

CARRIAGE HOUSE CRIER

Wolcott Historical Society ● P.O. Box 51, Wolcott, NY 14590

FALL 2023 www.wolcottny.org 315-594-9494 FREE

To sponsor a newsletter or offset printing costs, please contact Bob Stell at 315-594-9065 or Kara Chapin at 315-905-4268.

Follow us on Facebook @carriagehousemuseum or "Wolcott Historical Society"

CARRIAGE HOUSE MOVE!

How quickly time passes! 20 years ago on September 5, 2003 the house that became the CARRIAGE HOUSE MUSEUM was raised from its foundation on West Main Street and moved to a new location on Jefferson Street!

The committee that formed the Wolcott Historical Society spent many hours searching for an appropriate place to house and display the many Wolcott artifacts that former Wolcott Historians had collected.

It came to the attention of the committee that the small house that had once been the Northrup carriage house on West Main Street was slated to be demolished like the main house had been in the late 1980's.

Marshalls said they would donate the carriage house with the stipulation that it be moved by the

end of July 2003! Now a whole new set of problems had to be solved!

Where could it be moved to?

Who could do this moving?

How much would it cost?

The Delf family came to the rescue with a new location for the house! They donated a piece of property they owned on Jefferson Street across from Bob's Market parking lot entrance.

Next problem: who could move it? Matthew Movers Company of Rochester were contracted to do it within the time span!

Time was running out and funds were still needed to realize this project! Help came when Congressman James Walsh read an article about the attempt to save this house for a museum. He came to our aid with a grant fund! We also had

Continued next page



a number of donations for this project!

Next, the lot had to be made ready. It was deep enough but ran uphill. After the dirt was dug out and the footers were poured, the lot was ready and a ground breaking ceremony was held!

The deadline was drawing near! Coordination between movers, law enforcement and utility companies was made. But the deadline came and went. Thankfully, Marshalls graciously extended the deadline to August 30th.

Finally moving day came! The house was raised off its foundation and lowered onto steel beams on the moving trailer! Secured! Ready to journey to its new home!

On a warm and breezy September 5, 2003, the power lines were lowered and wooden planks were placed to protect the roads. The move slowly proceeded across West Main Street to Northup Avenue.

As Matthews Movers eased its load around the corner on to Park Street, spectators, including school children, watched from the safety of Northup Park. The move continued across New Hartford Street and down a cleared parking lot towards its final destination.

The final step was to turn the entire rig around and carefully position the house onto the lot prepared for it. It was a perfect fit!

A huge and heartfelt thank you to all of those that made this happen. This museum which is named The Carriage House is a wonderful addition and asset to Wolcott as we strive to save the history of our small town and continue to give tribute to those who make their homes and businesses in Wolcott. Join us in celebrating our local history!



NEW HISTORIAN

We would like to welcome Kara Chapin to her new position as Village and Town of Wolcott Historian. She has succeeded Norma Stewart, who moved to Florida.

Kara, daughter of Arthur and Patty Chapin of Huron, graduated from North Rose-Wolcott in 2009. After earning her Bachelor's degree in Archaeology, she returned to her home town.

This year, Kara was deeply involved in the planning and execution of the "Old Wolcott Heritage Fest" that took place in June in Northup Park and on Main Street in the Village of Wolcott.

Kara is not sure when she first became interested in history, but remembers doing a genealogy project for a middle school class and has delved into history ever since.



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Upcoming Events

Rededication of Historic Mural
October 14th @ 10:00 am
Outside the Palace Theater

Town of Wolcott Historic
Marker Dedication
Date To be Determined

20th Annual Festival of Trees
Tree Lighting Ceremony
Sat. December 9th @ 6:00

Membership

\$10.00 – Individual Membership

\$15.00 – Family Membership

\$25.00 – Business/Organization Membership

\$500 – Life Membership

Send to:
Wolcott Historical Society
P.O. Box 51
Wolcott, NY 14590

An excellent way to help secure the future of the Wolcott Historical Society is to donate. We are a non-profit 501-(c)-(3) corporation. Donations are tax deductible to the maximum extent allowed by law.

Did You Know?

October is
New York State
History Month!

A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Generous Donors

We recently received a very generous donation of \$10,000 from Irma DeRoose. Irma was a resident of Wolcott and graduated with the Leavenworth Class of 1965. She was involved in historical societies where she lived in central New York, as well as remaining close friends with Linda Chatfield D'Amore and her parents, Jim and Ruth Chatfield, with whom she shared many holidays. We are sincerely grateful for her kind contribution which will ensure that our history is preserved. Irma sadly passed away on April 8, 2023 shortly after we received this donation.

Shortly after that we received another gracious donation from Chumpol Phornprapha, Commissioner of Education of Bangkok, Thailand for \$5,000. 'Chump' was a Class of 1961 Senior Foreign Exchange Student at Leavenworth Central School who lived with the Dunton Family on Lake Avenue. He has returned several times to his class reunions and has been generous to our school district as well.

He was grateful for the experience he had in our village and is dedicated to education. We hope to restart our educational tours of the historical locations in the village with local students in the Leavenworth Middle School this Spring in his honor.

We encourage any donations to the Carriage House Museum to help keep history alive. All donations are 501c3 exempt.

Recent New Members!

Art & Patty Chapin
John & Kathy Conti
Mark & Linda Christensen
Daphne Dudus
Ian Dunton
Jane Milem
Paul Murray
Sharon Rios
Lori Fay Schmidt
Janis Sloane
Randy York

Thank You!

We welcome these members and invite them to participate in our activities.

Interested in Local History?

We have so much history in our little museum and we need your help to share it with the community.

The Wolcott Historical Society is looking for Volunteers!

Can you help set up programs for the community?

Do you have organizational skills or computer skills and can assist in categorizing historical material?

Are you handy with a camera and can document current events?

We Want You!

If you are interested, please contact Kara at:
315-905-4268

kchapin.wolcotthistorian@gmail.com

Local Writer at the Museum

On Saturday, October 7th, the Carriage House Museum welcomed local writer and sailor, Susan P. Gateley. She presented an illustrated program on the subject of her latest book, "The New York State Canal System A History Beyond the Erie."

In 2000, The Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor was established by Congress. The Corridor stretches over 500 miles across upstate New York and is home to 3.2 million people.

Susan spoke on how New York's canal system is unique in the nation. It has operated essentially unchanged for more than a century and is a living museum of analog engineering from 1918.

The canal remains fully functional to this day and has been in continuous use for two centuries!

That is longer than any other constructed transportation system in North America.

Thank you to all who attended this presentation and a thank you to Susan Gateley for sharing her book and her adventures on the Erie Canal with us.



WAYNE COUNTY BICENTENIAL 1823-2023

Wayne County is 200 years old! There have been many events throughout the year celebrating our county's history since it was established on April 11, 1823. Join us this fall as we continue to celebrate with the **Heritage Music Series**

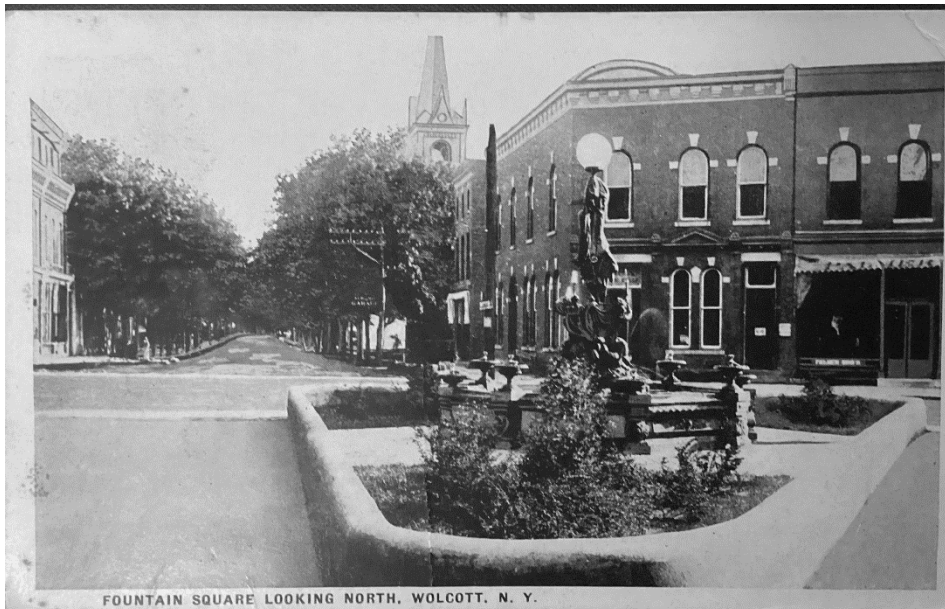
October 14 at 2:00 pm - **"The Remarkable. Irresistible Erie Music and Story Telling"** Sodus High School

October 22 at 2:00 pm - **"The Fiddlers of the Genesee"** Marion High School

November 5 at 6:30 pm - **"Todd Hobin and the History of Rock 'n' Roll"** Lyons Ohmann Theater

For more information, visit waynecounty200.com

Presented by the Wayne County Historical Society and the Wayne County Bicentennial



FOUNTAIN SQUARE LOOKING NORTH, WOLCOTT, N. Y.

Happy Birthday Venus!

Our local celebrity, "Venus Rising from the Sea," turned 110 in September. She was installed in 1913 and has graced our village ever since.

Postcard from c. 1920

President's Message

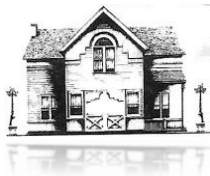
September 2023 marks the 20th year since the relocation of the Northup Carriage House to the new site on Jefferson Street, Wolcott. Following the move was a two-year renovation conducted by several professionals and a large group of local citizen volunteers. The official opening of the venue took place August 2005. A team of member volunteers continues to address the upkeep of the carriage house and the artifacts it contains. Both the building and its furnishings are quite well organized and in good conditions.

An updated "rack card" is available, showing much information about the venue. It answers many questions about the Wolcott Historical Society and the museum particulars. The Wolcott Historical Society is very glad that Kara Chapin has been appointed the new Wolcott Village and Town Historian and also welcomes Cynthia Fowler and Linda LaGasse to the Board of Trustees.

As always, the Society seeks proactive volunteers to docent during the museum's open hours and to assist in future events. New projects need to be and will be addressed. We welcome any suggestions you may have, so please give us a call.

Bob Stell
President

If you have an interesting story or photograph about growing up in Wolcott and would like to share it, we would love to include it in an upcoming newsletter.



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