Dryden Town Historical Society is ready for business (almost) at its new location at the Southworth House.

We have completed moving all the collection, reference materials and office from the History House on West Main Street to our new home at the Southworth Homestead at 14 North Street. At the Southworth House, the archival space is large and well lit. The reference room is larger, with lots of windows. The exhibit space has new track lighting. The heating system works well and is daily adjusted. The walls are newly painted, the floors are beautiful wide planks. Now comes the arduous task of putting everything in its proper place, organizing the reference room, and displaying the exhibits.

Starting Saturday, April 5th, the DTHS Center located in the East Wing of the Southworth Homestead will have regular OPEN HOURS.

Later this spring, OPEN DAYS for the Brick Southworth House Tours will be announced.

The 20 foot bamboo pole that Leland Burch used for fishing in Dryden Lake when he lived nearby didn’t quite fit in Shirley Price’s car. It was the last item to leave the History House on a cold and wintry day. It will soon hang in the exhibit room at 14 North Street.

Bernie Hicks and crew move the Bradford Snyder desk.
We have scheduled our Op (Opportunity) Sale for Friday and Saturday May 2nd and May 3rd at the Southworth Homestead. We are asking our members to again search their attics, closets and basements for items to donate to the sale. I’m not sure where you are pulling all these items from, but each time we have a sale we make around $1000 or more through your generous contributions. The money goes toward the operation of the Southworth Homestead. Please contact Shirley Price 844-8700, Gina Prentiss 844-4691 or Mary Hornbuckle 898-3461 to arrange dropping off items at the Southworth Homestead, or if you need items to be picked up. We will also need help sorting, pricing and setting up and working the sale. Thank you again for all of your support to maintain our history of the Town of Dryden.

The second annual Homestead Antique Fair will be on Saturday, June 28 and Sunday June 29, 2014. The antique show and sale will be open 10 AM to 5 PM both days. To accommodate dealer requests we will be enlarging the main tent, and will also have sites available for those with their own tents. An admission charge of $4 per adult will be charged and will cover both days. The Historical Society wishes to recognize the generosity of Bob Baxter and the Dryden Mutual Insurance Company in supporting this event.

A call to all society members: this activity can develop into a meaningful fund raiser for the Southworth Homestead. However, this can only happen if everyone helps. The primary need for the show are staff to man the admission gates. This can be broken into reasonable hours. Gina Prentiss will be working with her docents for tours, Muriel will need help staffing the society’s sales booth. We also need help distributing posters and handouts to antique shops and shows. A new idea we are discussing is selling servings of strawberry shortcake in the early afternoon. If this excites anyone please let Bob Jacobson know.

At the December 7th History House Holiday workshop, a young visitor shows completed fabric ornament. Sue Cardwell works on her ornament.

Patti Kiefer led the Holiday Workshop. This unique fabric ornament that represents the History House became a holiday keepsake. To make things even sweeter, Patti had homemade cookies wrapped for all.
2nd Annual Holiday Gala

Full house! Great fun, music and food.

(To see photos from the gala please visit our website at DrydenHistory.org, and click on “2nd Annual Holiday Gala”)

Some important thank yous:
- Doris Nitsios, Candlelight Inn
- The Antlers restaurant
- Deb Borra for the holiday music
- Hollenbeck’s Cider Mill for food donations
- Collegetown Bagels for food donations
- Six Mile Creek Vineyard for their wonderful wine

Our wonderful team of volunteers:
- Betsy Cleveland and team for decorations and food prep
- The Armstrongs
- The Torellos
- The Jacobsons
- The Hollenbecks
- Sandy Prugh

Of course double credit to Betsy Cleveland as catering chef extraordinaire. We would like feedback from attendees and others as to whether this event should happen every year or skip a year. — Bob Jacobson and Betsy Cleveland, Chairs

At the conclusion of the Holly Tour, The Historical Society provided an orange cranberry punch and members donated cookies. We had so many cookies that the leftovers were given to Betsy Cleveland for the Gala. Jan Hollenbeck and I set up, kept the cookie trays and punch bow full.

Sandy Prugh, Coordinator
SOUTHWORTH HOUSE UPDATE AND MANY THANKS!

There were many people who contributed to the project in the form of physical work. Several paid contractors were involved in various aspects of the project. The basic design work was completed by Crawford and Sterns of Syracuse. Expert Building Services Co. (aka Mike Walker) did the major portion of the foundation and structural work. R.C. Wilson undertook all the site work including the installation of the new sewer system. Chris Lowe and Shad Ryan did most of the window restoration work. Ken Parker built the stairs and Pat Norton worked on sheet rock spackling. Jeff Waldon did most of the interior finish work. Ron Shipe installed the new heating system.

Many volunteers spent hundreds of hours working on the many details of the project, from construction work to helping with moving all of our physical assets from the History House. The leadership of the project was provided by an ad-hoc committee of Gina Prentiss, John Kiefer, David Smith, Bob Jacobson, Betsy Cleveland, Sandy Prugh and myself. Many people helped in the process. B&B Flooring under the leadership of Bruce Baker donated the restroom and hall flooring. Casella Waste Management removed much of the construction waste free of charge. Al Avery donated his time and equipment to the project. Various members undertook special tasks from painting and cleaning to helping with the move.

Of all the people participating in the project, one person stands out. Albert Heidt was involved in all parts of the project, from the site work to the final phase. But I wish to recognize him for his efforts in completing just about all of the painting throughout the structure.

When thanked personally, Albert replied that he and his family have always been very interested in local history. His grandfather, William Heidt, was director of the DeWitt Historical Society. Albert and his brother spent many enjoyable Sundays there helping him. Albert has put in all his volunteer hours at the Southworth House in the name of the Heidt family and in memory of his Uncle Harry Heidt.

Bob Watros

Many thanks go to these packers, unpackers and movers: Kathy Elliott, Lois Fox, Jean German, Irene Gleason, Bob Jacobson, Allison Kiefer, John Kiefer, Fred Likel, Muriel Likel, Phyllis Meekin, Mike Murphy, Brad Perkins, Gina Prentiss, Shirley Price, Shirley Shackleton, Trish Sprague, Mary Streeter, MaryLou Taylor, David Waterman, Bob Watros, and Harry Weldon. Bernie Hicks arranged for his crew to transport the heavy items, with Bernie donating his time.

Harry Weldon
Gina Prentiss
Sugaring on Hammond Hill

It was good talking with Betty Marion the other day. "Yes, it's been a cold winter, but very soon the sap will be running." Thinking about that reminded her of a winter about 50 years ago. In 2006 Patti Kiefer spent several months interviewing Willis and Betty Marion. Betty shared her "Sugaring" story from page 9.

Betty Marion - A February memory
One day, Betty and Willis received a call from Henry Crosby, who they knew through the Presbyterian Church. Henry and his wife, Marion (Wood) lived in Dryden village and owned the telephone company. Henry told Willis that he had started a maple syrup operation with Burch Hammond, but Burch forgot about tending to the syrup when it was boiling down, and the sap evaporated and burned the pan. Henry thought that with Willis' help, they could be successful, so Willis agreed to help. Willis gathered the sap from the trees on the Hammond property, and Henry and Marion would boil it down, often staying until 2 – 3 am during the busy times. Willis would go up to the maple sap-boiling house on the hill and get the fires going again around 4 or 5 in the morning and watch the sap. Then Henry and Marion would show up around 10am to do his shift. Late one foggy night, while Willis was doing night chores and checking on the newborn calves, Betty saw what looked like someone walking a distance up the road with a flashlight. Willis went to check things out when he got home and discovered Henry's wife Marion, walking down the road, using a flashlight to guide Henry in his old army jeep, which had poor headlights. They protested leaving their valuable maple syrup behind, but Willis finally convinced them to leave the jeep full of their "liquid gold" by promising to lock the garage. Willis took the Crosbys to their home in the village, and on the way back, he was stopped on Ferguson Road by a Dryden Policeman who he knew. The officer approached the vehicle and yelled out, "Is that you Willis? What in hell are you doin’ out this late at night – I thought someone stole your truck!"

The skunk story
One Sunday morning Willis and nephew, Jim Marion went up early to stoke up the fire and get the sap evaporators warmed up. They found a skunk under the final syrup pan! Marion and Henry (Crosby) came up around 10am. Shocked! What to do! Willis told Marion, "Don't fret or worry, I know how --" Henry and Jim stood outside the hole; Willis inside. With a gentle touch with a small but long stick, he gently pushed the skunk backward out the hole. Jim caught the tail and very quickly threw the skunk toward the woods. Mr. Skunk never knew what happened!

(Marion Wood Crosby taught Home Economics at Martha Van Rensslaer, Cornell U)

Here's another “sugaring” memory
Marion and Henry Crosby's anniversary and Willis’s birthday both fell on March 26th. Betty would take supper up (to the sugarbush) and to celebrate the day, she would make a gingerbread cake topped with real whipped cream, which is Willis’s favorite cake.

THANK YOU
UPCOMING PROGRAMS

"History Under Foot and Resources for Discovering It"

Wednesday, April 9th
7 pm (doors open at 6:30 pm)
Dryden Village Hall

David Waterman will lead a presentation about the history of his property on Lot 59 in the town of Dryden. His search lead beyond just his own property and included the settlers of the south-east corner of the town of Dryden. The Space, Thomas, and Carmer settlers, and members of Beam, Lacy, Bowlby, Ferguson, Swart, Barnes, and Brown families are part of the story.

Annual Meeting

Thursday, May 29
7 pm (doors open at 6:30 pm)
Dryden Village Hall

A presentation by Betsey Van Sickel on the Montgomery Family.

These lovely platters depict Christmas at The Southworth Homestead. The oval measures 16” x 11 ½”; the square is 12”. They are for sale for $40.00 each. If interested please contact Muriel Likel at 844-9518. For a color photo of these plates please go to our website at drydennyhistory.org and click on “Southworth Homestead Plates.”
"We were delighted to be part of the Holly Tour during this past season and enjoyed seeing and visiting with many of our Dryden neighbors. But, also, we were impressed that people came from many of the surrounding communities, such as Candor, Willet, Groton and Moravia. In addition to having a chance to visit our two family home (our daughter Terri and husband Clay Jackson live in the terrace unit) the people who came to our home seemed to enjoy visiting with each other. The Holly Tour brings people of the area together and helps give us a sense of community - and a little pride in what our community has to offer."  
Jean and Gene German

"The tour was great fun. The best part was meeting so many people and that they were very intergenerational was a surprise and a pleasure for me. A lot of young people—that’s good for the Historical Society for them to see what Historical Society does for the community". Mary Ellen Rumsey

Betsey Van Sickle welcomed visitors into the Rockwell House. Betsey, a descendant of the Montgomery and Rockwell families still lives in the family home. There were family photographs on display in almost every room.
**Listings of Appreciation as of January 29, 2014**

**CONTRIBUTIONS** (SINCE October, November, December 2013 newsletter)

**September 2013**
“Anonymous #2” — for the Southworth Homestead Project
Mary Ann & Terry Lutz — Donations in-kind for the 2014 Annual OP Sale

**November 2013**
Alfred R. Dudas & Mary L. Stedman — In memory of Betty Cole Dudas and family
Gene & Jean German — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Frederick H. Likel & Muriel A. Likel — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Diane & Kenneth Morley — Donation-in-kind of computer items
Louise Mose — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Streeter Living Trust (via Mary Streeter) — For the Southworth Homestead Project
John D. & Carolyn Strong — For the Southworth Homestead Project
William E. & Shirley J. Tweitmann — For the Southworth Homestead Project

**December 2013**
“Anonymous #3” — For the Southworth Homestead Project
“Anonymous #4” — For the Southworth Homestead Project
William A. and Jane W. Bailey — For the Southworth Homestead Project
David, Phyllis & Jill Barbano — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Bruce Beatty — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Ann Brady — 1) For the Southworth Homestead Project and 2) In memory of Philip & Julia Brady
Ken & Virginia Barton — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Betsy Cleveland — Partial expenses for the 2nd Annual Southworth Gala Event
Betsy “Broom Hilda” Cleveland — Cleaning at the Southworth for Holly Tour & Annual Gala Event
Daniel Cogan — Not indicated (applied to DTHS general funds)
Michael Delahanty — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Ronald C. Denniston — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Amy Dickinson — In honor of Joan Manning
Dryden Mutual Insurance Co. — 1) For the Southworth Homestead Project and 2) In memory of Lawrence Beach & Marilyn Adrians
Brian & Jody Earle — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Lin Elmire and Renee’ Corso — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Maureen & George Finn — For the Southworth Homestead Project — In memory of:
  1) Charles & Kate Downey; 2) Charles & Dora Downey and 3) Dewey & Roberta Whitford
Victor Fulkerson — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Mark Goldfarb — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Elizabeth Gutchess — Not indicated (applied to DTHS general funds)
Margaret Hobbie — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Mary & Bill Hornbuckle — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Terri/Clay Jackson — Not indicated (applied to DTHS general funds)
Dr. Bob Jacobson — To offset (partial) cost of tent rental for 2013 Annual Antique Fair
Robert T. & Donna M. Jewett — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Steven Kilts — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Diana J. Landis — In memory of Meredith Lamont Williams
Michael E. Lane — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Charles Logan, Jr. — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Joan Manning — In honor of the Genung family
Joyce Macallister — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Louise McGee — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Sue & Sam Morrie — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Louise Mose — A Gift (Individual) Membership
Kenneth M. & Catherine K. Paddock — For the Southworth Homestead Project

*Continued on page 9*
Appreciations continued from page 8

Robert B. Porteus — In memory of Elizabeth Porteus
Bard & Gina Prentiss — A Gift (Individual) Membership
Horace & Shirley Shackelton — 1) For the Southworth Homestead Project and 2) For the Collection Committee
Randall E. & Barbara M. Shew — For the Southworth Project
Pamela Shoemaker — In memory of Belle (Snyder) Wolcott and family
Alphonse F. Pieper & Elizabeth A. Shrier — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Phyllis & David Smith — For the Southworth Homestead Project—In recognition of Robert I. Watros
Randall E. & Barbara M. Snow — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Lance & Patricia Sprague — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Sibley Stewart & Letha Sutton — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Martin Taylor — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Town of Dryden — Grant to offset (major) cost of tent rental for 2013 Annual Antique Fair
Betsey VanSickle — A Gift (Individual) Membership
James D. Webster — For the DTHS General Fund
Kirby Werninck/Werninck & Sons — Donation-in-kind (Two dehumidifier units for the Southworth House)
Fred A. (Ben) Williams — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Janice Williams — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Susan R. Yanoff — For the Southworth Homestead Project

January 2014
Dave & Brenda Armstrong — A Gift (Individual) Membership
Candlelight Inn B & B — 1) In memory of Sam Nitsios and 2) For the Southworth Homestead Project
The First National Bank of Dryden — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Martha Feger — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Jean H. German — 1) Not indicated (applied to DTHS general funds) and 2) Gift membership
Michael E. Lane — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Joyce Perkins — Not indicated (applied to DTHS general funds)
Michael E. Lane — For the Southworth Homestead Project
Shirley Price — In memory of George Price
Mary Ellen Rumsey — For the Southworth Homestead—Capital Campaign
Carl & Mary Lou Taylor — For the Southworth Homestead Project

Dryden History House
May 1988 - March, 2014
36 West Main Street has been a wonderful location. Now follow the Dryden Town Historical Society to 14 North Street at the Southworth Homestead.

The Dryden History House evolved from a derelict building that had a negative impact on West Main Street to a handsome and vital symbol of positive activity. DTHS was already seven years old when in 1988, the opportunity to own a property became a reality. Almost the entire community backed the courageous and well thought out project. The pride and hope that the volunteers showed over two years to make the place ready for occupancy was overwhelming. The vision and tremendous energy of those earlier volunteers will always be an inspiration.
New exhibit room with wide plank floor and track lighting

February 6th Mike Murphy and Fred Likel arrive with a truck load

Slate floor at the lower level entrance being installed by B&B Floor Coverings

Archival storage in the lower level

New library and reference room in the process of unpacking

Jeff Walden, contractor, working on trim boards

Albert (Skeeter) Heidt paints trim and then more trim
**Did you forget to renew your membership for 2014?**

Your membership renewal form was mailed in November.

*Your membership expiration date is on the address label.*

___$15.00 Individual  ___$25.00 Family  
___$50.00 Patron   ___$50.00 Business

Name_____________________________________________________
Address___________________________________________________
City________________________State_______________Zip________
Phone_____________________E-Mail_________________________

The next newsletter will only be mailed to current 2014 members. Don’t miss a newsletter, use this form and renew your membership today!

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Wow, we are a generous group. To date the membership and associated friends of the Southworth Homestead renovation project have given $126,130 towards the renovation. Gifts have ranged from $10 to over $31,000 from individuals and families. The renovation of the interior ground floor and first floor is nearly complete. When spring comes you will see the exterior siding and landscaping being completed. So, if you have not contributed - this spring would be a great time to help the project along with your gift. All of the society members should be extremely proud of the work so far. To those who have already contributed, we thank you for your generosity and hope that you can come by and see the progress that we have accomplished.

As stated above we have raised quite a bit of money. However, with a goal that is north of $450,000 we need to continue to canvass the community to make people aware of the opportunity to be part of this historic effort. We need funds for completion of the renovation, funds for the restoration and stabilization of the brick structure, funds for the landscaping and funds to restore the bank balance that we borrowed from to help the renovation along. Currently we have a modest amount of program revenue that will help offset the cost of operations. An increase of activity at the homestead is expected and that may increase our program revenue. If you have helped, thank you. If have not yet contributed or pledged, we hope you will consider this in your annual charitable giving.

Brad Perkins, Chair
Dryden Town Historical Society
14 North Street
PO Box 69
Dryden, NY 13053

Phone: 607-844-9209

E-Mail: drydennyhistory@gmail.com

HOURS AT THE SOUTHWORTH HOUSE

Starting Saturday, April 5, regular hours at our new location!
Saturdays, 10am – 2pm

Remember to visit our new website at drydennyhistory.org!
Send your email address to drydennyhistory@gmail.com to be added to our email list and get regular updates about Dryden Town Historical Society happenings.

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