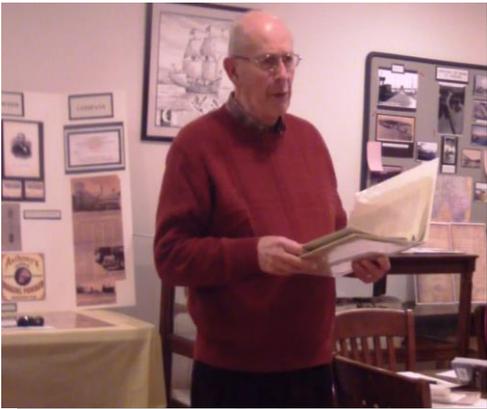


HALFMOON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2013 YEAR END NEWSLETTER

Public Displays and Exhibits have been a large part of our activity



As part of our commitment to bringing Halfmoon's past to life, one of our members, Larry Gray, read a story of a family spending several days on the Erie Canal during the 1820's. The narration, told in a voice appropriate to the era, includes the details of daily life on a canal boat and at the frequent stops along the way. What a long way we have come!

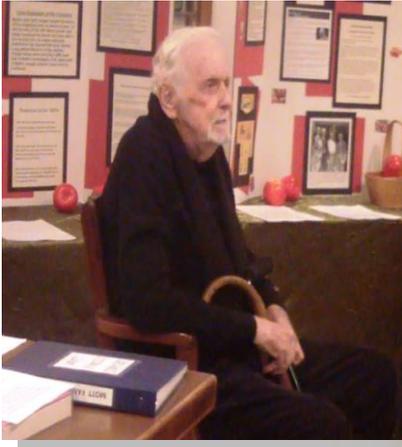


All Mincher tells of his experiences during World War II in the 5th Armored Division. He told in great detail about the landing at Normandy Beach as they dropped the front gate of the LST to drive his tank into the water and then up onto land for combat. He also spoke of the Battle of Hürtgen Forest in Germany.



Roger J. Sharpe was a local Master Basket Weaver, who with his large hands was most famous for weaving the tiniest of baskets. Many of his prize baskets, tools of the trade and interesting story were on display in the Town Hall Lobby for several months and is moving to the Clifton Park/Halfmoon Library for the month of February.

Exhibits have been playing an important role in Society efforts to help our Townspeople learn more about life in earlier times within our Town. We are gathering documents, photos and artifacts from earlier periods to tell the stories.



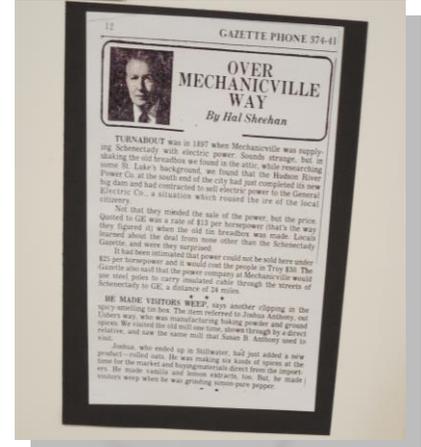
Pete Woodin told tales of growing up in Halfmoon in 1920's to 1940's.

He described various farms and family members on Halfmoon Drive, Harris Road and Route 9.

He also told stories of attending the Baptist Church next door as a child.



Lynda Bryan presented the story of the Mott Family that began near the intersection of Farm to Market and Pruy Hill Roads. Zebulon Mott, the first deed holder of the farm in 1795 was Halfmoon Town Supervisor and showed his Grandson Samuel the fermentation process of the apples in their orchard. That was the start in 1842 when Samuel was 16 of the Mott's Inc. apple processing empire. Samuel later became one of America's first self-made billionaires and started the Mott Foundation in 1926 .



Joshua Anthony owned and operated a Baking Powder Factory from 1869-1920. The factory can still be seen on Anthony Road in Northern Halfmoon. Mr. Anthony was a prominent businessman who was also instrumental in bringing the railroad and telegraph to the area. He was a cousin to Susan B. Anthony and also Great Grandfather to Craig Hayner's family. The exhibit was on display at the Library in early 2012.



September 12, 1718

225th Anniversary of Halfmoon

The Town of Halfmoon celebrated its 225th Anniversary in 2013. Lynda Bryan presented the story at a Historical Society Meeting and also at a Town Board Meeting. The first Town Board meeting was held on April 1, 1788 and the minutes of the meeting are in the town vault. The meeting was held in the Old Stone House located on the banks of the Mohawk later known as Dunsbach Ferry. The date stone from that house is on the exhibit in the Historical Society building, donated by the Emerick family. At that time Halfmoon was part of Albany County and included present day Clifton Park, Mechanicville, Waterford and part of Colonie.

Corporal William Secor



William Secor was a corporal in the Union Army and was a resident of the Town of Halfmoon. He was killed at Antietam in Maryland, buried in Maryland, moved to Newtown Baptist Cemetery, and finally moved to Clifton Park Village Cemetery in Halfmoon. His discs, predecessor to the dog tags, were found by Richard Clem near the battlefield. A matching one was also located in Brookside Museum. Nancy Morris made a presentation to the Halfmoon Historical Society in March about Corporal's life and the history of his dog tags. The one that is located in Brookside Museum went from Maryland, Halfmoon, Virginia, California, Vermont, and back to Saratoga County. This is a fascinating story!

“Halfmoon Historical Society Ride in Style in our Town Parade”



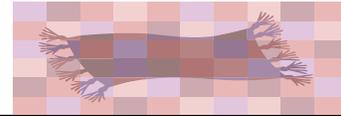
The Historical Society had two floats in this year's Town Parade. Both floats depicted families in period costume and honored the 225th Anniversary. On the first wagon are Nancy Jarose, Ellen Shippey, Beverly Emerick, Beverly Betts, Shannon Doin and Sadie the Dog. This wagon was driven by Bill Betts from the Historic Betts Family Farm showing farm life. On the second wagon were Jim Bold, JoAnn Ellison, Ellen Kennedy, Marianne Geleta and Shirley Bold depicting life around the home in the 1800's. The wagon was driven by Tony Placido from Michigan.

“THE ART OF RUG MAKING”



Ellen Kennedy demonstrated the art of hand painting floor rugs.

Beverly Emerick then demonstrated the craft of braiding rugs from rags.



“VINTAGE DRESSES THROUGH THE YEARS”



This vintage dress collection features dresses worn by 4 generations of ladies from Dutch Immigrants in the 1800's, graciously donated by Virginia Golden, descendent of the Van Emburgh family.

These photos show some of the dresses on exhibit in the Historical Society Building that take you all the way through the 1960's.

The brown colored dress in the center is the highlight of the collection. It is a wedding dress worn in 1869 by Annetta Terhune Van Emburgh and is still in a condition able to be on public display.

The exhibit will soon move to the Town Hall Lobby exhibit cases for visitors to enjoy.

HALFMOON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**2 HALFMOON TOWN PLAZA
HALFMOON, NY 12065
JAMES BOLD, SOCIETY PRESIDENT
(518) 371-7410 EXT. 2114**

2014 OFFICERS

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| PRESIDENT | JIM BOLD |
| VICE PRESIDENT | BEVERLY EMERICK |
| TREASURER | JO ANN ELLISON |
| SECRETARY | MARIANNE GELETA |
| DIRECTORS | NANCY MORRIS, LARRY GRAY, KATHY SUCHOCKI AND ELLEN SHIPPEY |

**THE BUILDING IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC THREE DAYS EACH MONTH FROM 1:00 TO 4:00 PM
FIRST AND THIRD SATURDAY AND SECOND WEDNESDAY**

**WORKSHOP SCHEDULE NOW HAS HOURS ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS
FROM 6:00PM – 8:00PM BEGINNING JANUARY, 2014**

**REGULAR MEMBER MEETINGS ARE HELD AT 7:00 PM ON THE LAST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH
JANUARY THROUGH NOVEMBER**

MEMBERSHIP DUES: \$8.00 PER FAMILY

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS OUT TO HALFMOON HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

DONATIONS FOR MUSEUM SUPPLIES ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

 The Halfmoon Historical Society is a not-for profit organization under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal
 Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.
