

THE DAVID EVANS GAZETTE

The Newsletter of the Town of Evans Historical Society

Published Quarterly.....January, 2018

The purpose of the society shall be to bring together those people interested in history, and especially in the history of the Town of Evans. The society's major function will be to discover and collect any material which may help establish or illustrate the history of the area. The society will provide for the preservation of such material and for its accessibility...

Program Notes

Programs scheduled for the following months:

Monday, February, 26, 'Ice Volcanoes', presented by David McQuay. Mr. McQuay, from the NYS Parks System, will explain the various ice formations that are created along Lake Erie during the winter months.

Monday, March 26, 'Revisiting the Angola Horror' presented by Caryl Youngers. Once again the program will highlight the train wreck in 1867. Additional information that may not have been included in previous programs will be presented.

All programs are held at the School House Museum beginning at 7:00 pm

President's Message

2018, another year to make and record history. Each year we create memories that become history within our families - some big, some small, some good and bad. And sometimes they impact our larger world.

A historical society helps define who we are as a community. In our small town it records our path as we cope with tragedies and celebrate triumphs. We attempt to educate people in entertaining ways through exhibits and speakers.

We are in the process of putting our history 'on line' so it can be accessed from near and far. We have a number of genealogies submitted by Evans residents that hopefully will be accessible far into the future. We are still accepting family histories.

As we welcome two new board members, Charlotte Moss and Rick LaClair, we thank Mary Kaiser and Edie Anderson for their service – and special kudos to our new president Giff Swyers.

Welcome New Members

Bryan Green Vinnie Cala

Recent Acquisition at the Museum

Very old picture of the homes at Iroquois Beach. Donated by Sally Schooley

Museum Spared Again



Every few years Big Sister Creek located next the museum reeks havoc during the cold winter months. The start of 2018 was no exception. After several weeks of single digit temperatures the creek was frozen completely over until a quick warm spell with rain arrived on January 11. As the ice broke up and flowed toward Lake Erie it jammed in the meandering stream beyond Route 5. Water backed up and surrounded the museum and left large ice chunks around the yard and on the nearby roads. Fortunately the water was not high enough to enter the first floor. As a precaution Dennis Kingan, Caryl Youngers and Keith Young monitored the situation and moved many items from the floor to prevent damage. Pictured above is the museum the next day after the water receded. Notice the huge ice slabs and one piece of firewood.

Trivia

1. Sound was added to feature motion pictures at the New Angola Theater in the year: A) 1924 B) 1940 C) 1929 D) 1930
2. The first supervisor of the Town of Evans was: A) James Aldrich B) Julius Schwert C) Orange Dibble D) Robert Catalino
3. The area near the intersection of Erie Road (Route 5) and Gold Street was once known as: A) Evans Center B) South Evans C) Gold Corners D) Poverty Hill
4. The Town of Evans in 1821 was created and separated from the Town of: A) Hamburg B) Eden C) Collins D) Brant

(Answers on last page)

News from the Past

Will Stevens has sold his horse to Clark Bromley for ten dollars, Which got beat? (Source: Angola Record, 2/17/1887)

School Budget of \$1,068,266 is approved 75-10, tax rate - \$23.50 per thousand. (Source: Evans Journal, 5/12/1955)

Chest x-rays were given to 224 students at Lake Shore Central School. Miss Roop, LSC nurse , reported 224 chest x-rays were made by the mobile unit of the Erie County Tuberculosis Association on Wednesday. This number included all members of the Senior Class and others referred by school nurses. (Source: Evans Journal, 6/9/1955)

Sam Hopson had a very fine Army badge presented to him at the Encampment or being the handsomest man on the grounds - when all the men had left. (Source: Angola Record , 9/3/1885)

Dear David

Q: We enjoyed reading about Pius Schwert in the last edition of the "David Evans Gazette". We are interested in learning more about famous personalities from Evans. (P.F.,Derby)

A: We will try and provide you with a few of the little known personalities from Evans. While they may not be famous they certainly are an interesting 'folk'.

Thomas Edgar Adams - lived in North Evans and is credited with making improvements of electric lighting. His work included lighting the length of Broadway in the theater district of New York City. He received recognition for in work in Paris and at the Louisiana Exposition in 1904.

Theodore Miller - a young man from Angola that lost his right arm while working for the New York Central Railroad. Although disabled he became what was known as the one arm boxer. At the Pan American Exposition in Buffalo he received a medal and was invited to tour the country to show his ability with the sport. After returning to Angola he worked as a gate tender on the railroad's Main St. crossing in 1917 and rescued a boy who was about to be hit by a train. He received the Carnegie Medal for his heroics.

Do You Remember?

Editor's Note: While reviewing old copies of the "Evans Journal" we noticed advertisements of many businesses which no longer exist.

Derby Pharmacy, Route 5, Highland-on-the-Lake, Phone Derby 4566, advertises Willard Treatment for stomach distress.

Aronica's Esso Service Center, Erie Road and Herr Road, Angola 697R-1

Water by Tank Truck, Angola Ice Co., 19 Center St., Phone Angola 64

Annual installation Dinner

The Society's January program included the annual installation of officers. Nearly 60 members attended the fun filled evening and a delicious meal catered by Cala's. A spirited trivia contest was held regarding the train wreck known as the "Angola Horror". New directors installed were: Charlotte Moss, Rick LaClair, Judy Groh Smith, and Shirley Pfalzgraf. Other officers installed were: Treasurer, Caryl Ashley Youngers, Vice President, Dennis Kingan, and President, Giff Swyers. Pictured below are several members enjoying the evening.





Trivia Answers: 1.C 2.A 3.D 4.B

Membership

If you haven't had the opportunity to renew your membership for the year 2018, please complete the application below and mail to: Evans Historical Society, c/o Evans Town Hall, 8787 Erie Road, Angola, N.Y. 14006. Dues are \$15 for an individual and \$20 for families. **Please note that the membership year runs from April 1 through March 31 with annual payment due by April 1.** New members are always welcomed.

Application for Membership

Name _____

Address _____
Phone _____
City _____ State _____
Zip _____
E Mail _____ (check one) Individual _____
Family _____

Historical Society Officers

President: Giff Swyers
Vice President: Dennis Kingan
Treasurer: Caryl Youngers

Secretaries: Mary Jayne Ginnitti, Brigitte Boyer

Board of Directors: Kathy Allen Jim Dinkuhn Rick LaClair Charlotte Moss
Shirley Pfalzgraf Judy Groh Smith Keith Young

Editor of Newsletter: John Claghorn II

Town Historian: Keith Young

*Evans Historical Society, Chartered by the Board of
Regents 1972*

*NY State Department of
Education*

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