

# **THE DAVID EVANS GAZETTE**

The Newsletter of the Town of Evans Historical Society

Published Quarterly.....April, 2014

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 which are scheduled for the following months:

Monday, April 28, "Evans/Angola Roads and Streets", how did they get their name?? (More information on page 5)

Monday, May 19, the annual Memorial Day tribute to the men and women who have served our country. Mr. Bill Brudo, a World War II veteran will share his experiences in the service.

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

## **Welcome New Members**

Ted/Jan Malinowski and family  
Ed and Eileen Martin

## **Recent Acquisitions at the Museum**

Records of the Evans Highway Department, 1930-1950, listing employees, equipment purchases, road acquisitions etc. donated by Evans Town Clerk.

Memo pad 'Carl E. Barrett' General Insurance Service. Phone 248, 1949-50, donated by Joanne McCartin of East Amherst NY.

U.S. Coastal Geodetic Survey Marker from Sturgeon Point #1, dated 1929, donated by Stanley Elis of Lakeview NY

## Dear David

Q: I've lived in Evans for many years and have heard many wonderful reports about Cradle Beach. It has the reputation of existing as a wonderful place for disadvantaged youth. Could you please tell me about the history of the camp? (J.S. Derby)

A: Cradle Beach was founded in 1888 by "The Charity Organization of Buffalo" and was known as "The Buffalo Fresh Air Mission". Its purpose was to provide a camp experience for underprivileged children from the city. After World War II the Rotarians in the city provided funding for the camp. Many current residents will remember when the "Buffalo Evening News" joined the Rotary Club's effort at Christmas time, solicited funds, and for many weeks listed the donors who contributed to the camp. The name of the camp has also been known as the 'Crippled Children's Camp', but today it is widely recognized as Cradle Beach. The original site of the camp was on Old Lake Shore Road, just south of Beach Road, where several new 'condos' have been built. Currently the camp is located further north on Old Lake Shore Road near Roat Acres.

Questions for "Dear David" may be submitted to: Editor, Evans Historical Society, c/o Evans Town Hall, 8787 Erie Road, Angola, New York, 14006

### News from the Past

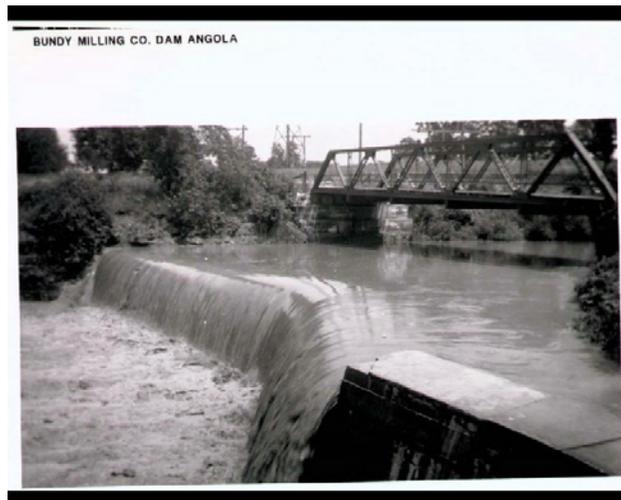
Evans Town Board on March 3 passed a resolution authorizing the Highway Department to purchase a new GMC pick up truck at a cost of **\$1840** from Weller's Garage. (Source: Evans Journal, 3/11/1954)

The young people on Erie Road had a candy pull at Neil Waterman's last week on Wednesday evening.....they speak of having an enjoyable time. (Source: Angola Record, 2/8/1883)

Evans Center: We would like to know why we can't have a change in teacher. The majority of the people do not like the teacher. The Trustees claim they hired her because she was a cheap teacher. (Source: Angola Record, 3/20/1884)

Gigantic card party at Most Precious Blood on May 18 at 8 pm. Loads of valuable prizes including a platform rocker. Admission is free, cards are 50 cents. (Source: Evans Journal, 5/14/1953)

## A Glimpse of The Past



The Bundy Mill in Angola, located on Big Sister Creek was the site of the dam pictured above. The pool of water behind the dam was necessary to provide ample water to turn the water wheel. The original mill was built in 1847 and was destroyed by fire. The Bundy brothers rebuilt the mill in 1887 and included a grist mill as well as a sash and blind mill. In the 1940's the mill was disassembled and the dam was destroyed in 1954. Remnants of the concrete dam are visible today at Herman Park in the village. Notice the old bridge that carried Mill Street/Delamater Road over the creek. A new bridge has replaced that structure.

### Trivia

Which automobile manufacturer was the first to set up a finance company to provide financing for its vehicles?

Which automobile manufacturer offered the first large scale lay-away plan for buying cars?

What was the average selling price of a new car in 1929?

What was the average selling price of a new car in 1985?

What was the average selling price of a new car in 2013?

*(Answers on last page)*

## Can You Identify This Object ?



The artifact shown above is part of our museum's collection. If you can identify the object, send us a post card or letter with the name of the artifact, your name, phone number and address. Correct responses will be entered in a drawing and the winning entry will receive a copy of Cheryl Delano's book Images of America, Evans and Angola . Entries should be mailed to 'Contest', Evans Historical Society, c/o Evans Town Hall, 8787 Erie Rd., Angola, NY 14006 and must be submitted by May 1, 2014.

### In Memoriam

We were saddened by the passing of Annette Hazard Frost on March 20. Annette and her husband, Whitney (Red), were very instrumental in organizing the historical society and establishing the museum. The Hazard family provided many artifacts, photos, and documents for the museum's collection. The Frosts spent countless hours at the old school house working on exhibits as well as performing routine maintenance. Annette was a life long resident of North Evans and in her last few years resided in a nursing home. In 1977 Annette was appointed as Town of Evans Historian and served for many years. She was the step mother of the late Ann Jasinski and is survived by her children Barbara Demay and Tom Frost.

## **Historical Society Books for Sale**

Angola Horror by Charity Vogel, a story of the 1867 train disaster in Angola, \$18 for members-\$20 for non members, (note: we sold the first order of 48 books in two weeks, a new shipment will be here soon).

Images of America, Evans and Angola by Cheryl Delano. A wonderful pictorial history of the community. \$22.00.

Joseph Bennett of Evans, And the growing of New York's Niagara Frontier by Kevin Siepel. \$17.00.

100<sup>th</sup> Derby Fair Anniversary Cook Book, \$12.00.

Set of Evans/Angola Postcards, photos of the town and village from yesteryear. \$5.00

If you can't get the book in the Evans area, please include the cost of shipping.

## **How Did Our Roads and Streets Get Their Name?**

Come and join us Monday, April 28 for an interesting evening as we explore the origins of the name of roads in Evans and Angola. It is obvious why Southwestern Blvd., Old Lake Shore Rd., Erie Rd. Lake Street etc. are appropriately named. But how did Mergenhagen Rd., Dennis Rd., Gowans Rd., Berrywood Rd. etc. receive their name? Members of the society will share their knowledge of the area and why certain streets have a particular name. We know that our streets have President's, family, Revolutionary heroes, and geographical names. However, some names of roads are unknown to society members and we would welcome much input from people in attendance. Invite friends and neighbors to the meeting to share information and learn more about the history of Evans/Angola. Remember the program is open to the public and begins at 7 p.m.

