



THE SENTINEL

Vol. 18, No. 4

The Newsletter of the New Scotland Historical Association

Summer 2010

CANDID CAMERA COMPANY

60 WEST 55TH STREET, NEW YORK 19, JU 2-4055

October 25, 1966

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Shank
Rural Delivery 2
Voorheesville, New York

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Shank:

We are happy to tell you that your Candid Camera episode has been selected to be seen on the air.

It will be part of the program telecast on Sunday, Nov. 6, at 10:00 P.M., Eastern Standard Time, on the CBS Television Network.

The scene in which you appear only lasts a few seconds, so watch closely. Occasionally, there is a last-minute change in our program which forces us to eliminate or postpone a particular Candid Camera episode. If that happens, we will let you know at once but unless you hear from us again, it will be on the air.

All of us on the Candid Camera staff thank you for your participation.

Sincerely,


Allen A. Funt

AAF/eg



Howard Shank's Garage

Candid Camera?

I wonder how many of our readers can remember the New Salem Family that appeared on national TV?

Let me take you back to the year 1966, and the TV show **Candid Camera**. Who would have ever believed that **Candid Camera** would come to New Salem, but that is exactly what happened. How they found New Salem will forever remain a mystery.

I will give you as many details as I can remember from over 40 years ago. The **Candid Camera** car pulled over alongside of Lambert's Store, not quite opposite the small garage run by Howard Shanks (on New Salem Rd. near the four corners.) A very attractive young lady got out and went over to the garage to see Howard, explaining that she was having some problem with her car and could he look at it. While this was going on, Howard's wife Maude was up on an extension ladder painting the house. Maude was dressed in her painting clothes and had her head wrapped in a bandana.



Howard Shank's at his garage door

(Cont. on page 5)

NEW SCOTLAND HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 541

Voorheesville, NY 12186

OFFICERS 2010 - 2011

President

Peg Dorgan 768-2852

Vice President

Peg Neri 765-3125

Corresponding Secretary

Marilyn Miles 768-2870

Recording Secretary

Marion Parmenter 765-4652

Treasurer

Janet Bettlejeski 861-6454

TRUSTEES:

June Alberts '11 768-2056

Melanie Ernst '11 768-8191

Ethie Moak '12 753-4692

Herb Reilly '12 765-2538

Don Meacham '13 765-2981

Alan Kowlowitz '13 765-4212

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Membership

Melanie Ernst 768-8191

Programs

Peg Neri 765-3125

Publicity

Ethie Moak 768-2434

Hospitality

Bob & Lorraine Felter 767-9129

Collections

Marion Parmenter 765-4652

Exhibits

Sandy Slingerland 768-2462

Genealogy

Martha Slingerland 768-2184

Finance

Janet Bettlejeski 861-6454

Historic Sites

Sandy Slingerland 768-2462

Town Historian

Robert Parmenter 765-4652

Sentinel Committee

Robert and Marion Parmenter,
Editors

Marie Hornick
Willard Osterhout

Web Page

www.newscotlandhistoricalassociation.org
Email: newscotlandhistoricalassoc@gmail.com

President's Letter

Dear Members and Friends,

Each year at this time, we reflect on the past year to see what has been accomplished and to plan for that which will be on the agenda for the coming year. Of particular concern this past year was the recognition of Five Rivers as a Civilian Conservation Corps Camp and its importance to the history of the area and throughout the USA. NSHA placed a historical sign at that location. The new exhibit in the museum is a great tribute to this initiative---(special thanks to Sandy Slingerland as exhibit chair.) Hopefully the two buildings used by the CCC at Five Rivers will be kept intact as a result of the petition drive and meetings with local, county, and state politicians and Town Boards.

Another priority of NSHA was to update and add material to our Website. With the help of Marie Hornick, much has been accomplished there and continues as more pictures and information can be found on the web.

2010—2011 will be the 40th Anniversary of the New Scotland Historical Association. Marion Parmenter volunteered to chair this committee to plan activities in celebration of this milestone. You will receive updates on this event as the year progresses. One of the ways you can help on this project is to write down your memories of events before 1970 in the Town of New Scotland. People like to read about such things and share your thoughts. Give the items to any Board Member on the list on page 2 of the *Sentinel*.

Peg Dorgan

Changes to the NSHA Board

At the May 4th annual meeting, two trustees were elected to serve for three years on the NSHA Board. Don Meacham agreed and was chosen to serve a second term. Will Osterhout completed a second term and was replaced by Alan Kowlowitz. For 20 years, Alan was a professional Archivist with the NY State Archives in the State Education Department. Presently he is employed by the NYS Office of Technology. With this background, plus his love of history and music, Alan ought to be a great asset to the Board.

Marie Hornick completed four years as vice-president and that position will be filled by Peg Neri. Peg had been recording secretary and now Marion Parmenter will fill that spot. As chairperson of the Historic Sites Committee, Sandy Slingerland will replace Norma Walley. Other committee chairs remain the same.

Special thanks go to Willard, Marie and Norma for their time and efforts over the years. Each one brought new ideas, a passion for history and gave many hours of service to the association. Marie was responsible for the wonderful programs that we all enjoyed over the past four years as well as updating the website. The Board appreciates Marie's willingness to continue the web work—not an easy task.

In Memoriam

With deep sympathy, we note the passing of NSHA member and museum volunteer Lydia Tobler and our museum's "right hand man" Bob Shedd.

Donations and Raffle Revenues

As a new year approaches, the Historical Association Board decides what special projects are of importance to the museum or for the association. This past year the electrical service to the museum and the storage barn were given priority. Because of your generous donations, the museum is complete, with many new outlets in the walls and the floor. Service to the barn should be completed this summer.

For the 2010—2011 year, it was decided that we needed to update various aspects of technology so that our programs, photos and other material can be saved in more permanent and safe keeping. We need to purchase the proper equipment to do this. Also, it was decided that the museum could use a swing display board on panels where large pictures or documents could be displayed in a smaller area. As always, your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Mission Statement

The Town of New Scotland Historical Association preserves, protects and promotes history in the Town of New Scotland through the stewardship of material culture directly related to the town. The purpose is to promote an appreciation of local history, heritage and culture through research, publications and educational programs.

Senior Award

Alexis Moore, daughter of April and Lance Moore of Voorheesville, was the recipient of the New Scotland Historical Association High School Senior Award for 2010. The award, in the amount of \$500.00, was presented to Alexis at the May 4th program meeting of the association.

Alexis is an active student at Voorheesville High School where she achieved a 4.0 grade point average. In addition to a strong academic course load, she participated in many school organizations and activities including Model UN, Mock Trial, International Club, Voorheesville Dionysians, Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble and Chorus, Diversity and Tolerance Club and United for Peace and Justice. She was a member of the high school cross country and track teams. She is a seven year volunteer at the Voorheesville Public Library. She also volunteered at the Old Songs Festival as well as Town of New Scotland Volunteer activities. Alexis loves to read and learn about foreign countries, their people and culture. She participated in the Foreign Exchange to France and the People to People Student Ambassador Program to China as well as The Cole Summer Writers Institute.

Alexis plans to attend Manhattanville College with potential majors in history education and/or Asian American Studies. Alexis is keenly interested in Asian American international relations.

The High School Senior Award is sponsored by the New Scotland Historical Association for a graduating senior who resides in the Town and plans a college major or minor in some aspect of History or Museum Studies. Funding for the award is from the Don and Ann Eberle Fund, a gift given to the Association to honor the Eberles' many years of volunteer service and love of history.



Alexis Moore after receiving her award



What house is this and where is it located?

(answer on page 4)

New Museum Exhibits Open

May 1st proved to be a perfect day (including the weather) for the Grand Opening of a 1940's barbershop and the Civilian Conservation Corps exhibits being shown at our museum.

A barber shop quartet performed beautifully, dressed in fashionable attire and treated us to many old time favorites.

Don Slingerland enlarged all the photos shown in both exhibits to enhance the visibility of the subjects.

The Felters not only prepared the barbershop map but also laid out a fantastic spread of delightful yummy baked goods that our members prepared and donated.

If you happened to miss this gala event, the museum is open Sundays, 2-4 P.M. except major holidays. Also, for your enjoyment is a DVD from PBS about the Civilian Conservation Corps era. A must see!

Thank you for your support. It is greatly appreciated.

Sandy Z. Slingerland,
Exhibits Chairperson



People waiting their turn in the barbershop exhibit



Norma Walley talking with Craig Thompson from the Five Rivers in the CCC Camp exhibit.

The fall issue of the Sentinel will be out by mid September and will contain our new program listing.

Answer to house:

This house is located on Route 85A, at 330 New Salem Road, about a mile from the elementary school going towards New Salem. We came across these photos after Jane Gangai wrote her article *Maple Ave. Memories* in the Fall 2009 issue. Her stepfather, Bob Kuhn, spotted this house hidden by brush in 1931, and soon purchased it. He spent a year clearing the land and renovating the house before they moved in. The pictures also show the pond that remains today, when it was being constructed by Mr. Kuhn. The house is believed to date to the early 1800s.



Bob Kuhn and friend with tractor creating his pond

A young Jane Gangai on her graduation day next to the new pond



Another view of the Kuhn house after renovation

(cont. from page 1)

Howard proceeded across the road to try to help the young lady out. The first thing he did was to open the hood, which caused the fender to fall off, causing the woman to become very upset. The more Howard tried to help, the more things went wrong with the car until the young lady almost became hysterical.

Maude was taking this all in from the top of the ladder. Finally she couldn't take it anymore and down the ladder she came. Now any of you who remember Maude, will know what happened next. She charged across the street and lit into that young woman while Howard just stood by quietly. She continued to verbally chastise this lady until someone from the camera car finally came over and politely informed her that she was on "Candid Camera." It was the funniest segment that appeared on that particular show and was shown again and again at the end of the program, many times thereafter. It was quite the topic of conversation in New Salem for many years.

Will Osterhout

Program Videos

NSHA has over 60 video tapes of NSHA programs. These may be borrowed by any NSHA member for a month at a time. Ask any volunteer when you are at the museum and they can show you the list of available tapes.

NSHA is in the process of converting the videos to DVDs—watch for updates of this project in future *Sentinels*.

Dues are Dues!

Membership renewal notices have been sent out. If you haven't received one by the end of May, please contact Membership chair, Melanie Ernst, at 768-8191. A membership form is also available on the NSHA website: www.newscotlandhistoricalassociation.org

Historic Sites

The Historic Sites Committee is in the process of adding the VonRonne home to our historic sites in Unionville, NY. The dedication will be held September 18th, with the time yet to be determined. Please mark the date on your calendar and plan to attend! More information will follow in the September *Sentinel*.

Memories....

Please think about memories you can share in our book while watching the sunsets this summer!

Bob Shedd will be missed.....

NSHA was saddened by Bob's death on June 12th, although we knew he'd been very ill. Bob had so many interests. His skill as a carpenter as well as an interest in history brought him to our museum many times. "Bob, we need a sales cart" and draw him a picture. Done! "Can you make us something to display the Slingerland spoons?" Done! Shelves, cabinets, tables, etc., etc. The fantastic Voorheesville diorama, c. 1920, which he created in the late '90s, involved much research, using old pictures as guides, as well as interviewing old-timers. His attention to detail was amazing. He spent many hours assisting with the Veterans Exhibits and more recently the General Store Exhibit.

In 1998, he received the Arthur Pound Award from NSHA for outstanding service in the promotion and preservation of history in the Town of New Scotland.

Bob's Memorial Service program listed some of the many things Bob Shedd taught throughout his life:

If it ain't fun, I'm not doing it!

Whenever possible, start a conversation with a joke.

Do your work and do it well, but you are not your work.

If all else fails, lower your standards.

It's OK to sit with someone you love and not talk.

What fun is it to go back the same way you came?

When ordering an ice cream cone, strongly consider the oddest flavors.

Use it up. Wear it out. Recycle and reuse.

Favorite saying: "I'll do it." (from his high school year-book)

This certainly sums up the way he lived. Thank you, Bob Shedd.



Bob receiving the Pound Award

Reflections of the VCHS Class of 1960

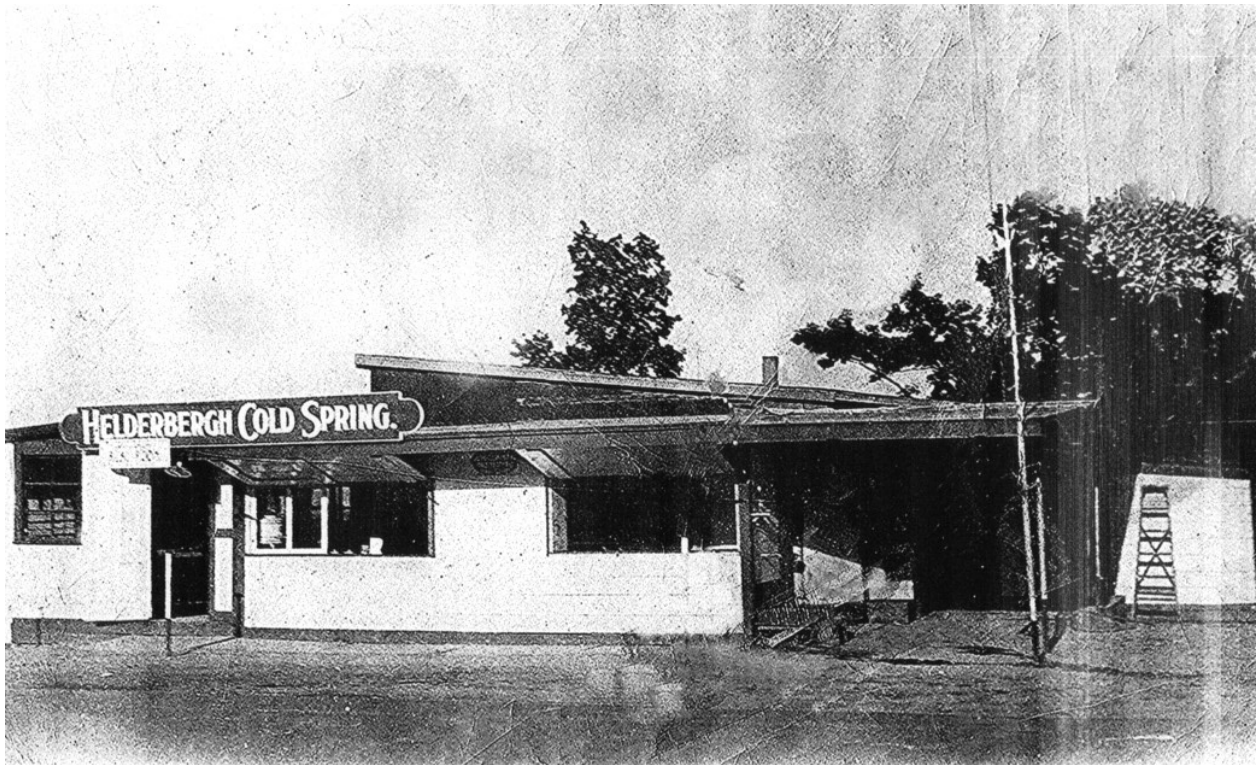
(From 1980 Reunion bulletin)

- Kindergarten: In the Methodist Church, Miss Paine our teacher, gravel in the play area outside.
- 1st Grade: 2-room building behind Home Economics cottage, at 94 Maple Ave.....
Miss Joslin & Mrs. Ethridge...walking to the brick school for lunch....
Snake in the girl's room.....standing by the woodstove to dry after an "accident".....
- 2nd Grade: Half of class in the brick school, half in the Presbyterian Church (home of Old Songs now).....Miss Wright & Mrs. Preston.....burlap bag Indian costumes for the Gym Show....Christmas Grab Bag..... square dancing....
- 3rd Grade: Addition to school is done.....music room....art room....bus garage.....
huge cafeteria.....we are all in the same building.....Miss Koslik & Mrs. Leackfeldt.....
- 4th Grade: Miss Doyle & Mrs. Moran....Mr. White's Candy Store (on corner of Mt. View & 85A, across from school—we could walk there after lunch!).....
annual school picnics with 5 free tickets for food.....according to an old Helderbarker, 4-A had 3 goldfish die, 4-B reported having a new bowl of Goldfish.....
- 5th Grade: Mrs. Bashford & Miss Atkins.....salt and flour maps....1st air-raid drills (duck & cover).....Guilderland kids left at the end of this year—for their own new schools—they had been with us since Kindergarten.....
New Scotland School.....Mrs. Blessing.....now Town Hall....school closed 1953.....
- 6th Grade: Mrs. VanOlinda & Mr. Farrell.....classrooms on 3rd floor of school.....
trading cards....PTA Banner.....custodians.....
- 7th Grade: Mrs. Tyler....Mr. Jackson....traffic squad picked on us in the halls....
bells and changing classes.....lockers...Mr. Baker's music classes....
Heller's Soda Fountain....Vunck's Feedmill burned.....New Salem School kids joined our class....
- 8th Grade: Miss Cochran.....Room 108 (a tiny homeroom on the 2nd floor).....
Kangaroo Court....Christmas Assembly with Bill Elmendorf as Rudolph....
- 9th Grade: Mrs. Stage.....Mrs. Skidmore.....Mrs. Stage's farewell party....
Miss Busier (school nurse)....canteen sock dances....slumber parties....bus Drivers....JV Sports....Vunck's Feedmill burned, again.....
- 10th Grade: Biology class....Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever Blues...our favorite Substitute, Mrs. Kay....geometry theorems....class dance, "Seventh Heaven".....Mrs. Salvatore—"I want this Library quiet right now!".....
painting Halloween pictures on store windows in Voorheesville (Contest sponsored by Board of Trade)....dirt coming up through the gym floor....
farewell meal in the school cafeteria.... Ken Tice's truck plunged into the Normanskill when the Grant Hill Rd. Bridge collapsed....
- 11th Grade: The new Junior-Senior High School....swimming pool... huge gym...
Junior Carnival....Spook House.....rock and roll....Junior-Senior Prom,
"Night in Granada"...Mrs. McGarr, (typing teacher)...Coach Mead and Driver Education....Mohican haircuts.....Mr. Wade....Mr. Herman and rotten eggs, (a chemistry experiment without the vents on and many of us were sent home sick! We survived!)
- 12th Grade Mr. Berglas, advisor....magazine drive...Roaring Twenties Dance...Night Train....Student Council....**Torch** yearbook.....Senior Store.....Senior Play, "Curtain Going Up".....

(cont. on page 7)

Washington Trip....Mr. & Mrs. Reber (our chaperones)....**Historical Society from Nome, Alaska**, (we actually had folks in D.C. convinced that's where we were from!)....graduation parties..... class rings.....purple and gold graduation gowns.....
gas was 16 cents a gallon!

*Note: I had forgotten I was originally a "member" of the **Historical Society of Nome, Alaska** until I was retyping this in preparation for our 50th Reunion this June—Class of 1960, Voorheesville Central High School!! Actually, five classmates are members of NSHA. Marion Parmenter*



Helderberg Cold Spring

Helderberg Cold Spring was a summer business started by Thomas B. Osterhout. The business was located about ¾ of a mile above the village of New Salem on Rte. 85, also known as the New Salem Hill. The business opened on Friday evening April 4th, 1924. This location became a popular stopping point for bus tours coming from Albany to Thacher Park and the Helderberg Mountains.

The Helderberg Cold Spring was operated by the Osterhout family until 1932, when it was sold to George H. Levens of Albany, N.Y. Mr. Levens assumed ownership on September 1st when the Osterhout Brothers, Everett and DeForest, opened their new place called the "Indian Ladder Lodge." The new location was about ¼ mile further up the hill, just around the turn on the Indian Ladder Road.

*The following appeared in the Slingerlands Bulletin, edited by Everett L. Hevenor, and was printed in the **Altamont Enterprise** on March 28, 1924.*

"On Friday evening April 4th, Thomas Osterhout will open his dancing pavilion and refreshment parlor, located in one of the most sightly spots in the Helderberg Mountains, with a Japanese Cotillion, with both round and square dances."

*Willard Osterhout has been researching this photo for several years and finally has the answers! Thomas was his grandfather. This article is included in Willard's book **Osterhout Brothers Indian Ladder Lodge**, to be published this year. Thank you for sharing it with us, Will.*

Please support our Corporate Sponsors!

Advanced Auto Repair Service

Advanced Car Wash Systems

Berschwinger Brothers, Inc.

Dunston Brothers, Inc.

Elemental Landscapes, Inc.

John Foley's Garage, Inc.

Hennessy Engineering & Consulting

In Town Self Storage

Peter Luczak, C.F.P.

Reilly & Son Funeral Home

Smith's Tavern

Stanton's Feura Farm

Stewart's Shops

Voorheesville Hannaford

Thanks to all of our Corporate Sponsors for their continued support!

**Museum will be closed
July 4th**

**If you would like to become a member,
please fill out the form and mail!**

___ \$10 Individual

___ \$15 Family

___ \$25 Sustaining

___ \$100 Life (per person)

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

**Please send dues to: Melanie Ernst
Membership Chair
P.O. Box 250
Clarksville, NY 12041**

Museum Hours

**The museum is
open year-round**

on Sunday

from

2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Handicap Accessible

THE SENTINEL

New Scotland Historical Association

P. O. Box 541

Voorheesville, New York 12186