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# DUANESBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## Newsletter

Volume 6, Issue 2

September 2018

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### Directors' Message

The Duanesburg Historical Society was formed in 1944 for the purpose of the collection, preservation, and dissemination of our local history. As time passed, its members realized the value of having a facility to house and expand their collection of genealogies, historical records, and family and community photographs, histories of community organizations, personal interviews, and anecdotal records. That facility remained a long term goal for many years.

On August 20, 2018, we came together to remember and celebrate all of those who came before us, who nourished the dream of such a facility and by their careful planning have given this generation the opportunity to fulfill that dream

Therefore, the Duanesburg Historical Society's Archive and Research Center is dedicated to the generous and supportive past and present members of the Duanesburg Historical Society and residents of the Town of Duanesburg.

Leonard M. Van Buren - President

Shirley Martin - Vice- President

Howard Ohlhous - Treasurer

Marsha Brown - Secretary

Directors: Eamon Murphy, Cindy McKeon, Pat Van Buren, Carl Wiedemann, David Vincent

### Dedication of the Research and Archive Center



# Scenes From The Dedication

## Our New Flagpole



Lenny and Pat Van Buren address the audience



The Ribbon Cutting



Viewing Exhibits

DEDICATED TO THE  
ICABOD AND ABIGAIL LESTER WHITE FAMILY  
AND THE  
EARLY PIONEERS OF  
DUANESBURG  
GIVEN BY SUSAN LISS BIGGS - 2018



# News From 1918

This year marks the one hundredth anniversary of the end of the World War I, also known as the First World War. This global conflict originated in Europe and lasted from 1914 until November 11, 1918. The United States entered the war in 1917, mobilized over 4 million military personnel and suffered 110,000 deaths. Every community in the United States was affected in one way or another. Here is some of the local news from 1918 as reported in the Quaker Street Review.

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April 19<sup>th</sup> – A freight wreck on the D&H near Duane, Wednesday afternoon, prevented the running of through trains over the road for several hours. The “flyer” due here about 4:50, was sent back to Voorheesville and made its trip over the West Shore to South Schenectady, and then over the line of the D&H to Delanson.

May 10<sup>th</sup> – Delanson nearly tripled its allotment in the third Liberty Loan. Its quota was \$3,000 and \$8,500 was subscribed. Quaker Street bettered its quota of \$2,000 by \$900.



May 24<sup>th</sup> – Several of the Delanson people attended the Red Cross entertainment, “Somewhere in France” at Gallupville on Saturday night.

Sunday night was Red Cross night at the Methodist church. The members of the Red Cross attended in a body and Mr. Ferguson spoke in the interest of the Red Cross War fund.

A very enthusiastic Red Cross rally was held in the Methodist church on Tuesday evening. The members of the Quaker Street, Duaneburg and Delanson auxiliaries met at the post office and marched to the church in a body. Frank Crowther of the Schenectady Common Council delivered a stirring address which was enthusiastically received by the large crowd present.



June 14<sup>th</sup> – Cards have been received announcing the safe arrival in France of Corporal William S. Christman and Private Spencer Christman of the 105<sup>th</sup> U.S. Infantry. They are sons of Mr. and Mrs. W.W. Christman.

July 19<sup>th</sup> – One or more unknown persons have disfigured the D&H park at this place and have also cut a cable and pulled up flowers at the coal plant. Some of the letters which form the word “Delanson” in the park have been turned upside down.

November 15<sup>th</sup> – The residents of Delanson were awakened at 4:00 a.m. Monday when news of the signing of the armistice was received. Whistles blew, bells rang, and horns sounded. In the afternoon a picnic was held.

From the Altamont Enterprise April 26, 1918

## “If You’re Going to Get it You’ll Get it” - But Have a Smoke First

“If you’re going to get it you’ll get it,” is the grim philosophy of the boys at the front. Do not wonder that their “smokes” play a big part? You know how important a smoke is to you when you’re in suspense over something.

There’s been a lot of smoking material shortage at the front ever since the war began. A single package of cigarettes has been known to change hands between soldiers for a price as high as that of a box of your most expensive Perfection.

But this needn’t be the case much longer. It is easy now to send the boys plenty of “cigarettes” and “makins” to go around comfortably.

You may send them on directly through this newspaper. We are cooperating with this government, the French Government, and the Red Cross. Every twenty-five cents received through our Tobacco Fund purchases more than fifty cents worth of smoking material. Then the Tobacco Kit goes forward with a return postal card enclosed, stamped and addressed to the donor.

Following are the contributions to the Enterprise Tobacco Fund:

Evelyn C. White, Delanson .....	25
Bert Colliton, Delanson.....	50
Grace Colliton, Delanson.....	25
James Fairlee, Delanson .....	1.00
Miss Helen Van Deusen, Delanson.....	25
William M. Van Auken, Delanson.....	25
J.C. Gaige, Delanson .....	25
A. Larson, Duanesburg.....	1.00
William H. Wood, Delanson.....	50
Clarkson H. Wood, Delanson.....	25
George White, Delanson .....	25
Mrs. George White, Delanson .....	25

## Membership Application

Choose the membership that is right for you and enjoy the benefits of supporting your Historical Society. If you are not a current member we hope you will consider joining.

Annual Dues: \$10.00 Adults \$1.00 Students

From July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019

Lifetime Membership - \$150.00

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(optional – not shared)

Make Checks payable to: Duanesburg Historical Society  
PO Box 421  
Duanesburg, NY 12056

## Archives Now Open by Appointment

The Research and Archive Center is now available for use. It includes an office, archival storage, a research area and a bathroom. We have records related to genealogy and town history which will be of value if you are doing research. Contact us at [Duanesburghistorical.com](http://Duanesburghistorical.com). or call Pat Van Buren 518-895-2632

Reminder: our Fund Drive is still in progress. Consider supporting our community project. Check the Donate page on our website.

## 2018 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Programs are held at the Bishop Scully Hall -Our Lady of Fatima Church- Delanson at 7:00 PM the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month. No meetings are held in January or February.

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October 15	A Duanesburg Boyhood In the 1940's by Carol DeForest
November 19	My Grandfather Raymond Daniel Suits by Robert Starks
December 17	Music and Memories An Accordion Band & Sharing Early Xmas Memories plus Finger Food & Goodies

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## Remembering the Town of Duanesburg Volume 4

The telling of personal stories and the delving into the history of our community is an ongoing journey to understand those early settlers to the Town of Duanesburg and to appreciate the fabric of our community. We are all a part of that history and these authors have taken on the responsibility of gathering our history and setting it down in a meaningful format for future generations. The remembering, the researching, and the writing are personally satisfying. The reading is intriguing and thought provoking.

The Duanesburg Historical Society will debut their new book *Remembering the Town of Duanesburg Volume 4 – 2018* at “Meet the Authors” on Saturday October 13<sup>th</sup> from 1-3 at the Research and Archive Center, 450 Quaker Lane, hamlet of Quaker Street. Books are \$18.00. Volumes 1, 2, and 3 will also be available that day.

Books will be available at our monthly meetings, at the town hall or by ordering on line at [Duanesburghistorical.com](http://Duanesburghistorical.com). Add \$4.50 for Shipping and Handling. You may also call Pat Van Buren at 518-895-2632.

## Our Building Fund

Although the Research and Archive Center has been completed the Duanesburg Historical Society will continue its building fund. This is in anticipation of future needs related to maintenance and operation of the building and grounds.

Yes, I would like to join my neighbors in this effort to preserve the history of Duanesburg!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my tax deductible donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

-Or-

I would like to be recognized on a Benefactors' Plaque by contributing at the following level:

Platinum:

\$5,000+ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Gold: \$2,500 + \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Silver: \$1,000+ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Bronze: \$500+ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

And I wish to make this donation in memory/honor of:

\_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to:

Duanesburg Historical Society – Building Fund  
return with your donation to DHS, P. O. Box 421,  
Duanesburg, NY 12056

This is a 501(C)(3) tax deductible donation under Internal Revenue Codes.

Donations are eligible for GE Matching Gifts

