HOLLY TOUR
Sunday, December 8
1pm – 4pm
Refreshments after at the Southworth House, 4–5pm

It’s that wonderful time of year again for the Dryden Town Historical Society to host its bi-annual HOLLY TOUR!

Tickets are $10, and are available at the History House on Saturdays, or by calling Betsy Cleveland 844-5334 or Gina Prentiss 844-4691, or email Betsy Cleveland at betsyandchuck@frontiernet.net.

Tickets will also be available at the houses on the tour on Sunday.

The houses on the tour this year are:
- The Turret House B&B
- Mary Ellen Rumsey
- Clay and Terri Jackson
- Gene and Jean German
- Betsey VanSickle

Reception will follow at the Southworth House from 4-5pm, 14 North Street, Dryden.

SOUTHWORTH HOUSE GALA
Saturday, December 14
7pm – 9pm

An evening of holiday celebration with fine food, wine, live music, special raffles, and holiday decorations. All in support of the preservation of the Southworth Homestead, 14 North Street, Dryden. As with last year, the entire $60 per person ticket fee will go towards the effort because of generous donors. Invite your friends. Be sure to make your reservation by sending your check to the DTHS, PO Box 69, Dryden, NY, 13053. Or contact Bob Jacobson, 844-9189 or drbobjacobson@gmail.com.
PROGRAM

Dryden Village Tree Lighting Day
Holiday Activity at the History House
Saturday, December 7, 10 am–2 pm

FABRIC HOUSE ORNAMENT

There will be a Holiday Activity at the History House. Stop by and create a unique personalized FABRIC HOUSE ORNAMENT. It’s quick and easy and based on a traditional stencil-look quilt pattern. All supplies will be provided

FOR ALL AGES!

The History House at 36 West Main St. has been home to the Dryden Town Historical Society for a quarter century. This will be a good time to make a visit to the History House that was saved from demolition, moved fifty feet west and renovated entirely by volunteers in 1988.

As DTHS plans the move to the Southworth Homestead, we celebrate the West Main Street History House that has served us so well!

Harvest Festival Thank You’s!

Kirk Smith | Farrier
Brian McGee | Master Shepherd
Tammi Fazzi | Bee rescue, Sweet Honey and hand spinner
Fran Levy | Goat herder extraordinaire
Black Sheep Hand Spinners | What a great group of educators
Hollenbeck’s Cider Mill | Best cider around
Vickie Wilkins and son | Masters of kids activities
Homestead Docents | Gina and her team
Community Cafe | The entire team
Bob Watros | Mr. Everything
Mathews Tradition | Amazing musicians
Blue Grass Band | Square Dance Caller
Keith Harter | 
Keith Harter | 
See you all again next fall

Bob Jacobson
On October 5th Harvest Festival at the Southworth Homestead – music, square dancing and old time craft demonstrations filled the afternoon.

Dryden Community Cafe’ offered chili, soup and baked goods

Blacksmith demonstrations

Bee keeping and honey gathering display

Goat milking catches the eye of the kids

Mathews Family Tradition band played their great blue grass music all afternoon

Spinning demonstrations by Black Sheep Handspinners Guild
CIVIL WAR SESQUICENTENNIAL EXHIBIT

According to George Goodrich in the Centennial History of the town of Dryden, 1797 - 1897, 58 Dryden volunteers served in the 76th NY Infantry, including Company C and F. In the current exhibit a few Dryden men who took part in the Battle of Gettysburg are mentioned. The Battle of Gettysburg took place during the first three days in July, 1863.

Brave **Major Andrew J Grover** from West Dryden lead him company into battle and was killed. He was buried three times, his final resting place is in Cortland Rural Cemetery. **Hubert Carpenter**, Company F, was wounded at Gettysburg, and killed the following year at the Battle of the Wilderness. He is buried in Green Hills Cemetery. **Sergeant Henry B Cliff**, Company F, was born in England, and took part in the U S Civil War. He was wounded and lost his leg at Gettysburg, on July 3rd, 1863, and died in 1892. He is also buried at Green Hills. **Daniel R Montgomery**, Company F, entered the service in 1861 as a private, was promoted to sergeant in 1863. He was the flag bearer and 25 years old when wounded in action at Gettysburg. In 1897 he was Dryden Postmaster. He died in 1919 and is buried in Willow Glen Cemetery. Betsey Van Sickle loaned photographs for the exhibit of her great grandfather, Daniel Montgomery. **Henry D Weaver** from Etna, age 24 years, enlisted in 1861 as a private in Company C, promoted to corporal in April 1863, and was killed July 1, 1863 at Gettysburg.

The 1864 hand sewn American flag, US belt buckle and Soldier’s Prayer book from DTHS collection remain on display. To learn more about the Dryden connection to the Civil War, there are transcripts from three DTHS programs: September 1981 - "Civil War;" May 1996 - "Major Grover, NY 76th;" May 2006 - "Civil War: Movements Impact on Rural Communities."

To commemorate the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War, this changing display at History House features the 76th NY Regiment and the Battle of Gettysburg.

In the Ken and Libby L Brown display case, Photographs of the 76th NY Monument at Gettysburg National Park and Daniel R Montgomery, who served in the 76th Regiment and was wounded at Gettysburg, on loan from Betsey Van Sickle. Ribbon Badges from several 76th Regiment reunions and the book, History of the 76th Regiment are on loan from Michael Lane. Also on view is the “Call for Volunteers” poster.
One of those volunteers was Greta Hamilton, a Webster Grove, Missouri resident. She was doing research on the history of the Medal between its inception in 1894 and 1963.

The process of digitizing these historic documents began almost eight years ago and has relied heavily on volunteers willing to spend time scanning in documents, Gandy said. The museum's catalog of its collection of photographs, books, articles, and paintings is also being turned into digital information and is now searchable online, Gandy said. While the museum holds vast amounts of information about the Civil War and is making that available online, other military data of interest to history and genealogy buffs is also now available online.

Thanks to the efforts of volunteers the names of all 13,025 who served as officers in the New York State Militia, the precursor to the New York National Guard, prior to 1858, have been indexed. Local high school students fulfilling the obligation to spend 20 hours volunteering did much of this work over the last year, Gandy said. Another volunteer project involved establishing a searchable database of the 23,315 members of the New York National Guard who were awarded the New York State Long and Faithful Service Medal between its inception in 1894 and 1963.

One of those volunteers was Greta Hamilton, a Webster Grove, Missouri resident. She was doing research on the history of the 369th Infantry, a historically Black New York National Guard Regiment, discovered the museum's website and also discovered that Gandy was looking for people to help digitize records, she explained. "I told him whatever was pressing I would be willing to work on," she said. "I learned a great deal about the units of New York and took the time to read up on many of their histories." "I am curious by nature, so this was really fun. Bottom line anything that will help promote the veteran I am all for it," said Hamilton, a veteran herself.
Gary Mitchell, a veteran, Rochester resident, and West Point graduate, also volunteered to digitize information and said he really enjoyed spending time turning paper information into searchable, online documents. "I learned that New York (National Guard) was often on the cutting edge of military technology, and in the 1880s and 1890s was frequently far in advance of the US Army in technology and application," Mitchell said. "I learned to have a great respect for our early citizen soldiers, who volunteered their time without any pay whatsoever, often paying dues and buying their own uniforms in exchange for the privilege of belonging to a local unit." “I learned that much of our military heritage is forgotten and exists only in scattered records and accounts, and if we do nothing, this heritage will be lost forever. Every time I make an entry in the digital database, I imagine a family member’s delight as this entry someday provides another piece of their family’s genealogy,” Mitchell explained.

The Military History Museum is also the custodian of New York’s Civil War Battle Flags. More than 800 flags collected when regiments returned from the war are stored. Many of those have been conserved. Other items now available online at the New York State Military Museum website relate to the New York National Guard’s history in World War I and World War II. Copies of two publications issued just before and during World War I, the "Rio Grande Rattler" from 1916 and the “Wadsworth Gas Attack” from 1917 are now available for download from the website. The Rio Grande Rattler was published when the New York National Guard was mobilized and sent to the Mexican Border in 1916 by President Woodrow Wilson following a raid on Columbus New Mexico by the troops of Mexican Revolutionary Poncho Villa. New York National Guardsmen guarded the border with Mexico in 1916 just as they would in 2006.

In 1917, New York’s 27th Division was mobilized for service in World War II and trained at Camp Wadsworth South Carolina. Twenty-three years later the Guardsmen of the 27th Division were again on federal service, this time at Fort McClellan Maryland following President Franklin Roosevelt's activation of the National Guard for one year of service following the successful German invasion of France. The yearbook published for the division's Soldiers that year, which includes photographs of every unit and key officer, as well as pictures of the training, can be downloaded.

Key links on the New York State Military Museum and Veterans Research Center Website:

• Roster of New York Volunteers during the Civil War: [http://dmna.state.ny.us/historic/reghist/civil/rosters/rosters.htm](http://dmna.state.ny.us/historic/reghist/civil/rosters/rosters.htm)
• Annual Reports of the Bureau of Military Statistics, 1864-1868: [http://dmna.state.ny.us/historic/reghist/civil/annual_reports/annual_reports_index.htm](http://dmna.state.ny.us/historic/reghist/civil/annual_reports/annual_reports_index.htm)
• New York State Militia Officers Prior to 1858: [http://dmna.state.ny.us/historic/research/OfficersPriorTo1858/NYSM_OfficersPriorTo1858_Intro.htm](http://dmna.state.ny.us/historic/research/OfficersPriorTo1858/NYSM_OfficersPriorTo1858_Intro.htm)
• List of Long and Faithful Service Medal: Holders: [http://dmna.state.ny.us/historic/research/decorations/LongAndFaithful/Index_LF.htm](http://dmna.state.ny.us/historic/research/decorations/LongAndFaithful/Index_LF.htm)
• 27th Division Year Book, 1941: [http://dmna.state.ny.us/historic/reghist/wwii/infantry/27thInfDiv/27thInfDivMain.htm](http://dmna.state.ny.us/historic/reghist/wwii/infantry/27thInfDiv/27thInfDivMain.htm)


Related Media


If you would like to make sure you receive current information about upcoming Historical Society events and programs, make sure to provide us your email address. You may email drydennyhistory@gmail.com and indicate you would like to be added to the Dryden Town Historical Society email list.
On a Saturday in October, Betty Fuda, Lois Fox and Bob and Joan Watros visited the History House. Betty, Bob and Lois are all great grandchildren of Bradford and Phoebe Anne Snyder. Bradford and Anne had one son and three daughters, Lena, Nora and Reva. Lois Fox is the granddaughter of Lena Snyder. Bob Watros and Betty Fuda are the grand children of Reva Snyder.

Currently there are many items on display associated with Bradford Snyder, who was secretary of the Etna Cheese Company, one of the Cheese Factories in the town exhibit. In the 19th century, Bradford traveled to areas in New York State that manufactured cheese. In Salisbury, NY he met Phoebe Anne Doxtader, a cheese maker. In January 1872, they were married. Recently Betty Fuda donated Anne Snyder's wedding dress. For just this day Betty brought along the gold pin Phoebe Anne wore on her wedding day to show how it looked on the dress on display. Lois Fox has gifted many items that form the basis of exhibits having to do with Snyder family.

On display from Lois, a silver caster wedding gift and china, and from Willis and Betty Marion, Bradford Snyder's desk, Anne Snyder's tatting shuttles and examples of her tatting. The minute book from the Etna Cheese Factory, a gift from Walter Cogswell, photographs and documents are also on exhibit.

DTHS is fortunate to have a broad historical collection made possible by generous donors. It is always a great excitement when members of the family come to see an exhibit in which their ancestors are prominently featured. To have three great grandchildren of Bradford and Anne Snyder come to the History House to see the exhibits was a very special day. Following are photographs of the visit.
Listings of Appreciation as of November 20, 2013

CONTRIBUTIONS (SINCE July, August, September 2013 newsletter)

**September 2013**
- Alfred R. & Betty C. Dudas — In memory of Betty Jean Cole Dudas
- Dr. Bob Jacobson — Donation-in-kind (Furniture & goods for Antique Fair)
- Charles R. Smith & Claudia K. Melin — For the Southworth Homestead Project

**October 2013**
- Dorothy Buerk & James Holman — For the Southworth Homestead Project
- Suzanne Cardwell — For the Southworth Homestead Project
- Martha Ferger — Pledge for the Southworth Homestead Project
- James and Joyce O'Shea — For the Southworth Homestead Project
- Gwen Sandsted — For the Southworth Homestead Project
- Robert S. Slocum — a) In Memory of Christine Slocum; b) In Memory of Robert B. Slocum; m) c) a Gift Membership
- David & Phyllis Smith — For the Southworth Homestead Project

**November 2013**
- Barry B. & Margaret B. Adams — For the Southworth Homestead Project
- John & Jeanne B. Andrus — Unspecified
- Norman & Marsha J. Ashbarry — Unspecified
- Marilyn Baurle — Unspecified
- Leslie A. Chatterton & Allyson Ford — For the Southworth Homestead Project
- Kay D. & Leslie F. Cleland — For the Southworth Homestead Project
- Town of Dryden — Unspecified
- Raymond W. & Rita W. Harris — For the Southworth Homestead Project
- Michael E. Lane — For the Southworth Homestead Project
- Elizabeth W. McMahon — Unspecified
- Phyllis H. Meekin — For the Southworth Homestead Project
- J. David & Linda Gale Olds — Unspecified
- Bard V. & Gina P. Prentiss — For the Southworth Homestead Project
- Burr F. & Elizabeth M. Ripley — Unspecified
- Barbara & Randall Shew — For the Southworth Homestead Project (In memory of Betty Cole Dudas & James C. Mix)
- Marsha B. Smith — For the Southworth Homestead Project
- W. S. Tyler — Unspecified
- Betsey VanSickle — For the Southworth Homestead Project
- James D. Webster — Unspecified
- Jane E. Yaples — For the Southworth Homestead Project

NEW MEMBERSHIPS (SINCE July, August, September 2013 newsletter)

**September 2013**
- Linda & Tom Clougherty — Family
- Charles R. Smith & Claudia K. Melin — Contributing
- Kathryn Slocum — Individual
- Gordon & Mildred F. Tull — Family

MANY THANKS TO:
- Shirley Price - for the season of lawn mowing at the History House
Being a child of the fifties I didn’t go through the Depression or WWII but I was raised on a farm where money was not plentiful. Christmas was and is still a special time of year with the anticipation of family gatherings and the preparation of the holiday.

I remember the excitement of Christmas starting after Thanksgiving, around the beginning of December. I don’t remember anything about a Black Friday or ads for toys, although we did get a Sears catalog, or all the other hype about Christmas that we get today. We were much too busy buttoning up for winter, gathering and stacking firewood, storing squash in the upstairs, digging out blankets for our beds, and sledding on any new snow that fell. Every year before Christmas all of the neighborhood children would gather for an afternoon or night to sing Christmas carols. There would be cookies and hot chocolate with marshmallows and candies. I remember everyone had a piano at their house and someone knew how to play it. I would like to thank Mrs. Mary Kelsey, Mrs. Judy Crispell and Mrs. Elsie Todd for those wonderful memories of our children’s Christmas neighborhood parties. My brothers and I still reminisce about those gatherings.

With 180 plus acres of woods on Beam Hill we always trudged through the woods looking for the perfect Christmas tree. Trees in the woods look much smaller and fuller than when they are set up in a house. We always had to cut off about 2-3 feet of the tree along with the fullest branches around the bottom. After decorating with all the paper chains that we made in school and the garland and the ornaments and the big light bulb strings of lights, the tree sort of filled in. On top of our tree was always a plastic lighted angel in prayer which I still have. She is no longer lighted but I place her in a special spot each year as a memory of Christmas’ past. My mother always sent out Christmas cards and had an address book full of people and addresses. As she received Christmas cards we would hang them on the colonnades between our dining room and our living room. They always covered both sides and all around the columns. There had to be over 100 Christmas cards. We always hung up the sleigh bells on the front door with pine boughs or Princess Pine gathered from the woods. The sleigh bells came from when they had horses for transportation. I’m quite sure that my brother Roger still has the sleigh bells.

The food, there was never a shortage of food at our house. Mom would make more cookies than normal along with red and green popcorn balls, fudge and other candies. Everyone came home for Christmas dinner, we usually had turkey although we did have duck one year and ham some others, with all the trimmings, heaps of mashed potatoes and gravy, dressing, homemade applesauce, scalloped corn, squash, homemade breads and rolls, homemade pickles and what other vegetables that were available. Oh, and the ice cream for dessert. Mom would mix up the homemade ice cream and we would take turns cranking the ice cream maker while Dad would add the snow and salt. We always had plenty of milk.

After we ate, we would all gather in the living room where the Christmas tree was with all the gifts under it. As a child I never realized that one gift each was not the normal and it was not the normal to get new socks or mittens or boots for Christmas. We were always excited to get a present wrapped in Christmas paper. We carefully unwrapped our present and my Mom would straighten out the paper and save it for next year. Next came the envelopes, which were tucked into the boughs in the Christmas tree, which were given to us every year by my Grandmother Edna VanPelt. Inside were two crisp new dollar bills for each of us kids and as we grew and married we would receive a crisp new $5 bill. I do remember a Christmas that I did get a doll and another Christmas that we got a toboggan under the tree from our Uncle Earl VanPelt. I still have the toboggan up over head in my garage. My parents also gave us flying saucers, sleds or a new game that was a family gift. It was only after I was in school that I realized what all the other kids were getting for Christmas. Was I jealous, probably, but I knew how hard my parents worked to give us what they could. Curiously, I have no memory of my parents talking about Christmas’s when they were young. My father was the oldest child in his family of two boys and 3 girls, born in 1911, and he took over running the farm when he was 15 years old because his father had a stroke. My mother was born in 1912 and was the youngest child of four and the only girl in her family and her mother died when she was about a year old. They were both raised on farms during the two world wars. If anyone has any stories of their families Christmas’s during this time, I would love to hear them.

I would like to wish everyone a Happy Holiday and may your time together be joyous.
November 2, 2013: Annual Pie and Bread Sale

After years of trying to come up with new ways to describe the Pie and Bread Sale, this year I’ll keep it short and sweet ..... just like the sale itself. Luscious pies, hearty loaves of bread, bags of cookies and plates of brownies began flying out the door at 9 AM and by 10:30 AM we were folding up the tablecloths and counting the receipts. Phew!

It’s always fun to see the variety of baked goods our members donate and this year’s selection did not disappoint. Each year we vow to keep a list of every item that comes in but in the midst of furious sales, accuracy falls by the wayside and we can only stand and marvel.

A heartfelt “thank you” to our members who support this function each year by baking and buying our wonderful merchandise. Special thanks to: Patti Kiefer (calling), Mary Hornbuckle (publicity, calling and sales), Sue Morrie (calling and sales), Gina Prentiss (greeting and photography), Shirley Price (calling and sales), Trish Sprague (calling), members of the Program Committee for putting up posters, and, as always, the 1st National Bank of Dryden for their continued support in allowing us to use their lobby for the sale.
SOUTHWORTH HOMESTEAD PROJECT

I would like to make my pledge to the Southworth Homestead Project

Name ______________________________________________

Address ______________________________________________

City _________________________ State _____  Zip Code __________

Phone _____________________________________________

Email _____________________________________________

I/we pledge $ ___________ towards The South Homestead Project with a one-time payment of $ ___________

OR

I/we pledge $ _____________, with an annual payment of $ ______________ for _________ years.

Signature ___________________________________________________  Date __________________________

I/we wish to remain anonymous _____ (Y/N)

CONSIDER CONTRIBUTING TO THE SOUTHWORTH HOMESTEAD PROJECT

Being able to fully utilize the Southworth Homestead will take years of planning and restoration to house the Dryden Town Historical Society offices and exhibits. When the Southworth House is finally restored, it will be fully opened to public, and will offer tours, educational programs, and community events.

Before all that can happen, however, many structural improvements will are needed including finish rebuilding east wing, electrical and plumbing upgrades, and heating systems replaced. The exterior brick is in need of maintenance. When these essentials are complete, we will begin the exciting phase of returning the house to the outstanding 19th century architecture that it is.

To accomplish all this we are launching a capital campaign. Your contribution will provide an opportunity to lead the way. Already with the generous help of members, we have raised more than $80,000 toward our goal of $250,000. Please consider a tax-free donation this holiday season. Use the form provided above, or if you have any questions or would like to discuss your gift, please call Brad Perkins at 844-8161, email at bperkin3@twcny.rr.com, or contact Bob Jacobsen at 844-9189 or drbobjacobsen@gmail.com. Thank you.
Dryden Town Historical Society
36 West Main Street
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Dryden, NY 13053

Phone: 607-844-9209

E-Mail: drydennyhistory@gmail.com

HOURS AT THE HISTORY HOUSE
Saturdays 10 am – 1 pm
Winter hours starting in January:
1st and 3rd Saturdays, 10am – 1pm

Remember to visit our new website at drydennyhistory.org!

Dryden Town Historical Society
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