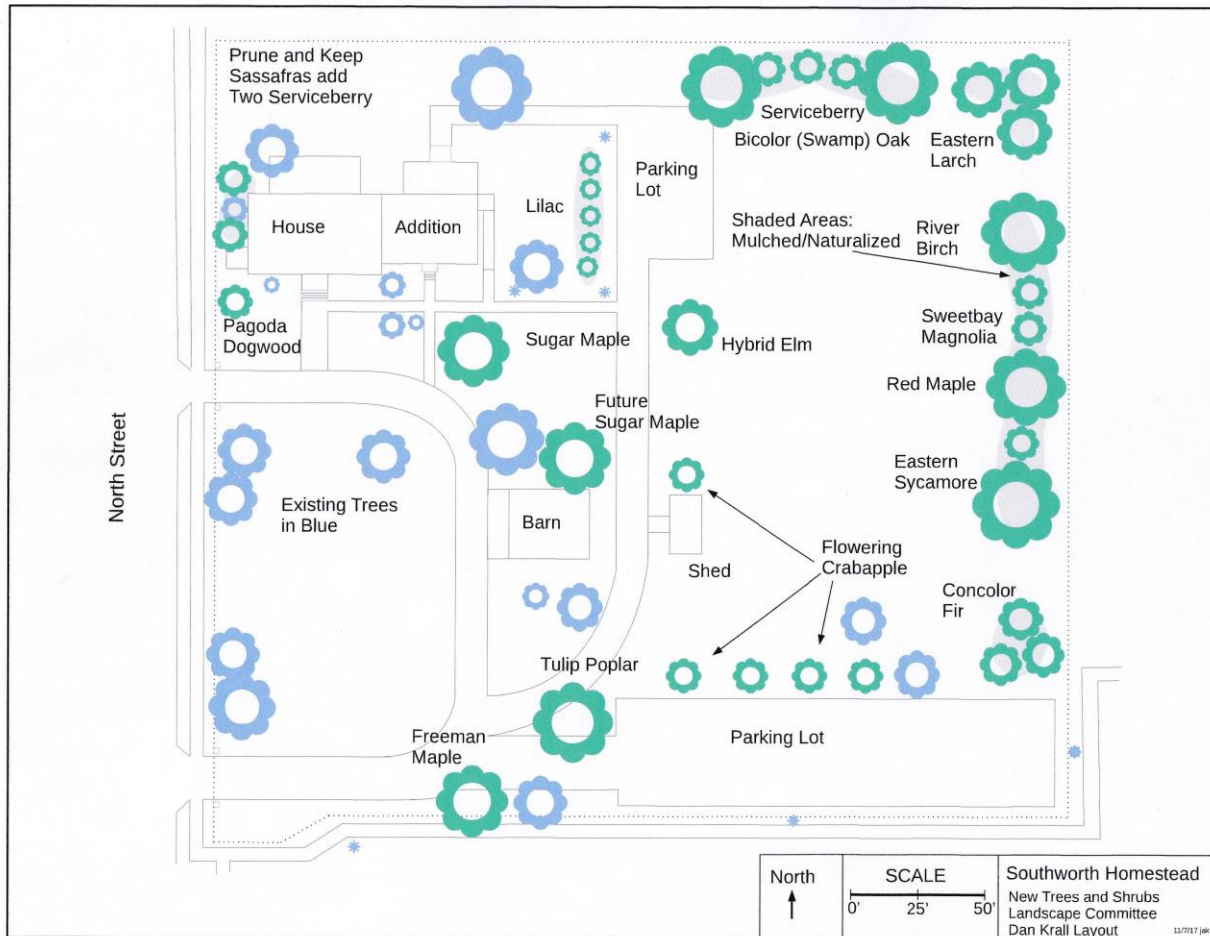
- We should consider letting a part of the east lawn go natural as it would have been years ago.
- Just as there were likely no ornamental plantings when the Homestead was built, there were also no parking lots or stone driveways. We should consider plantings on the west side of the east parking lot to provide some screening. Lilac would be a traditional choice.
- We should consider a few rows of apple trees on the north side of the south parking lot. The historic context would be the apple orchard. We need to pick a variety and decide how historically accurate we want to be, e.g., northern spy vs. ornamental crab apple.
- The east lawn soil is wet during periods of heavy rainfall. We raised the grade over a foot in parts of the east lawn that were swampy in wet weather to direct runoff to the nearby swale. Plantings on the east lawn need to tolerate wet soils.

The landscape committee produced several iterations of planting plans, taking each to the Board and others for critical review and feedback. Then we brought Dan back to the Homestead to show him our work. Dan provided helpful and relevant feedback and offered to prepare a final plan for us. The layout shown here follows Dan's suggested site layout and was approved by the DTHS Board in December. The Board also authorized the use of reserve funds to implement part of the plan and plant eight trees in Spring 2018.

The blue/gray trees shown on the plan are existing trees. The green trees are the proposed new plantings. The size shown on the plan reflects the size of the mature tree. The trees we plant will be much smaller, on the order of 2" caliper (diameter at the trunk base) depending on what we can afford to buy. The proposed tree plantings serve specific purposes in the overall landscape plan. For example, the two serviceberry trees along with the existing sassafras tree on the west side of the house will provide shade in warm months to minimize solar heat gain in the house. The tulip poplar replaces the giant cottonwood poplar and will eventually be a giant. The hybrid elm harkens to days past when elm trees lined Elm Street, opposite the north entrance to the Homestead. The sugar and Freeman maples are replacements for the sugars that are in decline, as described in the last newsletter.

The aforementioned trees are some of eight trees authorized by the Board for planting this coming spring and paid for out of DTHS reserve funds. Trees on the east lawn will be planted in large mulched beds that will be allowed to naturalize over time. Tree planting will be done at no cost by our volunteer forces. Please let us know if you would like to help!

Overall the plan contains 28 new trees plus the lilacs next to the east parking lot. The trees cost \$150-\$250 each depending on size. We are hoping our members will step forward and help pay for the 20 trees in the second phase of the plan. We plan on ordering the eight trees authorized by the board in late January. If we receive gifts for additional trees prior to the order, they will be included in the Spring planting. As always, we extend a grateful THANK YOU to all of our members for your interest and support of the Society.



Many thanks for making the Homestead Heritage Day Fair a Success

- Tompkins County Tourism Grant
- Cortland Old Timers Band
- Cornell Raptor Program
- Pamela Poulin, portrayer
- Tom and Debbie Crane, Hollows End Stable
- SUNY Cortland Recreation, Parks and Leisure Department
- MaryHill Clayworks

- Chris Baurle
- Colonial Toys
- Dryden Community Cafe'
- Sunshine Signs
- Jack'D Tents
- Black Sheep Handspinners
- Therapy Thimbles Quilt Club
- Honey Factory
- Alta's Ornamentation

Listings of APPRECIATIONS and CONTRIBUTIONS

ending: December 7, 2017

Brian & Jody Earle – Holiday Gift (To DTHS General Fund)

Shirley Price – Donation-in-Kind (Payment for tent rental for the Heritage Festival).

Sertoma Club – To DTHS General Fund (Sertoma's dissolvent: For the continual success of DTHS)

Bob Watros – 1) For the Southworth Homestead Project (Cover cost of engineering services to relocate driveways) and 2)) For the Southworth Homestead Project (Cover cost of paving driveways).

"Our Business Supporters:"

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Candlelight Inn & Breakfast
Dryden Mutual Insurance Co.
First National Bank of Dryden



Ben and Kate Lee making a pomander



Cornell Raptor Program demonstration at 2017 Heritage Day



Children playing old time games at 2017 Heritage Day



2017 Heritage Day, lots of activity. Sheep arriving to be sheared drew an audience. Jacques Schickel displays a variety of his ceramic wares.



Sheep waiting to be sheared at 2017 Homestead Festival



What could be more beautiful than the Southworth Homestead on a snowy day decked out with gorgeous wreaths on every door.



The Southworth Homestead is filled with unusual items. In the china cupboard is a set of hand painted humming bird cups and saucers. There is the monogram A D on each. We think it signifies Adelia Dwight, a relative.



Mary Ellen Rumsey has reminded us again of our good fortune to be the stewards of the beautiful Southworth Homestead. Many thanks, MaryEllen.



Be sure to take a look at the Southworth red barn. The spot light is on the lovely three foot wreath made and donated by Muriel and Fred Likel. Thanks, Muriel and Fred, for making the Southworth Homestead look like a holiday picture card.

**Dryden Town Historical
Society**

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DRYDEN TOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

14 NORTH STREET

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and always by appointment 844-9209

Would you prefer to receive the newsletter electronically, as an attachment in an email, instead of the print version that arrives in the mail?

If so, please send us an email with “Prefer Newsletter Electronically” in the subject line to drydennyhistory@gmail.com.

Dryden Town Historical Society

14 North Street

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