NEWS FROM NICKWACKETT

VOL. 3 NO. 3 RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 1996

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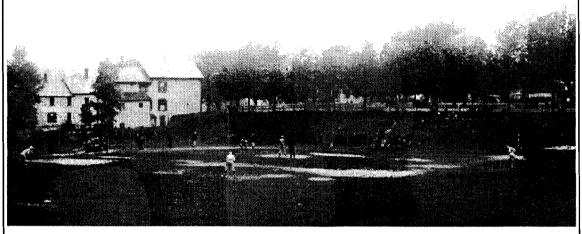
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Above is the "Baxter Lot" which was between Pine Street (in the distance) and Grove Street (from whence the photo was taken). Baseball and football games were played here in the 1920s. Billy Lampkins' popcorn wagon (See RHS Quarterly Vol. XXV No. 3 p. 63) is on Pine Street at the extreme right.

FALL PROGRAMS

The Program Committee of the Rutland Historical Society has announced the following Fall program series. All programs will be held at the Fox Room of the Rutland Free Library. Please note that the days and starting times vary for each meeting.

WED 25 SEP "The Crown Point Military Road" - Sanborn Partridge 7:00 pm.

THUR 10 OCT "Martin Freeman of Rutland: First Black College Professor in America and Black Social Activist" - Dr. Russell W. Irvine 7:30 pm.

THUR 17 OCT "Steamboats On Lake Champlain" - slide presentation by Erick Tichonuk 8:00 pm.

WED 23 OCT "The Rutland Road" -a slide presentation on the Rutland Railroad by Peter Cooper 7:00 pm.

FALL EXHIBIT

The Rutland Historical Society Exhibit Committee is preparing a Fall Exhibit on "Summer Leisure in the 1920s and 1930s". For those who remember, this will be a great opportunity to revisit some of the enjoyments of summers past. For those too young to remember, this will be a chance to explore some of the summer leisure activities that parents and/or grandparents have so often mentioned.

Whether it is for nostalgia or for exploration, this exhibit will have something for viewers of all ages.

The exhibit will officially open on SAT 21 SEP 1996. It can be viewed on Saturday afternoons from 1-4 pm and on Monday evenings from 6-9 pm and by appointment for small groups.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The Annual Business Meeting of the Rutland Historical Society will be held on Thursday 17 OCT 1996 at the Fox Room of the Rutland Free Library which is located at the northeast corner of Center and Court Streets in Rutland. The business meeting, which includes reports and election of officers and directors, will start at 7:30 pm. At approximately 8:00 pm Erick Tichonuk will present a slide program on "Steamboats On Lake Champlain". The public is invited to attend the business meeting and/ or the program.

SLATE OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS PRO-POSED BY THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Pres.Donald Bordeau V.P.Ronald Butterfield Sec.Gloria LaMontagne Treas.Thomas Carpenter Dir (2 yrs) Helen Davidson Dir (2 yrs) Mary Segale Dir (2 yrs) Alan Shelvey Dir (1 yr) Robert Cassidy

Continuing Directors are: Jacob Sherman and Morris Tucker.

Submitted by Carroll T. Jones, Personnel and Nominating Committee Chairperson

VISIT AND LECTURES BY QUARTERLY AUTHOR

Dr. Russell W. Irvine, professor at Georgia State University in Atlanta, Georgia, will be visiting Rutland in early October. He is the author of the Fall Quarterly on "Martin H. Freeman of Rutland: First Black College Professor in America and Pioneering Black Social Activist". Dr. Irvine discovered Martin Freeman while researching for his forthcoming book on blacks who were educated in colleges or professional schools prior to the end of the Civil War.

Dr. Irvine will speak at Middlebury College on WED 9 OCT, at Castleton State College at 12:30 pm on THUR 10 OCT and for the Rutland Historical Society on THUR 10 OCT at the Rutland Free Library at 7:30 pm.

A reception for Dr. Irvine will be held after the Thursday evening presentation at approximately 9:00 pm at the Rutland Historical Society at 96 Center Street in Rutland.

QUARTERLY NOW AVAILABLE

Our most recent Quarterly ("Growing Up in West Rutland: A Jewish Heritage" Vol. XXVI No. 2) has been reprinted in a quantity of 200. Readers reactions and favorable comments led to an unexpected demand which exhausted our original printing. Back issues may again be obtained for \$2.00 each plus 50 cents shipping and handling, if that is required.

COMMITTEE CORNER

Chairpersons

Archives Committee Alan Shelvey - 775-4168

Artifacts Committee Eleanor Elwert - 773-3417

Building CommitteeMorris Tucker - 773-7356

Exhibit Committee
Jim Davidson - 773-7525

Historic Preservation Committee Ann Singiser - 773-8172

Library Committee Ann Glagola - 775-1302

Long-range Planning Committee Bob Beauchamp - 773-9281

Membership Committee Helen K. Davidson - 773-7525

Personnel Committee Carroll T. Jones - 773-9055

Program Committee Donald Wickman - 775-4350

Public Relations Ken Wild - 773-8687

Publications Elaine Purdy - 773-6819

Research Dawn Hance - 775-4406

President Don Bordeau - 775-2761

Society Historian Mary Segale - 773-2326

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

For the past year, the Society has been working diligently to arrange its collections, maintain its building and increase membership. However, the most important role is providing information to the community through programming, quarterlies and exhibits.

The Civil War Series, co-sponsored with the Rutland Free Library, was especially popular. An appearance by Hildene's Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln in period costume, was a timely surprise. A Civil War exhibit at the Society building coincided with these programs. Special thanks are extended to Dennis Charles for artifacts and expertise in arranging this exhibit.

Other programs included the Blizzard of '88, The Formation of the Towns of West Rutland and Proctor and The Search for Arnold's Fleet After the Battle of Valcour Island.

During the past year there have been three exhibits open to the public at the Society building. They were organized around the following themes: Victorian Rutland, Civil War Exhibit and the Formation of Proctor and West Rutland, 1886.

The Society's Quarterly has had a banner year, beginning with the publication of Hospital Care in Rutland, The First Century. The Rutland Regional Medical Center sponsored the printing of a double-sized issue of 5,000 copies of the History of the Rutland Hospital. Best wishes to RRMC in its Centennial Year. The latest issue, Growing Up in West Rutland, A Jewish Heritage, sold out soon after publication.

The Society's stained-glass windows from the Grand Army of the Republic's Memorial Hall, formerly located at the site of the present Federal Building/Post Office on West Street, were in need of repair. Private contributions in memory of Civil War soldiers and a sizeable anonymous donation nearly covered the cost of restoration.

In May, a broken water main caused flooding to the Society's basement. However, quick action by Building Chairman, Morris Tucker and City workers, averted a major disaster. Although the damage was minimal, the cleanup operation took several days.

Mrs. Reni Harer of Oyster Bay, Long Island, presented to the Society a Nichols Goddard tall clock, made in Rutland between 1805 and 1823. Her wish to have the clock return home was most gratefully accepted.

In addition to those named above, the Society expresses its appreciation to the following: Cale Shipman for selling Society publications at his establishment, Marcia's Hallmark, Lloyd Davis for his gift of ten metal cabinets and the First Republic Brass who presided on the Society's float in the Loyalty Day Parade.

Membership has risen to over 500. Keep up the good work of getting friends and acquaintances to join. Memberships that are purchased now will cover the rest of this year plus all of 1997. This is a nice bonus!

All visitors are welcome at the Rutland Historical Society building at 96 Center Street on Monday evenings from 6:00-9:00 and Saturday afternoons from 1:00-4:00. Special accommodations can be made for groups wishing to view the exhibits. We look forward to seeing you!

UNIDENTIFIED ARE **NOW IDENTIFIED**

The picture of the West Rutland High School Girls Basketball team of 1930 on page 57 of the most recent Quarterly (Vol. XXVI No. 2) had five unidentified people. Thanks to Helen (Macig) Listzwan we now have the names of these five people plus a correct spelling of Helen's name. "Helen Macik" should be "Helen Macig" (pronounced "Macik").

The now identified girls are: in the front row (1) to r) Josephine Rozmus. Marguerite Dudley and Gertrude Kerrigan; in the middle row (1 to r) Genevieve Kamuda and Jane Wozniak.

THE FACILITIES OF THE RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY ARE OPEN ON:

MONDAYS SATURDAYS 6-9 PM

1-4 PM

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

If you are making arrangements for a family funeral please keep the Rutland Historical Society in mind as an appropriate recipient of memorial donations in lieu of flowers.

GIFT OF BLUEPRINT DRAWERS AND CASE

Virginia Gregory has donated a set of blueprint drawers to the Society along with other items. Thank you, Virginia.

DON'T FORGET TO ASK FRIENDS TO JOIN RHS

DUES SCHEDULE

Sponsor \$50.00

Students

\$8.00

Contributing \$20.00 (18 & under) Regular \$10.00

Senior citizens \$8.00

(62 & up)

Life Membership Memorial Membership \$200.00

\$200.00

RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC. 96 Center Street Rutland, VT 05701-4023

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