

The Times of Old Austerlitz Village

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Holiday Sing Well Attended

by Donna Peterson

All 40 people who showed up at the *Holiday Sing* this past December had a great time. The venue this time was not at the Austerlitz Church but instead at the Harvey House on the grounds of Old Austerlitz Village.

With the snow on the ground and the smell of hot mulled cider in the air the mood was set for songs of the season.

John Peterson was the Master of Ceremonies and introduced Pat O'Shea who played the keyboard with some accompaniment on the violin by Stephanie Tyski. Stephanie also read "*Twas' The Night Before Christmas*".

Joan Weitzner sung beautifully as we all joined in.

After singing we were all treated to home baked goods, cider, candy canes and from days of old, oranges and peppermint sticks. People gathered in groups and talked and reminisced and left with smiles from a good time had by all. Many asked to make sure this event continues and we will do so, as always, by inviting the community to come and enjoy. Thank you to all who participated, baked, set up and dismantled. We look forward to seeing everyone at the next event.



Save The Dates!

Quarterly Membership Meetings

All Meetings start @ 2PM

- Sunday 2/21 - St. Peters Church
- May 2010 - Check website for date
- Sunday 8/15 - Austerlitz Church Annual Meeting & Election of Trustees
- Sunday 11/21 - Austerlitz Church

Events

- Sunday 7/25 - 9am to 4pm
11th Annual Blueberry Festival
- Sunday 10/10 - 11am to 4pm
14th Annual Autumn in Austerlitz

To Be Announced

Check our website for updates

- 2010 Holiday Sing
- 2010 Volunteer Appreciation Celebration

A Message From The President

By Ron Lenney

Those of us who are involved in the Austerlitz Historical Society every week find ourselves pulled in two different directions as the year 2010 gets underway. For every meeting when we focus on the events for this year we spend equal time devoted to the longer range plans for next year, the year after that, etc. etc.

Our goals for 2010 must start with planning for the Blueberry Festival and Autumn in Austerlitz. These events provide the funding for everything else that happens during the year. But they alone are not enough to make our Society vibrant and reaching out to more people year after year.

Barbara Willner has a special committee with the goal of scheduling two events each month in the Harvey House from Spring

to Fall. Whether they be classes, demonstrations, speakers or exhibits. Whether they be for adults or children. Two a month!

Roy Carney's Building and Grounds Committee has funds for property improvements. The Blacksmith Shop, the Granary, the Harvey House and the Morey-Deveraux House are on the list.

The Executive Committee has an idea for a new event in May. Moving from an idea to a 'real live event' takes more than a few calls, a meeting and an announcement. We are not at the beginning nor are we close to the end of the process. Somewhere in between. We will keep you posted.

Every organization in our area has fund-raisers. We need more money to fund our present and future plans, so why not us? This is 'in the works' for the Fall.

If all the above is not enough:

- Finding someone to lead the 'Preserving the Past' program.
- Find an Editor for the Newsletter as we say a special thanks to Lorraine for doing the newsletter since 1995!
- How to handle requests for re-enactments in 2011 and 2012
- Find new Trustees to replace those whose terms are ending.

When I started this article I mentioned that our primary source of funding comes from the Blueberry Festival and

Autumn in Austerlitz. What happens if it rains? Let's not wait until that happens. Next month we will ask our members to contribute to the Rainy Day Fund. Watch for more information in your mail.

Finally, with the gift of an additional five acres of land from Bob Herron, we have a wonderful opportunity to expand our horizons. How and when do we start?

Why not step beyond just membership and join what we are doing and **help make things happen**. Call Connie Mondel, Denise Dunne, Barbara Willner, Carl Quinn, Donna Peterson or call Ron Lenney on the weekend at 518-392-3406. You can also send an e-mail to Ron. His email address is ronlenney@aol.com

Any fool can make history, but it takes a genius to write it.

Oscar Wilde

Keeping the Past Alive with New Volunteers

By Connie Mondel

Some interesting projects will get underway this year that may arouse your curiosity and participation. One is called Preserving the Past where we will tap into the memories of some of our families, whose

ancestors have lived their lives in this area and helped Austerlitz and surrounding towns become the places we so enjoy. We will do this by interviews, by research into documents the Society

owns, and through diaries, journals and photos that family members may provide. The possibilities are many, the results can add to our town's history as well as to a greater appreciation for all those

who have preceded us. There is no doubt in my mind that this project will be interesting, exciting, inspiring and is important.

(Continued on page 3)

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Through the memories and personal stories we can keep history and the strength of the human spirit, these stories convey, available to the public. That is a worthy mission.

Another effort is to creatively utilize our recently renovated Harvey House which now has heat, good lighting and lovely exhibit space. Photo collections, exhibits of historical artifacts that tell the story of

early times in Austerlitz and nearby towns, workshops for children and adults are in planning stage.

We also are in need of people to do grant research, help with museum setup, archiving items and materials, and helping with publicity and signage.

There is much talent and good will in our membership. What we have briefly described will take time and

effort. Your help in an area the matches your available time and interest will be invaluable. It would be such a pleasure to add some of you to our fine group of volunteers to elicit ideas, suggestions and help in the described areas.

I do hope you will call me, Connie, at 392-5874 to share ideas, have questions answered or explore ways in which you can assist. Thank you.

**"Service to others
is the rent you
pay for your
room here on
Earth."**

Muhammad Ali

Planning an Event?

Whether or not you have a special event in your future rest assured that someone does. Do you know that the Society is now prepared to rent the grounds at Old Austerlitz for events such as weddings, anniversaries, graduation parties, business meetings and outings, fund raising events, receptions, bar mitzvahs and bat mitzvahs? This is not to change our mission as a Society but rather to provide some income to assist with meeting our annual operating costs.

In early 2009, we had an open house to introduce event planners, caterers, beverage purveyors, bed and breakfast operators, and the Press to the facilities available at Old Austerlitz and to ask area business people to keep us in mind as they become aware of upcoming special events.

Those in attendance had an opportunity to see our buildings and lovely grounds and they seemed appreciative of the chance to be informed regarding our site rental program.

If you become aware of someone who is going to have a special event we would appreciate your bringing to their attention the possibility of renting the Old Austerlitz grounds. They should be encouraged to contact the Society at 518-392-0062 or email to oldausterlitz@fairpoint.net so that we may put them in touch with our Rental Coordinator.

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A very special Thank You to Lorraine Zagarola!

Since 1995, Lorraine has been the Editor of this newsletter. Every 3 months, she would work tirelessly to get the newsletter out to our membership. She would go after the people to write the stories, keep the list of updated memberships, find the news that was happening throughout the Society and get it organized, printed, stamped and in the mail. Each quarter she would go above and beyond what was expected to fulfill a special request for the newsletter or to make more space for "just one more thing...". Her knowledge and expertise came through on these pages time and time again. We gratefully acknowledge the contribution that she has made to these pages and to the Austerlitz Historical Society for so many years. As we search for a new Editor to take over our newsletter, we know we have a tall order to fill. Thank you Lorraine!



Membership

The following lists reflect renewals and new memberships received since the last newsletter of July 2009.

INDIVIDUALS

Anmuth, Jean
 Bakker, Dorothy
 Bartolo, Rochelle
 Bernard, Phylis
 Choate, Judith
 Croghan, Bob
 Davis, Yvonne
 de Guzman, Carrie
 Dunton, Anna
 Hamilton, William
 Harding, Mary
 Hartnett, Marilu
 Hassel, David
 Helpern, Libby
 Jess Fardella
 Johanson, E. Marion
 Kern, Kathleen
 Ladenheim, Lenore
 LeBeau, Gary
 Lobdell, Marilee
 Marks, Elizabeth
 Marshall, Eugene
 Miller, Esq., Frederick
 Neale, Avery
 O'Grady, Moira
 O'Shea, Patricia
 Petlak, Manuela
 Phillipson, Alan
 Pravitz, Fredda
 Primamore, Anne
 Pulcini, Paul
 Quinn, Margy
 Reinhard, Dorothy
 Reznikoff, Adam
 Seligman, Leonard
 Silvernale, Grace and Harold
 Smythe, Walter
 Thorne, Dodie
 Tishelman, Beulah
 Van Aernam, Hazel A.
 Van Deren, Nancy
 Wood, Arline

FAMILY/HOUSEHOLD

Ansmann-Gerhardt Family
 Barer, Rose & Lach, John
 Bloch, Judy & Artie
 Bowman, Scott and Meredith
 Braley Sr., Jeffrey & Braley, Leslie
 Breu, Anthony & Cheryl
 Browne, Paul & Sarah
 Ceglia, Leona
 Cohen, Irwin & Malus, Susan
 Cohen, Margaret
 Croghan, James & Hedgecock, Louis
 Davis, Deborah and Chet
 DeBona, Mary and Jerry
 DiMisa, Mike and Zai
 Epstein, Peter
 Gampert, John and Joan
 Gauntlett, David and Carolyn
 Gay, Robert & Genevieve
 Greer, Rebecca
 Heaney, Fran & Sally
 Hooley, Eida & Fred
 Jutras, Simon & Binikos, Hector
 Kern, Nancy and Scott, Ellen
 Klinger, Dianne
 Knoll, Donna and Alvin
 Lawson, Chuck & Laura
 Leason, Alice and Edwin
 Leese, Roger
 Light, John
 Mannion, Jim & Mary
 McCully, Emily
 Mehl, Florence and Bernard
 Michney, Gerard and Theresa
 Oberon, Stephen and Lola
 O'Connell, Lynne & Family
 O'Connell, Michele and Ryan
 Okonski, Sandra & Arnold
 Perlmutter, Dan and Barbara
 Perry, Dorothy and Donald
 Peterson, John & Jennifer Mugler
 Porritt, John and Sue
 Pulcini, Robert and Berman, Shari
 Reece, Venetia & Neufeld, Mary
 Reznikoff, Gunnel and Howard

FAMILY/HOUSEHOLD (con't)

Rubenstein, Ernest & Usdan, Tova Freidler
 Samuelsohn, Stephanie and Brad
 Schmitt, Robert & TenVoorde, Alise
 Sheriff, Richard & Shirley
 Smith, Cindy & David
 Sparks, Madaline and Greene, Wayne
 Stern, Martin & Ellen
 Szymanski, Marcia & Friedman, Sharon
 Veillette, Paul T. & Frances N.
 Wall, Frank & Christina
 Weitzner, Joan and Burton
 Westdickenberg, Michael & Maria
 Westover, Palmer
 Williams, Richard & Elizabeth
 Woodward, Eliza and Herbert
 Zagarola, Lorraine and Zander, Mary

CONTRIBUTING / BUSINESS

Austerlitz Plumbing & Heating, Inc.
 Beach & Bartolo, Realtors
 Coffey, Charles
 D'Agostino, Denise
 Edna St. Vincent Millay Society
 Hickok, Lauree
 Koomler, Sharon & Grant, Jerry
 Strandquest, Dominique
 Technology 4 All, Inc.
 Wilson, Nancy & Bob

SUPPORTING

Adams, Michael and Megan
 Adelman, Charles & Deborah
 Barber, Don and Harriet
 Benney, Joan
 Carney Jr, Roy and Karen
 Cashen, Anthony and Gail
 Downey, Carol & Donn
 Fusco, Cono & Eileen
 Howard, John and Phyllis
 Knauss, Joanne and Charles
 Lieber, James & Leah
 Moreland, Thomas and Olga
 Mugler, Kimberly & Esson, Matthew
 Rebic, Michael and Harris, Jeff
 Sandler, Susan
 Scheer, Dag and Stuart
 Shaw, Richard & Joan
 Spiegel, Eric & Taliaferro, Henry
 Stark, Chet & Reynes, Roberta
 Steinbrenner, Jan and Lowell
 Tomson, Bill & Scotti
 Vartanian, Ann & John
 Verenazi, Albert and Claire
 Wachsberger, Vivian and Edward
 Waters, Marjorie & Gordon, Myles

SUSTAINING

Murdock, Thomas and Marlene

AHS MEMBERSHIP

**CUT THIS OUT
 AND SHARE IT
 WITH A FRIEND!**

Yes, I want to help preserve the past and become a member of the Austerlitz Historical Society. Membership levels are:

Student: \$5.00 _____
 Individual: \$15.00 _____
 Family/Household: \$25.00 _____
 Contributing/Business: \$50.00 _____
 Supporting: \$100.00 _____
 Sustaining: \$250.00 _____
 Life: \$750.00 _____

Please check which level you would like to join at and mail your check or money order payable to the **Austerlitz Historical Society** to P.O. Box 144, Austerlitz, NY 12017 with this clip-out.

Name(s) _____

Mailing Address _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____

_____ New or _____ Renewal

The date on the mailing label is your membership expiration date. Please take a minute to renew if you are past the expiration date of your membership.

**Mission
 Statement**

*The Austerlitz Historical Society is a
 501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization.
 Our mission is as follows:*

- *To establish and maintain a growing museum site; Old Austerlitz Village.*
- *To provide information and educational programs for the benefit of the public.*
- *To collect and preserve artifacts dealing with the life and history of the Town of Austerlitz.*
- *Stimulate in our citizens a keener interest in our Town and appreciation of our heritage.*

Follow us on Facebook. Search for *Austerlitz Historical Society*

WE'RE ON THE WEB
WWW.OLDAUSTERLITZ.ORG



A U S T E R L I T Z
H I S T O R I C A L S O C I E T Y

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Austerlitz, NY 12017

Phone: 518-392-0062

Email: oldausterlitz@fairpoint.net

Web: www.oldausterlitz.org

Facebook: Austerlitz Historical Society

Officers

President.....Ronald Lenney
Vice President.....Denise Dunne
Secretary.....Connie Mondel
TreasurerCarl Quinn

Trustees

2010	Betsy Braley	Charles Knauss
	Gerald DeBona	Richard Light
	Wendy Diskin	Sue Mugler
	Norma Edsall	Howard Reznikoff
	Rebecca Greer	

2011 Robert Herron
Sharon Koomler
Marlene Murdock

2012 Robert Kleinberg
Lynne O'Connell

Special Advisor to the Board Robert Herron

Newsletter Editor

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Stamp

Mailing
Label