CHARTER EDITION

ACHS Recorder

Allegany County Historical Society

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Local History Thrives

"Public Membership is Now Open!"

~From the Desk of Ronald G. Taylor, Society President~

"Public Membership is Now Open!" was declared at the recently held Organizational meeting of Allegany County Historical Society….the Society is now a corporation ready to function!

On April 20, 2010, the Board of Regents, New York State Education Department, revived the charter of an organization dating back to 1889 and which had dropped from view due to lack of support many years ago. With the newly appointed trustees actively forming the organization to meet today's requirements of a non-profit Society, the big question now is, "Where do we go from here?", said Ron Taylor, newly elected President.

The 5 Trustees newly appointed to organize and expand the Society in addition to Taylor are Leonard Watson, Mary Rhodes, Robert Dorsey & William Leilous. At the May 3rd Organizational meeting Craig Braack and James Euken were added to the Trustee list. The temporary office is at the historic "Brunswick Hotel Suites", 175 North Main Street, Wellsville.

"In 2003 I started my website for Local History & Genealogy (www.alleganycountynylocalhistory.com) and quickly found out just how much interest there really was regarding Allegany County history and genealogical research. My website is a volunteer venture mushrooming into a rather large local history site thanks to the support of many people who believed as I did that free sharing of information was important. Viewers of the website, for a large part, are located around the globe with roots to ancestors who lived in Allegany County, NY.

I discussed my ideas of a new Society with a few friends and a group of 5 met during the latter half of 2009 to start the wheel turning toward creating a public society with membership widely open to anyone with an interest in the purposes of the Society.

My original "Vision" statement which I voiced during our first meetings said,

> "The Allegany County Historical Society is an educational organization which interprets the history of Allegany County, New York, by accepting, collecting and preserving artifacts, operating a museum, conducting educational programs, publishing material on the county, and encouraging others to preserve and protect the history of the county."

> "Our constitution states, in part, that one of the purposes of this society is to "gather, preserve, display and make available for study genealogy information, manuscripts, papers relating to the genealogy of Allegany County."

"Another very important purpose is to foster mutual cooperation between all local historical societies, museums and historians within the borders of Allegany County so that the public may best observe artifacts, books, manuscripts, papers, photographs and other records and materials relating to the art, science & history of the Allegany County region within New York State. "

The formation of the "hub of the wheel" is now in place and the future requires the participation of all of the local Town Historians and the many wonderful Societies & Museums that presently exist and may be formed ahead. Together we can build a cooperative mission of helping each other toward "leaving our tracks in the sand" of Allegany County History.

I dispel any and all rumors or accusations that our Society is being formed to replace or eliminate any positions or societies. Just the opposite is true, that is, we are being formed to strengthen present societies & help Historians to do their job with more assistance and guidance. The guidelines of the Board of Regents require that we prepare to accept any and all historical buildings and sites that might be offered to the Society in one way or another…..wherever practical.

In summation, a Society of this type, as an "umbrella type foundation" can have the latitude to accept & oversee the development & preservation of many sites in the county that would otherwise become extinct and removed from the scene….such as many recently have done because nobody was poised to save them. We will also be in position to accept collections from any organization that must discontinue for any reason. Our County Government cannot and should not perform these functions.

The Society asks you for your help by support. Yes, giving dollars, property, contributions & collections, family genealogies, anything and everything that might help us to inspire the youth of tomorrow with the history of the past.

We are in our very desperate time of start-up. We are a 501 (c)(3) exempt organization and recognized by IRS as tax exempt. ***All donations are tax deductible*.** Please join the membership at the minimum Membership Individual fee of $20 and become a Charter Member. Our Charter Membership drive is going on now until November 30, 2010 and your $20 donation allows you to be a "paid member" until December 31, 2011. Please join us today and mail your membership application asap so that we might continue our work toward final formation.

All funds in excess of individual membership will also be appreciated and put to work for a good cause.

TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP:

Individual Active Voting Member -- $20.00; Spouse of Member, +$15.00.

Contributing & Sustaining Member, Voting -- $50+

Life Member, Voting -- $1000+

Family Group Members, Non-Voting -- $35.00

Institutional Members, Non-Voting -- $25.00

Below is an application form which you can fill out and mail with your donation. Thank you.

Sincerely,

ALLEGANY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Ronald G. Taylor, President

I hereby apply for membership to the Allegany County Historical Society as a CHARTER MEMBER during the current membership drive ending November 30, 2010.

This Charter Membership enrolls me as a Member in Good Standing Until the 31st of December, 2011.

My application is for the following:

__ Individual Active Voting Member -- $20.00; Spouse of Member, $15.00.

__ Contributing & Sustaining Member, Voting -- $50+

__ Life Member, Voting -- $1000+

__ Family Group Members, Non-Voting -- $35.00

__ Institutional Members, Non-Voting -- $25.00

SECTION 8 of ByLaws:

"Annual dues shall be payable in advance, and members in arrears more than six months after payment is due shall be dropped from membership."

Meetings 3rd Tuesday of each month.

MEMBER NAME:_____

Mailing Address:_____

_____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Mail this completed application to:

Allegany County Historical Society

P. O. Box 588

Wellsville, NY 14895