



Allegany Area Historical Association

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www.allegany.org

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

If you didn't see the reminder in the last issue to pay your dues – it was hard to miss – go back and look at it and send your check in – NOW. We want to keep you as a member and I know you want to keep getting the newsletter.

We held our brief annual meeting at our October meeting. Two Trustees were elected for a three year term – Jim Hitchcock and Mel Duggan. Thanks, gentlemen, for all you do to keep us afloat.

If you leave the area for the winter and want to get the newsletter, make sure we have your winter address, and also let us know when you return to the "frozen North". You can always e-mail us your information at oe31@verizon.net.

It wouldn't be AAHA if we didn't have a story about a skunk. This summer we had a very strong skunk odor in the building. I mean strong! I set my live trap baited with Cheetos, a favorite of skunks, in the building for two weeks – nothing. And the odor was still there. We finally decided that a skunk must have sprayed the front doors and the odor seeped into the building. After airing out the building and using many containers of odor-eating products, the odor gradually went away. Fast forward to October. Hans and Charlene Sendlakowski decided to change the filter in the furnace in preparation for the heating season. When they took the side off the furnace they discovered that the filter had been shredded. In collecting the filter pieces, Char found out what had been causing the odor – a now deceased baby skunk. Apparently Char's screams shattered windows for five blocks around!! After Hans and Char got their hearts out of their throats, they did finish cleaning out the furnace, and Hans gave our very unwelcome visitor a proper burial. But the question remained – how did it get into the furnace in the first place? This is the second skunk we have had in our furnace. Since the shrubs are gone, we think we have eliminated a skunk hiding place. Also, when we got looking at the now bare front of the building, we could see that the bottom of each of our faux pillars was open, so we will take care of that problem. Hopefully this will take care of things. As a last resort we can have Mazza's come and put in a screen between the furnace and the cold air return, which seems to be where our "friends" are getting into the furnace.

Speaking of Charlene Sendlakowski, she spent the summer computerizing our donor records, from 1983 to the present. This was a time consuming project, and one that we had needed done for a very long time. Thanks, Char, for your hard work.

I'm sure our Allegany members have noticed how nice our lawn always looks. This is thanks to the efforts of Dave Swatt, who does our mowing and trimming, free of charge. So if you see Dave around town be sure to let him know how much we appreciate his work. Thanks, Dave.

We have received a memorial for Marjorie Crainer. I'm sure many of our members remember her as she taught English at Allegany Central School for thirty years.

We are back on the internet! We are now hosted by the Village and Town of Allegany. Go to Allegany.org or just put Allegany Area Historical Association in your search engine and you will find us. If you use Allegany.org we are under the tab about the History of Allegany. Thanks to our web master, Tom Healy of Buffalo, and to Dominic Pappasergi from the village for their efforts in getting us going again.

On Saturday, October 22nd, I was driving by the Heritage Center when I noticed a box by the front door. When I looked inside I found 5 Eaton Dairy glass milk bottles. No note and nobody seems to know where they came from. One had a price tag on it so I assume the mysterious donor had bought it at a flea market. Thank you, whoever you are.

On my way to church on Sunday, October 23rd, I ducked into the Heritage Center to turn up the heat for our meeting later that day. When I got to the Center for the meeting, I discovered that the furnace wasn't working – the heat had not come on at all. Fortunately, we had one of the warmer days in a while and with the trees gone we picked up a lot of sunshine into the building, so it wasn't unbearable. Between skunks and no heat, I can hardly wait for what will happen next with the furnace..

FRANCIE POTTER, PRESIDENT
