GREATER ONEONTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Preserving the Past for Oneonta's Future

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2015-2016

Major Exhibits

- Oneonta and the Civil War, Part II
- 183 Main Street: 150 Years of History
- Tony Mongillo: Oneonta & the Railroad
- From the Collections
- Oneonta & Aviation History

Smaller Exhibits and Window Displays

- Winter holiday exhibits & displays - train layouts, Bresee's Santa, dollhouse, nutcrackers, etc.
- Window display created by the Oneonta chapter of the DAR to celebrate Constitution Week

Programs and Events

- New York: A Collage of History with Susan Goodier
- Tri Valley Through Time with Marilyn Dufresne
- The Hop Farmer's Year with Al Bullard
- 183 Main: The Early Years with Tom Heitz
- Paint & Sip with Caitlin Cook-Wightman
- The First Karaoke Machine!? The History of the Player Piano & Popular American Music of the 20th Century with Tony Opalka
- Home Tour of 35 Ford, hosted by Irene Curley
- Walking Tour of Emmons Farms, hosted by Walter Haupt & the Emmons Farms Corporation

Awards Presented

- 2015 Hofbauer Outstanding Service Awards to Fiona Dejardin & Janet Potter
- 2015 Albert E. Morris Award to Chuck D'Imperio
- 2014-15 Sally Mullen awards to 4th grade students on the topic of Oneonta schoolhouses and 2015-16 awards to elementary school aged groups on the topic of Oneonta and aviation

Fund Raising Events

- 2015 Annual Appeal to members and friends of GOHS raised $13,640
- Goods and Services Benefit Auction - a record crowd raised a record $8,000+

- Annual Dinner at Toscana Northern Italian Grill
- GOHS 150: The campaign to raise money for the endowment began on April 4 and will continue through the calendar year, with 89 members to date donating $150 each.
- Postcard & Ephemera Show and Sale
- Bus trip to historic Auburn with Mike Long
- Grand and Glorious Garage Sale

Building Improvements

- The new elevator has been in use since passing inspection in November 2016.
- Seven collections rooms were completed on the second floor, supported in large part with $50,700 in state grants. Four of the rooms will house collections; the others a library, collections management office, and reading and resource room.
- Under the direction of Shelley Wallace, the collections were moved back to the History Center after an absence of more than two years.
- Walter Brown's Hardware, the third of the five murals that illustrate prior occupants of the History Center was installed in May as part of the "Windows in Time" Mural Project, with support from private donors and a grant from NYSCA

Collaborative Activities

- First Night venue
- Hosted NYCON's Leatherstocking Agency Executives' program on "Entrepreneurship & the Not-for-Profit: Creating Relevant & Sustainable Organizations", presented by Lynne Sessions & based on her *Case Studies in Cultural Entrepreneurship,* co-edited with Gretchen Sorin.
- Bob Brzozowski & Janice Downie talked about Homer Folks TB Hospital to 39 Hartwick nursing students and their instructors.
- GOHS continues to work with Oneonta Job Corps Academy on recognizing the OJCA campus' history as Homer Folks Tuberculosis Hospital
- Bob Brzozowski spoke to both Rotary and to the Susquehanna Valley Senior Citizens about GOHS and the building's history and to Rotary about Oneonta and aviation history.
- GOHS worked with Printigree on a collection of historic photos on permanent display in the lobby of the Oneonta branch of the Bank of Cooperstown
- The History Center was open for each of Destination Oneonta's Fabulous Fridays, with activities from the annual cakewalk to antique appraisals
- Tracking Oneonta History, with city historian Mark Simonson, Friends of the Swart-Wilcox House, Huntington Library, Oneonta Outlaws, Otsego County Chamber, & Otsego County Historical Association
- Hometown 4th of July/Red Caboose open
- GOHS produced five panels for the permanent display in the terminal lobby at the Oneonta Municipal Airport on Oneonta and its aviation history.
- In collaboration with Brett Masteller and several local singers, a CD of player piano music is in its final stages of production, funded by the Jackson Fenner Foundation

Accomplishments

- Thanks to a grant from the Corning Foundation, GOHS now has new laptop and desktop computers, a scanner, and related equipment.
- Bob Brzozowski & Hartwick College volunteer Megan Steely began a file of historic photos of Oneonta houses.
- 183 Main: 150 Years of History (https://animoto.com/play/JjwkpUSWN9BafsbADbdfhg), produced by Chad Smith & Bob Brzozowski, is an Animoto presentation celebrating the building's sesquicentennial with images from the first five major occupants and the sixth, the Oneonta History Center.
- GOHS now has a self-guided walking tour of historic Main Street in both print and mobile format, produced by Bob Brzozowski and funded by an Otsego County events grant. The print version can be downloaded at the GOHS website and the mobile version at www.OneontaTours.com.
- Ashley Watson was hired in August as the new Assistant Collections Manager.
- Funded by a grant from the New York Council of Nonprofits, the GOHS Board and staff is in the final stages of adopting a Strategic Plan for the next three to five years.

Always be up-to-date at www.OneontaHistory.org and www.Facebook.com/OneontaHistory

183 Main Street/PO Box 814, Oneonta, NY 13820 (607)432-0960 info@OneontaHistory.org

10/14/2016