GALA EVENING AT THE HOMESTEAD

The Holiday Gala on Friday, December 7 at the Homestead was a great success! $2,150 was raised to help the Society’s efforts to preserve and present the Southworth Homestead. Fifty guests (the number was limited by zoning regulations) enjoyed the holiday decorated Homestead, while sipping wine and other beverages and enjoying foods and desserts of many types. Music filled the Homestead, with harp and flute providing a perfect accompaniment to the home and season.

Special thanks to the following donors:

• Geneva on the Lake - the Schickel Family
• Six Mile Creek Vineyard, Ithaca, NY
• Deb Borra, Rochester, NY, Harpist and enthusiastic booster of the Southworth Homestead
• Jessica Peltz, Ithaca, NY, Flutist
• Fred and Muriel Likel, Greens and evergreen trees
• MaryEllen Rumsey, Master Wreath Maker
• The Hollenbecks, Cheese
• Wegmans, soda and water
• Arnold’s Florist, Holiday Centerpiece
• Deb Borra, created and donated wine glasses and platters with Homestead picture
• Betsy Cleveland, decorator, shopper, and fantastic cook
• Merry elves: Chuck Logan, Brenda and Dave Armstrong, Jan Hollenbeck, Janie and Bob Jacobson
• Last, but clearly not least all of the participants

Thank you very much. Happy Holidays, Bob Jacobson

WINTER HOURS AT THE HISTORY HOUSE

Starting in January and through March the History House will be open 1st and 3rd Saturdays from 10-1.

DRYDEN TOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY’S NEW WEBSITE

The Historical Society has a newly designed website at www.drydennyhistory.org.

There you will be able to find information about the Southworth House, current and upcoming events, see photos, download membership forms, find out about our publications and download an order form, find current and past newsletters, and find links to other areas of local historical interest.

Let us know what you think! Your suggestions about other items to include are always welcome.
HOLIDAY WORKSHOP
Saturday, December 1

On Saturday, December 1st, the History House held a Holiday Workshop to make Danish woven baskets. In 1864, favorite children’s fairy tale author, Hans Christian Andersen made these cheerful decorations for his holiday tree. Patti Kiefer planned the activity and MaryLou Taylor prepared the materials and led the workshop. There were also drawings from Andersen tales, “the Little Mermaid” and “The Ugly Duckling” for the younger children to color. Mary Lou donated cookies and mini candy canes for the children to put in their woven baskets.

Kids happy with their Danish woven hearts filled with cookies and candy canes at the History House.

THE PHOTOGRAPHY OF VERNE MORTON

Rosemarie Tucker and April Scheffler presented their research on this brilliant local photographer on Wednesday, November 28th. We learned about Morton’s careful and precise photographs, documentation and numbering system. The photographs are of great value as historical records of daily life as well as images of great beauty.

Many thanks to both Rosemarie and April for this program that gave us insight into Verne Morton as a fine photographer and district school teacher from Groton.

Rosemarie Tucker, Groton Town historian and April Scheffler, Groton town clerk prepare their power point presentation on the photographer, Verne Morton.

MaryLou Taylor led the Holiday workshop on December 1st. The beautiful wreath on the front door is a gift from MaryEllen Rumsey.
ANNUAL PIE AND BREAD SALE
Our Annual Pie and Bread Sale on November 3rd was our most successful ever! Three times the table was filled to overflowing with pies and breads. All proceeds from the Pie and Bread Sale came to $634.50. Two notable contributions came from perhaps our senior-most bakers, Viola Lane (cherry cheese cake) and Betty Marion (pumpkin pie) and best pie makers at 94 years of age.

Special thanks to the 1st National Bank of Dryden for their generous support in allowing us to use their lobby for the sale. Thanks also to volunteers: Jean German (calling), Mary Hornbuckle (publicity, calling and sales), Joan Keno (calling and sales), Patti Kiefer (“direct advertising” and sales), Sue Morrie (calling and sales), Gina Prentiss (greeting and photography), Shirley Price (calling and sales), Trish Sprague (calling), Ginny Stairs (calling), and members of the Program Committee for putting up posters.

THANK YOU TO THE DOCENTS
We would like to take this opportunity to thank the docents for their volunteer time staffing the House on Saturdays. We couldn’t operate without these wonderful people.

As always, the History House is looking for docents. We also will need them at the Southworth Homestead. We will provide training, and even if you can only volunteer a Saturday morning every other month, that is welcome. Contact Muriel Likel at mikel@twcny.rr.com if you are interested.

QUILT RAFFLE
The quilt raffle realized over $2,400, thanks to Phyllis Smith who made and donated the quilt.

Phyllis Smith ready to announce the winner of the quilt at the Southworth Homestead Red Barn on October 5th. The winner of the quilt was Tammy Hayes, Groton.
EXHIBITS

CONTINUING EXHIBIT – SOLDIERS FROM DRYDEN AND THE SESQUI-CENTENNIAL OF THE CIVIL WAR

The 109th Infantry Regiment took part in the Battle of Spotsylvania Court House, May 7-19, 1864, one of the ten costliest battles of the civil war based on total casualties (killed, wounded, missing, and captured). Confederate Forces Engaged: 50,000. Union Forces Engaged: 83,000. Casualties: 27,399 (18,399 Union and 9,000 Confederate). Lieutenant Daniel Webster Barton and John Wesley White lost their lives there on May 12, 1864.

The 109th Infantry Regiment also took part in the Battle of the Crater, a part of the Siege of Petersburg. It took place on July 30, 1864. After weeks of preparation, the Federal exploded a mine, blowing a gap in the Confederate defenses of Petersburg, Virginia. Then everything deteriorated rapidly for the Union attackers. Unit after unit charged into and around the crater, where soldiers milled in confusion. Grant considered the assault “the saddest affair I have witnessed in the war”. Lieutenant Nathan Griswold, Jr., lost his life in this battle.

CURRENT EXHIBIT – “Local Painters Paint”

This winter is the last chance to see this exhibit of paintings by local painters. Some new paintings have been added, so be sure to stop in.
Occasionally the question is raised, “Is my house on the Register of Historic Places?” Published here is the most recent of such listings in the Town of Dryden.

**Places in Town of Dryden, NY on the Register of Historic Places in New York State**

**Known listings as of 29 October 2009**

**Dryden (Town):**
- **Dryden District No. 2 School:** At 2670 Slaterville Rd.
- **District No. 5 (8 Square) School:** At 1748 Hanshaw Rd.
- **Ellis Hollow Methodist Episcopal Church:** At 1768 Ellis Hollow Rd.
- **West Dryden Methodist Episcopal Church:** At 606 West Dryden Road at Sheldon Road, West Dryden.

**Dryden (Village):**
- **Historic District:** Encompasses an area roughly bounded by East Main, James, Lake and South Streets. It is a historic section of the village of 44 properties of mostly residential, built during the period 1800-1905
- **Jennings - Marvin House:** At 9 Library Street.
- **Lacy-Van Vleet House:** At 45 West Main Street.
- **Luther Clarke House:** At 39 West Main Street.
- **Methodist Episcopal Church:** At 2 North Street.
- **Rockwell House:** At 52 West Main Street.
- **Southworth House:** At 14 North Street
- **Southworth Library:** At 24 West Main Street.

**Steps to Obtaining Register of Historic Places in Dryden, NY**
1. Carefully document in writing (with good quality photos and records) the history and uniqueness of the property.
2. Contact the State Historic Preservation Officer (addresses may be found on: [http://nysparks.state.ny.us](http://nysparks.state.ny.us)) for particulars and to be sure that the property is not already on the Register of Historic Places.
3. Criteria for listing include:
   - It must be significant in American history.
   - Is it associated with events that made a valuable contribution to the broad pattern of history?
   - Is it associated with the lives of persons significant to the past?
   - Does it embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, a period of time, or a particular method of construction?
   - Does it represent the work of a master builder, or possess high artistic characteristics?
   - Has it yielded or might be likely to yield information about history.
4. Obtain and complete the form and submit.
5. Count on at least 3 to 6 months, or even longer, through these steps to expire for final acceptance by the National Register.

Dryden Town Historical Society is a good place to start your search. Many structures in the Village of Dryden were documented in 1983 in the book, *An Architectural Survey of the Village of Dryden*. Copies of the 1853, 1866, and 1897 Town of Dryden maps list the names of owners, and there are photographs, family histories and documents. These resources are available in the reference room at the History House.
109th NY Regiment and three Civil war soldiers who did not return.

Betsy Cleveland cooking up a storm for the Holiday Gala

Mary Jane Jacobson and Texanna and Tim Slack at the Gala Evening

Nathan Griswold, Jr, Lieutenant, NY 109th

Southworth House decorated for the holidays

Bard and Gina Prentiss, and Tim Slack at Gala
Deb Borra, playing the harp, and Jessica Peltz, Ithaca College graduate student, providing entertainment at the Gala.

Monica, Dave and Brenda Armstrong at Gala

Elsie Gutchess and son, Lewis at Gala

Walt and Joan Torello at Gala

Paula Parker and Mike Lane at Gala
The DTHS Holiday Open House was held on Sunday, December 9th, from 1 to 3 pm in the Southworth House. Members were able to see this lovely old home decorated for the holidays. Joan Keno was in charge of refreshments. Thanks to all Southworth Homestead volunteers who donated the wonderful variety of holiday cookies and festive punch.

SANBORN MAPS AT THE HISTORY HOUSE

The Sanborn Map Company was founded to supply information to insurance companies about the relative fire risks in commercial districts. Each building is shown as an outline on the map. A set of symbols, lines, letters, and numbers is used to describe the building’s appearance and use. Since communities were always changing, the Sanborn Company updated their maps continually. At the History House there is the complete set of Sanborn maps produced at the end of the 19th century and early 20th century covering the village of Dryden. In March 1937, corrections were made to the 1904 map. It is fascinating to see the changes that occurred during those three decades. These maps are available to look over at the History House.

LISTINGS OF APPRECIATION

(Contributions received since last newsletter)

**August 2012**
- Joan Shroyer-Keno — A Donation-In-Kind (An Avery Name Tag Maker)

**November 2012**
- Joyce McAllister — To DTH Society General Fund
TOMMY COMES HOME
On Thursday, September 27th, Donald Funke of the Ithaca Aviation Heritage Foundation presented the story of this legendary WWI aircraft and explained the restoration work that has been accomplished to date.

On 9/27/12 Don Funke presented the DTHS program, “Tommy Comes Home” at Albert Heidt’s workshop.

A slide from the DTHS program “Verne Morton, the Photographer Who Made the Commonplace Compelling” held on November 28th.

The new Southworth Homestead banner presided over the Pie sale.

Patti Kiefer, Pie Sale representative, working West Main Street in front of Dryden Bank on rainy November 3rd.
WINTER HOURS AT THE HISTORY HOUSE

Starting January 1
1st and 3rd Saturdays
10 am – 1 pm

Remember to renew your membership for 2013!