



# Historically Speaking

VOLUME 2

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No. 2

## A LOOK AT THE WADDINGTON BUSINESS COMMUNITY IN THE LATE 1800'S

In the July 14, 1888, edition of the Gouverneur Northern Tribune weekly newspaper, there was an article written about Waddington that described the potential that still existed here even through there had been some recent set backs. It also painted a picture of what our businesses provided for the community and surrounding area to help make us fairly self-sufficient at the time.

### WADDINGTON: HER PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

Waddington is situated on the bank of what was once the South channel of the St. Lawrence and opposite Ogdens Island, about twenty miles below Ogdensburg. The village was settled about the year 1800 and at present numbers a population of 800 inhabitants, among whom are scattered a large number of Irish and Canadian. Possessed of an almost unlimited water power found by damming the South channel of the mighty St. Lawrence with its permanent, even water flow.

Many manufacturing concerns have been induced to locate here and in their day have prospered, among which may be mentioned the extensive paper mill owned and operated by Judge James, of Ogdensburg. This is an extensive concern, employing many hands. Part of this extensive building was destroyed by fire a few years ago and since Mr. James' death has gone entirely to decay. Eight or nine Lefell water wheels which cost from \$700 to \$1200 each, iron shafting and machinery to the value of many thousand dollars: even building in good condition with machinery, gearing and power which might be attached and put in operation at a nominal cost with certain profit, are not only idle but fast going to decay.

A saw mill ready to receive the logs to be converted into lumber: a carding mill with its costly machinery: a spoke factory, and sash, door and blind factory, a tannery, etc. Each of these is directly connected with this mammoth water power and are not limited in quantity to be used, each and all with their flumes already built, water wheels in position, requiring but little expense to again set busy industries in successful operation with a navigable river at the door of their shops, open for traffic eight months of the year, and less than two miles to the Grand Trunk railway of Canada, within ten miles of the O. & L. C. railway. Surely Waddington might be worse situated for commerce. Waddington presents today, a grand field for the enterprising capitalist. Nor would we convey the impression that this grand water power is entirely idle.

Two flouring mills are in successful operation, owned by T. J. Proctor. The Proctor mill is being remodeled and the roller process will be in operation about the first of August. W. L. McDowell has in operation a sash, door and blind factory, employs five men and is doing a good business with the latest improved machinery. W. L. Forsyth improves the water power in turning his blacksmith machinery; he does all kinds of black smithing and makes a specialty of mill picks and edged tools, in which he excels. Nash Brothers, machinists are building a marine and stationary engines, are skilled mechanics and competent to do the finest work and have the best facilities for doing it. John Myett, foundry man, is prepared to do anything in that line with cranes for swinging castings, weighing many tons and a life long experience in the business. He is a necessary fixture to the place.

A shingle mill and several other small shops are in operation and utilizing the water power, but the above mentioned are the principal ones.

This story is continued on Page 2



### TWO VIEWS OF MAIN STREET

The bottom photo was taken around 1913. The top one is an earlier photo of Main Street and while we aren't quite sure about the year, there are several differences.

SEE HOW MANY DIFFERENCES YOU CAN PICK OUT.



## WADDINGTON: HER PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE CONTINUED

Among the skilled mechanics not using the water power may be mentioned: M.I. Martin, blacksmith, horse-shoer and general repairer: established 1878. C.W. Hanes, general blacksmithing and repairing. Mr. Hanes has recently purchased the right to manufacture and sell the new iron fire escape ladder for hotels and public buildings.

Among the representative business men of Waddington, T. Martin & Son are perhaps the most conspicuous. The senior Mr. T. Martin has been in business here, nearly fifty years. Their large, double store occupies three floors, is well stocked with a fine grade of goods. Their custom tailor department, especially in quality of goods, is a credit to the place. Bower Bros. druggist and manufacturing chemists, established 1880, drugs, patent medicines, paints and oils, stationery and groceries, fishing tackle, etc. J.T. Hargrave, established 1885, drugs, patent medicines, paints, oils and varnishes, stationery and school supplies, plush good, etc. W.A. Daniels, established 1876, drugs, paints and oils, books and stationery, groceries. McDowell & Cole, groceries, hardware, silverware, formerly H. B. and L J. Proctor, under which name the business was established in 1856. Geo. R. Wright, hardware, stoves and agricultural implements, makes a specialty of furnaces for private dwellings, established more than 30 years, a native of Waddington and a sound business man.

L. S. Wright, jeweler, one of the pioneers of Waddington, resident 62 years, is possessed of wonderful vitality with steady nerve, a crack shot and can hit the bullseye nearly every time. He relates with zest many "hair breadth" exploits of the early days in the forest and on the water, at one time running the Lachine rapids with Frank Fenton in a birch canoe,

being capsized and immersed several times during the descent.

Joseph McDowell, dealer in fresh and salt meats, fish and oysters in season, a native of Waddington, established over 20 years. Chas. E. Clark, Jr., baker and confectioner. a native of Waddington, established the present year, keeps a wagon on the road. Miss Minnie E. Murphy, Waddington's fashionable milliner, will close her shop for the season about July 10, to reopen about Sept. 1. Joseph Graves, Waddington's courteous and obliging postmaster, is one of the old landmarks of the place. He is a shoemaker by trade, in which capacity he has lived in Montreal and other Canadian cities.

The above represent the conspicuously enterprising business men of Waddington. There are two first-class hotels. The Clark House, which has just received a fresh coat of paint, and is kept by Mr. Phelps, a genial gentleman and model landlord: and the Taylor House, which is also a nicely kept hostelry.

Directly opposite the village of Waddington lies Ogden's Island, containing about 900 acres, of which Mr. Crapser owns the larger portion. He is one of St. Lawrence's substantial citizens. His farm buildings are models of convenience. He runs a creamery on the island, which turns out 700 to 1,000 lbs. of gilt edge butter daily. His residence is an imposing structure commanding a fine view of the river and village. Mr. Crapser is a man of great means and whatever he does is well done. With due regard for the Sabbath, no butter is made on that day, but the cream is held over until Monday. Mr. Crapser is assisted in the management of his extensive estate by his sons, the older of whom has just returned from a southern trip.

## UPCOMING WHA EVENTS

*Be Sure to Mark Your Calendars...*

*Your Support is Appreciated*

The Waddington Historical Association Presents a



# FIRST SUNDAY'S Concert Series

## at St. Paul's

on Lincoln Avenue in Waddington

### 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

JOIN US FOR THIS SPRING/FALL 2023 CONCERT SERIES  
DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF MRS. RUTH BRADY


*A 'Mix of Musical Genres' with a 'Touch of Waddington History'*

+ APRIL 2	CARRIAGE HOUSE STRING QUARTET	All Concerts are Free to the Public
^ MAY 7	MICROBURST	
JUNE 4	MWCS SINGERS & JOSH BARKLEY	
^ OCTOBER 1	STEELIN' COUNTRY	
^ NOVEMBER 5	STRING SOLSTICE	
DECEMBER 3	CHRISTMAS CONCERT	

Donations  
will be  
accepted

+ Concert sponsor - Cindy Brady  
\* Concert is made possible with funds from the statewide Community Re grants Program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts, with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature, and administered by the St. Lawrence County Arts Council.

# CITIZEN'S BALL 2023



The Waddington Historical Association  
requests the  
pleasure of your company at their  
First Annual Citizen's Ball Fundraiser  
in the Town Hall, Waddington, N.Y.  
Saturday evening, May 27th, 2023  
9:00 PM - 1:00 AM

Attire - Formal  
Music - DJ Josh Barkley

Dancing - Appetizers - Photo Booth  
Silent Auction - Donation Beverage Table

Tickets: \$20 donation per person  
Pre-sale tickets available at: Main Street Perc,  
Waddington Hardware, Hepburn Library, Seaway Smokehouse,  
Massena Savings & Loan, Waddington Village Office, or by  
contacting us by email: [info@waddingtonhistory.com](mailto:info@waddingtonhistory.com)

## “HELEN SHARED HER STORY”

IN 2020, SEVERAL OLDER RESIDENTS OF WADDINGTON VOLUNTEERED TO BE PART OF A PROJECT UNDERTAKEN BY THE WADDINGTON HEPBURN LIBRARY ENTITLED “BEFORE THE SEAWAY: STORIES FROM PEOPLE WHO SAW THE WATER RISE.” PEOPLE IN AND AROUND WADDINGTON WERE ASKED TO SHARE THEIR MEMORIES OF LIFE BEFORE THE SEAWAY. WE ARE GRATEFUL TO ANNE JOHNSON RITZKO FOR SHARING THIS PROJECT.

The story that follows is an interview conducted with **Helen (Martin) Mitras** where she describes her story of “growing up in Waddington”. Helen passed away in December 2022.

I was born October 13, 1934, at my grandparent's home on Fenton St. in Waddington. I was the 3<sup>rd</sup> child born to Mae (Barkley) and Seymour Martin and the last of their marriage. Mom and Dad lived on Stearns St. in Massena, where he worked at Alcoa as a Supervisor. They had married in December 1926 at the Scotch Presbyterian Manse. Mom was 17 ½, a senior in high school, but Dad swept her off her feet and they married shortly after they met. My brother, Donald Mark, was born on December 19, 1927, and my sister, Doris Ellen was born February 19, 1930.

October 13<sup>th</sup> was a Saturday. Mom, Dad, and children had come to Waddington where Mom stayed to visit her parents. My father and Don and Doris went out to the Martin farm to visit his family. My grandparents were harvesting their root vegetables from the garden and Mom was helping. When they stopped for lunch at noon, Mom started labor pains. My grandfather rushed to get the doctor, but my grandmother delivered me at 12:30 pm. They said I weighed about 9 pounds and had rickets, a large hole in my chest. I was sickly as a baby.

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In 1936, my Uncle Phil Kennedy took a job at the Letchworth State Hospital in Thiells, NY. After he settled, he sent for my Aunt Helen and daughter Phyllis. My father volunteered to drive them down. He never stopped to rest after the trip and turned around and came home. Shortly afterwards, he took sick with lumbar pneumonia. I also was sick. The doctor came to the house. He told Mom that Seymour would be fine, but had no hopes for her little girl. My dad died Sept. 9, 1936 and as I write this I am 81 years old. Mom lost everything – there was no Social Security yet. Dad had a small life insurance policy, but not enough for long. We moved back to Waddington with our grandparents. Mom finally got a job at Art Conaugh's grocery store and my grandmother took care of me. By this time Don and Doris were in school. My first memories were of my grandfather rocking me and watching for Mom to come home from work. Also he took me down to Beanie Campbell's for ice cream.



Beanie Campbell's Ice Cream Parlor and Lunch Room was located where the Borderlife Retreat stands today (former H.A. Rogers Insurance). On the right is Heverly's IGA. Today it's the location for Main Street Perc's Ice Cream Stand.

When I was 4 ½ (1939), the whole family went over to Morrisburg, Canada, on the ferry. Two of Grandma's brothers lived there. We stood on Uncle Bill's lawn and saw the King and Queen of England stop on a train. King George and Queen Elizabeth were greeted by a huge crowd. Their two daughters were there too.

In September of 1939 my mother convinced the principal of the school to let me start first grade. My grandmother was having trouble keeping me at home. On Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> everyone went to church but Grandpa and I. We sat on the front porch when he was too sick. I tried to help him up the stairs to the bedroom. He had had a stroke and died. My mother and grandmother would be faced with money problems. After a lot of planning and deciding what to do, Mom got a job down by Aunt Helen at the State Hospital and we moved to Thiells and lived with the Kennedys.

There was a house full in Thiells. The school we went to was a one-room school on the side of a mountain. The Methodist church we went to was at the base of the mountain. Everything went well until all three of us kids got scarletina. Doris and Don recuperated all right, but I was left with an ear problem. They operated and did mastoid surgery that didn't heal, so they took my tonsils and adenoids out. I was upset, because they put me in a big crib – after all I was a big girl by then! After I got better and went back for a checkup to Dr. Helman, he asked me if I could hear all right and I said no. He whispered in my ear "would you like a nickel?" and suddenly I was all better.

It had been a discouraging move for Mom and Grandma and before the school year ended we came back to Waddington. I had missed a lot of school, but they put me in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. I had mostly boys to play with. Frank McDowell turned out to be one friend that lasted until he died several years ago. His mom had an old couch and the two of us would fly to the moon. Who knew that would eventually come true! We went all the way through school together and I was valedictorian and he salutatorian when we graduated.

Mom got a job at Campbell's IGA store and worked there until 1946. World War II came with rationing. Pine Camp (now Fort Drum) sent troops to Waddington for maneuvers, the Red and the Blue teams. It was kind of exciting. And who could forget the Ice Storm of '41! No school for a week!

Our lives were simple, but memorable. They centered around the Methodist Church. My grandmother was Treasurer for years and Mom sang in the choir. Viola Rookey who lived next door was the organist and she and Mom would sing duets. I joined the church when I was 9 years old and was active in Youth Fellowship, Sunday school, and helping with younger children.

We became Methodists by chance. My grandparents had been Lutheran in Canada, but Waddington did not have a Lutheran church. She and Grandpa got in the buggy and said the church that had a place to tie up the horses would be where they'd go – it was the Methodist Church. Years later, I found out my father had been baptized in the Methodist Church in 1908.

The Connors family came to live across from us on Fenton St. in the early 40's. Mrs. Connors was a widow



with three boys, Joe, Artie and Tommy. Artie was the one I liked but he got me in trouble. He told me to swear at Mary McGinn who lived on the corner and I did not know what I said was swear words as I had never heard them. Well, Mary told Mom and I was punished and I was not to play with Artie any more. My grandmother locked the screen door on the porch so I couldn't get out. Needless to say Artie brought some kind of tool over to cut the screen and I got out. It wasn't long after that they moved over on Lincoln Ave. across from the Methodist Church (the 4-star house). Mom and Grandma were relieved. Before they left, Tommy and I walked downtown to the movie theater. Lloyd Bashaw ran the theater. He let us come in and watch the cartoons and then sent us home! The Bakers moved to our street about 1944 and had a daughter Betty who was my age. I finally got to play with a girl! In August of 1946, I was invited to her grandparents' home in Morristown. While there, we decided to go on the ferry to Brockville, Canada. Half way over, we heard horns blowing and sirens going off. When we landed in Brockville, people were dancing in the streets! It was V-J Day, the end of World War II. It was exciting for us to see.

The 1940's were busy times. Mom worked at Campbell's grocery store. Don had a paper route and worked on farms in the summer. In the winter they let the older teenage boys cut ice on the river for storage. One year in the summer, he went up in the Adirondacks fighting wild fires. He graduated in 1945 and went into the army, eventually stationed in Nuremberg when the Nazi trials were on. Doris worked for different families doing housework and babysitting. In her high school years, she went up to Loon Lake and Lake Placid and worked as a chamber maid. In Lake Placid one year she had Kate Smith to take care of. Kate gave her a \$10 tip in the end, a lot of money for the 1940's. Doris graduated in 1947, went down to Thiells, worked at the Letchworth State Hospital and married Jim Mackey.

I have wonderful memories of going to school in Waddington. I cannot remember my 1st and 2nd grade teacher. Louise Murphy taught 3rd and 4th. She was a strict teacher, but almost everyone come out of her class with beautiful penmanship. Miss Rutherford taught 5th grade and we had Miss Kinney (Mrs. Baker) for the 6th grade. I joined the Scouts somewhere around 1944 and stayed with them until I graduated.

In 1946 my mother married Art Henry. We left Fenton St. and moved to the so-called "Church Farm". It was given to the Methodist Church and it could never be sold. The Town beach is on the old "Church Farm". Art farmed it for one year and then he and Mom bought the Whalen farm where I lived until I graduated. Recently (2016) a Dollar General has been built on the old Whalen farm.

I wasn't quite 13 when I went into high school. High school was a great four years. I was fortunate to be selected for a cheerleader and I played trombone in the band and sang in the chorus. I continued in Girl Scouts and was able to go to camp in the summer. Through the church I went to Camp Aldersgate on Brantingham Lake for two years. I took college entrance subjects and did fairly well. I ended up the valedictorian

My brother Jerry was born in 1949 just before I started my junior year. I took care of him quite a bit and also worked carrying milk and driving tractor on the farm. In

my senior year, Mr. Yolton and the music teacher formed a band and I played the piano. We played for dances and I made a little money. I used to babysit. That was before TV, so nights were long waiting for parents to get home.

My best friend all those years and ever since was my cousin Ellyn. Pat Rudkoff was also a good friend. Beverly Salton was a special friend but her life was cut short in early 1964 when she and her oldest son were killed in a car accident. Her two younger sons survived only to lose their father the next year. Leila Salton was also a good friend. Grace Pike and Lee Nugent were cheerleaders with me and we shared good times at the ballgames. Jen Styles was also in my class and Helen Carr would have graduated with us, but she quit and married. She was with us on our class trip to Montreal. Mr. and Mrs. Skinner and Miss Janack were our chaperones.

Just before graduation and our prom, Curtis Unger was killed in a car accident. It really put a damper on an otherwise happy time. We had six boys in our class. Charlie Sharp whose family sold their farm and Charlie delivered milk in Ogdensburg for years. John Badger came to Waddington when he was in high school. I started school with Roger McMillan, Frank McDowell, and Joe Zagrobelny and Bill Yolton came shortly afterwards. The only one still alive (2016) is Bill Yolton.

I was accepted at Potsdam State with plans on being a teacher. My principal, Mr. Clark's parents ran the cafeteria at the school and I was offered a job to help pay for my room and board. But that summer in 1951, we had a fire at the farm, destroying the large barn. Mom said they were unable to help me, but they did send me to Miss Wallace's Secretarial School in Ogdensburg. I was offered a job at WMSA in Massena when I graduated from business school at \$32.50 a week. I stayed at home and rode to work with Bobby McMillan. I turned 18 in October and took a test at Alcoa and was hired. I met my husband, Gib Mitras in 1952 and we were married on Mar. 28, 1953. We were married for 64 years when he passed in August 2017.

My church, the Methodist, made a big impression on me growing up. With the blue law and no sports on Sunday, the Sabbath was going to church and being together with family. My sister Doris and I often say we were blessed to grow up in Waddington at the time we did. We were in the midst of World War II. Pine Camp, now Fort Drum, had maneuvers in Waddington, the A and B teams. My sister took turns manning the tower at the end of Main St. watching for planes. Decoration Day, now Memorial Day, we paid tribute to our veterans and the men serving. The Legion, Fire Dept., and the Waddington Band marched out to the old cemetery by the creek for the service. The younger children were all given flags and marched behind them.

The river has always been the greatest asset to our village and town. The ferry from Waddington to Morrisburg with Dry Island was also where the Customs landing was. Swimming at "Black Jack" (you passed your swimming lessons by swimming to the Island), the cutting of ice in the winter for storage for the homes who had ice boxes, are all fond memories. Everything was in shambles during the Seaway. Our beautiful little town suffered. But as the years went by, the Power Authority has made many contributions to make our village beautiful again.

**TO OUR MEMBERS...**

Please enjoy our quarterly newsletter publication. It's our way of sharing historical and current information with those of you who have purchased annual memberships. In addition to the quarterly newsletters, members also receive early notice of upcoming events, and an invitation to our Annual Fall Gathering to Celebrate Waddington History.

**WHA'S MISSION: "TO BE THE CARETAKERS OF OUR COMMUNITY'S HISTORY FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS"**

**EMAIL:**

[info@waddingtonhistory.com](mailto:info@waddingtonhistory.com)

**WEBSITE:**

[www.waddingtonhistory.com](http://www.waddingtonhistory.com)

**PHONE:**

315-388-3041 (Leave message)

**FACEBOOK PAGE:**

The Waddington Museum and the WHA share a Facebook Page. Page Editor: Mary Hamilton  
Page Administrators: Kathy Putney and Mary Hamilton  
<https://www.facebook.com/WaddingtonMuseumandWHA>

**MAILING ADDRESS FOR WHA AND HISTORIAN/MUSEUM**

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Waddington, NY 13694

**HISTORIAN & MUSEUM DIRECTOR:**

Kathy (Badlam) Putney  
Town Hall Museum is open by appointment. Call: 315-388-3041

Email: [waddhistorian@gmail.com](mailto:waddhistorian@gmail.com)

**WHA BOARD MEMBERS:**

Mary (Badlam) Hamilton, President  
MaryAnne Martin, Vice-President  
Mary Brady, Secretary  
Katherine (Paradis) Hayes, Treasurer  
Sue (Hunter) Parisian, Katelyn (Bernard) Osoway, James Miller

**WHA COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Bobbie Davis, Patty VanPatten, Ashlee Dumas, Mary Loomis, April Sharlow, Tracey Putney, Jean Dennison, Linda Henry

**WHA MEETINGS:** 4th Tuesdays

Old Town Hall Upstairs Room  
Email for more info:  
[info@waddingtonhistory.com](mailto:info@waddingtonhistory.com)

**MESSAGE FROM THE WHA PRESIDENT**

Mary (Badlam) Hamilton

**2023 IS OFF TO A GREAT START!**

Our 2023 events started with the **Easter Egg Hunt** on April 1st on the Main Street four corners, using both the lawn at the Town Hall and the lawn across the street at the gazebo. We had lots of eager children in three age groups hunting for eggs to fill their baskets. The finders of the six golden eggs were presented with a basket of Easter goodies and a Family Membership to the WHA. The Easter Egg hunters also took time to stop by the gazebo where they found the Easter Bunny waiting to take a photo with them.

The very next day saw the start of our **First Sunday's Concert Series at St. Paul's** with the **Carriage House String Quartet** from Potsdam showing us just how amazing the acoustics are in the church. They entertained the crowd with a variety of music from Bach to Fleetwood Mac. It was a wonderful start to the series that is being dedicated to the memory of Mrs. Ruth Brady, a former Museum Board member who left us unexpectedly last year. The concerts are free to the public and any donations will go toward future performances. The WHA made cushions for the church seats to make them comfortable for concert goers. The next concert is **Sunday, May 7th** when **Microburst** will entertain with a mix of country, folk and rock music. The **June 4th** concert will feature **MWCS Students and the talented Josh Barkley**.

Excitement is growing for our upcoming fundraiser and brand new event. Join us for **Citizens Ball 2023** on **Saturday evening, May 27** at the old Town Hall from 9:00PM-1:00AM. Attire is formal meaning "tuxes, suits, dress shirts and ties are all welcome as are dresses and dressy pantsuits or wedding/prom formal attire". DJ Josh Barkley will provide the music. The night also includes a silent auction, photo booth, refreshments and a donation beverage table. Tickets are \$20 and are on sale at six locations around town. These are listed on the informational flyer found on Page 2.

We are working with the Madrid Historical Association and the MWCS elementary school to enhance the **Memorial/Decoration Day** tribute that we started last year. The goal is to involve more school aged-children and have them participate in the parade on **May 29th** and carry flowers to the cemetery. We will be sharing information with them on how Decoration Day started and the importance of honoring the veterans buried in our cemeteries.

On **Saturday, June 3rd** the WHA will attend the **Dedication of the Pomeroy Foundation Patriot Burial Marker** at 10 AM at the **Union Cemetery** located at the corner of County Routes 28A and 37A. It will honor three of Waddington's Revolutionary War veterans buried there. Tracey Putney has worked hard to organize work parties to clean the cemetery and make arrangements for the ceremony. The following **Saturday, June 10th**, WHA Educational coordinator Bobbie Davis will conduct a **Union Cemetery Tour** at 10 AM that will provide information about those buried there and their connections to Waddington's early history. The Tour is free to the public.

We are looking forward to helping Waddington Historian Kathy Putney with the upcoming **Golden Agers Luncheon** on **Thursday, August 3rd**, from 11:00 AM-2:00 PM at St. Mary's Parish Hall on Lincoln Avenue. It's been 34 years since the first luncheon was held and we are glad to see it being planned once more. This age group has so many memories of Waddington before the Seaway and it will be great to hear them. Read more information about this event in the Historian's Corner on Page 6.

We have a great group of members and volunteers who are responsible for our success. We can always use more volunteers to help with events. If you or someone you know is interested, email us: [info@waddingtonhistory.com](mailto:info@waddingtonhistory.com) or text: 315-486-4794. We appreciate anything you can do to help us promote the WHA, the Waddington Museum and Waddington's history. Follow/Like/Share our Facebook page (Waddington Museum and Historical Association) and Visit our website at [www.waddingtonhistory.com](http://www.waddingtonhistory.com).



# THE HISTORIAN'S CORNER

By Kathy Putney

As we continue to dig through all the files and boxes we have stored in the temporary Town Hall Museum, I look forward to creating and sharing new exhibits with the public. Starting May 10th, the **new museum hours will be Wednesdays 2:00-5:00 pm and Saturdays 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.** I can be reached at 315-388-3041 or email me at: [waddhistorian@gmail.com](mailto:waddhistorian@gmail.com) for questions or for those needing special arrangements. We have lots of exciting events planned for 2023, please come out and learn more about the history of our wonderful community.

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Thirty-four years ago the Village of Waddington was celebrating the 150th anniversary of its incorporation. Part of the celebration held during the 1989 Homecoming Weekend included a "Pioneer Luncheon" honoring those who were 80 years and older and currently lived in Waddington or grew up here and had memories to share.

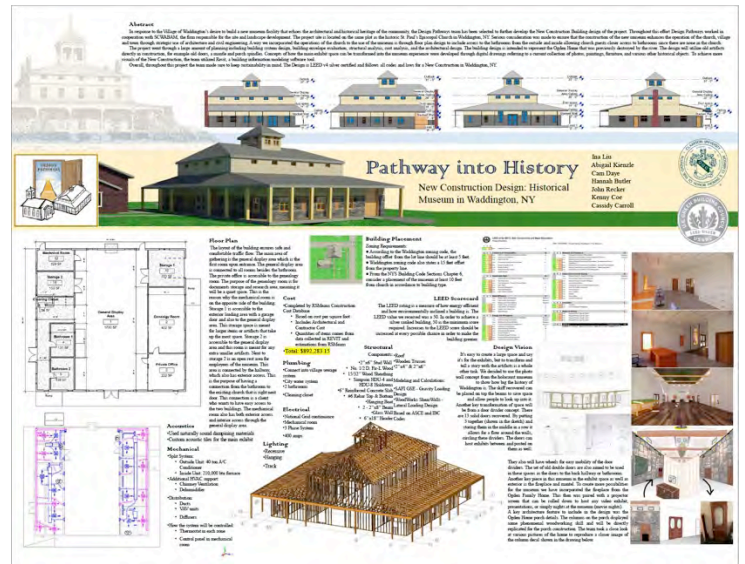
The Historian and the Waddington Historical Association would like to see the event repeated and plans are underway for the "**Golden Agers Luncheon**". The date and time for the luncheon have been chosen: **Thursday, August 3, 2023 from 11:00 am-2:00 pm.** We are working on details to again have the event at **St. Mary's Parish Hall** and will have details finalized by the next newsletter. The churches in the community have been asked to help prepare and staff the event as they did for the first one.

If you know anyone who is 80 years or older and currently lives in Waddington or grew up here and moved away who might be interested in attending our Aug. 3rd event, please let Kathy know by email: [waddhistorian@gmail.com](mailto:waddhistorian@gmail.com) or by calling her at 315-854-0071. You can also let a WHA member know. A form will be sent to them to fill out and share a memory of Waddington that will be included in the tribute booklet we are making for each attendee. Your help is appreciated.

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The past six months have been filled with meetings with Clarkson University engineering students. They have continued to work on potential plans and design for the new Waddington Public Museum that was started during last fall's semester. I was very impressed with the amount of work they put into this project and I know it will be very beneficial to plans the village has for the long term.

A small group representing the strategic planning committee starting meeting with students last September to discuss concepts and ideas to help them understand our vision for a unique museum to house Waddington's historical collections. They took these ideas and used their skills in design and function to create plans, all the while keeping cost and curb appeal in mind. Initially there were four teams under the direction of Professor Erik Backus, Construction Engineering Management Program Director at Clarkson. Over the two semesters we eventually picked the team with the design closest to our vision. The second-place design team switched gears and focused on a landscaping and drainage plan for the property.



Being able to work with these amazing students has been very rewarding. Not only are they helping us by doing the preliminary design work, but we are helping them by providing real hands-on experience. We hope the Waddington community will embrace the ideas and we look forward to sharing them with everyone.



In other news, we have spent the past year cleaning out the old rectory of St. Paul's Church and now that the asbestos abatement is complete, it will soon be demolished to make way for the new museum on the corner of Lincoln Avenue (Rt. 37) and Fenton Street. The old Moore Museum house was sold last fall along with the red house (newer St. Paul's Church rectory) at 34 Fenton Street. The money obtained from the sale of these two properties will go towards the asbestos abatement.

With the help of the Waddington Historical Association, available grants and fundraising, St. Paul's Church will continue to be repaired and restored to serve as a community event venue for years to come. The church was started in 1808 and finished in 1818 with the help of our founding fathers, the Ogden's. That makes it one of the oldest and most important buildings in our community, providing good reasons for maintaining it. We have a very dedicated group of volunteers who have accomplished a lot in the past year. We look forward to having many more join us in helping to fund and preserve Waddington history.

Thank You...

FOR CARING ABOUT WADDINGTON'S RICH HISTORY!

By purchasing or renewing an annual membership, your generous donations allow us to support the Waddington Museum and Historian's efforts to maintain and update collections as well as help with restoration and maintenance projects at St. Paul's, one of the oldest buildings in the Village and the oldest church building north of the Mohawk Valley.

WADDINGTON



THE "LITTLE" TOWN WITH A "BIG" HISTORY

Waddington has a rich and amazing history that dates back to the late 1700's. The Mission of the WADDINGTON HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION (WHA) is to be "Caretakers of our Community's History for Present and Future Generations"

HELP KEEP OUR HISTORY ALIVE. BECOME A SUPPORTER. PURCHASE AN ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP.

There is NO obligation to attend meetings but if you have an interest and extra time, we can always use help at our events.

YOUR FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION supports the Waddington Historian and Public Museum, sponsors and develops programs and events, helps acquire and organize collections, preserves museum properties, and produces educational materials and exhibits that promote our community's heritage."

Memberships include an invitation to the annual Fall Celebration of History event, copies of the quarterly newsletter "Historically Speaking", and advance notice of upcoming events. You can pay with check, cash or credit card. Our website accepts online payments at: www.waddingtonhistory.com

Print and complete the form below. Make checks payable to: Waddington Historical Association Mail the form below and your check to:

WADDINGTON HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION PO Box 221 Waddington, NY 13694

Need additional information or have questions? Email: info@waddingtonhistory.com or Call: 315-388-3041

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION: (We do not share member email or mailing address lists with any other organizations.)

Name (Please Print your name as you would like it to appear on the membership card)

Mailing Address

City State Zip code

Email Address Phone

Please check the membership level you are interested in:

- \$12 Junior (18 and under = \$1 a month) \$36 Family (= \$3 a month) \$24 Individual (= \$2 a month) \$60 Sponsor (= \$5 month) \$30 Couple (= \$2.50 a month) \$120 Patron (= \$10 month)

Note: The WHA is a 501c3 non-profit charitable organization allowing your contribution to be tax deductible. Check with tax advisor.

WE'VE MADE IT EASY TO PURCHASE OR RENEW AN ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP ONLINE...



SCAN THIS QR CODE OR VISIT WWW.WADDINGTONHISTORY.COM



The WHA is a 501c3 non-profit organization making your donations tax deductible.

WE HAVE A NEW WEBSITE: www.waddingtonhistory.com ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS ARE NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE!

EASY AS 1...2...3....

- GO To Website & Click On "JOIN TODAY" Choose Your Level of Support Complete Name & Credit Info

Memberships include a quarterly newsletter, early notification of events and an invitation to our annual Fall membership social.

There is NO obligation to attend our monthly meetings.

Your financial donations allow us to support the Waddington Museum and Historian and help preserve and maintain our town's historical collections.





# Waddington Historical Association 2023 Events Calendar

Concerts are free to the public. For more info: Follow/Like us on Facebook @ Waddington Museum and Historical Association and Visit our Website: [waddingtonhistory.com](http://waddingtonhistory.com)

# Upcoming Events

- May**  
**7**
- First Sunday's Concert**  
2:00-3:30 PM at St. Paul's on Lincoln Avenue  
Featuring "Microburst" - A dynamic duo playing a variety of music genres from folk to country to rock.
- May**  
**27**
- Citizen's Ball Fundraiser**  
9 PM - 1 AM at the Town Hall on Main Street  
Formal Dress - DJ Josh Barkley - \$20 donation per person  
Silent Auction - Photo Booth - Appetizers - Beverage Table
- May**  
**29**
- Memorial/Decoration Day Parade**  
10:30 - March in Memorial Day Parade  
Veterans Wall set up near St. Paul's Church  
Immediately following service, WHA marchers will decorate Veterans graves at Brookside cemetery
- June**  
**4**
- First Sunday's Concert**  
2:00-3:30 PM at St. Paul's on Lincoln Avenue  
Featuring "MWCS Singers and Josh Barkley"  
Josh will also perform on the church's Marklove Organ
- June**  
**10**
- Union Cemetery Tour**  
10:00 AM at Union Cemetery, Hanlon Road  
Join WHA member Bobbie Davis as she talks about the connections those who are buried there have to Waddington's early history. Tour is free to the public.
- July**  
**19**
- "Painting with Patty" Fundraiser**  
6:30 PM at the Island View Park Pavillion  
Join local artist Patty VanPatten as she brings out the artist in you. Supplies provided. Donation: \$25
- August**  
**3**
- Golden Agers Luncheon**  
11 AM-2 PM at St. Mary's Parish Hall on Lincoln Ave.  
Honoring Residents and those with Waddington roots who are 80 years and older. Contact Historian Kathy Putney for more information: [waddhistorian@gmail.com](mailto:waddhistorian@gmail.com) or 315-388-3041
- August**  
**5**
- Homecoming Quilt Show**  
10 AM-2 PM at St. Paul's on Lincoln Avenue  
Featuring a church filled with amazing pieces of artwork in the form of Quilts of all types. Admission is free.
- October**  
**1**
- First Sunday's Concert**  
2:00-3:30 PM at St. Paul's on Lincoln Avenue  
The "Steelin' Country" band, a local favorite, will entertain us with the 'authentic' sounds of country.
- October**  
**22**
- Fall Celebration of History**  
2:00-3:30 PM at the Town Hall on Main Street  
Join us as we celebrate pieces of Waddington's rich history. Free to members and the public.
- November**  
**5**
- First Sunday's Concert**  
2:00-3:30 PM at St. Paul's on Lincoln Avenue  
Featuring the "String Solstice" group who play an eclectic mix of soft rock and alternative music.
- December**  
**3**
- First Sunday's Concert**  
2:00-3:30 PM at St. Paul's on Lincoln Avenue  
Our Christmas Concert featuring a wonderful blend of Sounds of the Season.

May, October and November concerts are made possible with funds from the statewide Community Re-grants Program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts, with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature, and administered by the St. Lawrence County Arts Council.



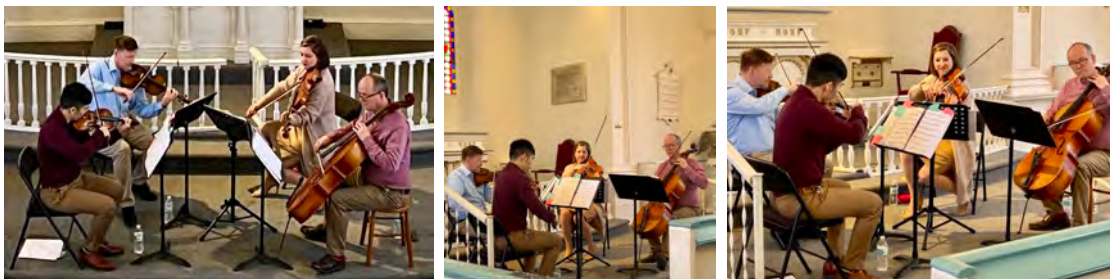
**Waddington Historical  
Association  
PO Box 221  
Waddington, NY 13694**

**POSTAGE  
1 CENT**

## **CANDID PHOTOS FROM OUR LATEST EVENTS**



## **FIRST SUNDAYS CONCERT AT ST. PAUL'S**



**THE AMAZING  
CARRIAGE HOUSE  
STRING QUARTET  
FROM POTSDAM  
OPENED THE  
CONCERT SERIES  
ON APRIL 2ND.**