



December 2023

Ogdensburg Historical Society

14 Highland Ave.
Ogdensburg, NJ 07439

Email: oburghhistoricalsociety@gmail.com

Find us on:

Facebook at facebook.com/oburghhistoricalsocietypage

Borough of Ogdensburg's website: ogdensburgnj.org/committees/historical-society

SEPTEMBER 2023

On September 17, 2023 John Kibildis introduced our guest speaker, Wayne McCabe. In John's introduction he provided the 30 members in attendance how Wayne was a main facilitator in helping to establish the Ogdensburg Historical Society 40 years ago.

Mr. McCabe's presentation focused on Revolution 250 and how emphasis is needed from local communities to embrace their history. He has involved the SCCC History students in researching how our county participated in the Revolutionary War. Additionally, Bill Truran, county historian, is encouraging all Historical Societies to participate in events to commemorate the anniversary of the Revolutionary War. We should use this opportunity as a springboard to preserve historical sites, involve the school to teach more of local history, promote and highlight Ogdensburg's past and possibly acquire oral histories. We could use our 40th anniversary as a prelude to the state's events. Jane noted that we already have a sizeable postcard collection that reflects our past as well as a slide presentation entitled "Then, Then and Now." It appears that we are already on the right track. Mr. McCabe also suggested we contact Mr. Truran with help in obtaining historical markers to highlight specific landmarks, such as the North Clark St. railroad abutment, the railroad station building and the railroad bridge over Sterling Hill. He said we should not succumb to those who would tear down all that is old.

Jane introduced Tara Schaberg, the SC local history and genealogy librarian. She serves as a resource person for information on wills, deeds, census records, etc. She is willing to make a presentation here in the future.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- February 8th—Trustees Meeting 7pm
- March 7th—General Membership meeting 7pm
- May 9th—Trustees Meeting 7pm



Revolution 250

The United States of America is turning 250 in 2026 and New Jersey is commemorating this once-in-a-generation moment through it's RevolutionNJ initiative.

RevolutionNJ is New Jersey's commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States. Crossroads of the American Revolution is the not-for-profit partner of the New Jersey Historical Commission in planning observances and commemorations, with support from the NJ Division of Travel and Tourism and the NJ Division of Parks and Forestry.

More information will be forthcoming for both the Town and the School. Please visit this link to see all the planning efforts so far into this milestone event.

<https://revolutionarynj.org/revolution-nj/>

It was with great honor to have John & Diana Kibildis present to the Historical Society a plaque with the proclamation honoring Wasco Hadowantez as Ogdensburg's Historian. This hangs in the entrance hallway on the wall honoring all the founding members of the various organizations of Ogdensburg.



On November 6th, OHS President, Jane Krueger presented to the 5th grade history class Pocket Constitutions. This resource includes the Constitution, Bill of

Rights and Declaration of Independence, important dates and an index to look up keywords and where to find them in documents. Providing a key teaching aid is a privilege to provide to the students both today and in the future.

Ethnic Dinner

This year's Ethnic dinner was held on October 17th, we had a delicious assortment of main dishes and desserts to eat. We viewed our new "Then, Then and Now" presentation of the town. There were many memory lanes and discussion of the photos of yester-year.



Both Ogdensburg Fire Department & the VFW **appreciated** the sponsorship support for their golf outings.

The Annual Sussex County Arts & Heritage Council Weekend provided a great way for our museum to open its doors to the community. This year we presented a new "Then, Then and Now" presentation to the 17 guests. Though October 7th was a washout of a day, opening our doors allow our guests to get out of the rain and learn more about Ogdensburg's history and provide feedback on our museum. We had a great day sharing our story!



Passings

The intent of this newsletter is to pass along information about OHS, this quarter we take time to reflect on several residents that changed Ogdensburg for the better, but have now passed on.

James W. Duke, age 90 of Linwood, NJ, passed away on Friday, September 22nd, 2023, at his home.

Born in Ogdensburg to the late James E. and Josephine (Roberts), James lived in Ogdensburg and Hampton most of his life, before retiring to Ocean City and settling in Linwood three years ago.

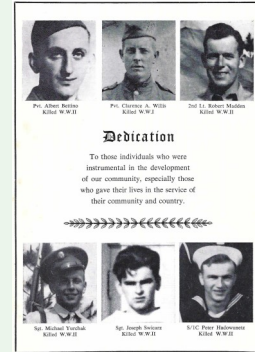
James was a US Navy veteran during the Korean War. Following his service, he worked a few different jobs, ultimately finding his way into law enforcement. Dedicated to his career and his community, James became Chief of Police for Ogdensburg. While there, he served as the first president of the Sparta FOP, past president of the Sussex County Chiefs of Police, and was active in the Interstate Law Enforcement Association and the Sussex County Detectives Association. He was also an exempt member of the Ogdensburg Fire Department and a member of the American Legion.

Predeceased by his parents, and sisters Barbara Phillips and Dorothy Kinney, James is survived by his loving wife, Carolyn (Onder) Duke; son, James M. Duke and significant other, Laurie Jacober; daughters Victoria Duke and Karen Thebold; grandchildren James Ryan Duke and wife Heather, Katherine Hauptman and husband Russell, and Alex, Erin, and Amanda Thebold; as well as his great-grandchildren, Charlotte Hauptman, James Gregory, and Wyatt Duke; and sister, JoAnn Smith.

Richard D. "Rick" Stoll, age 89 of Franklin, passed away peacefully on Monday, September 25th, 2023, at the Newton Hospital.

Born in Franklin to the late Jack and Bessie (Bailey) Stoll, Rick was a lifelong resident of Franklin. Rick worked as a supply chain manager for Picatinny Arsenal, until he retired in 1989. Following retirement, Rick enjoyed part-time work at Goble Funeral Home, assisting people attending funerals and visitations. Rick was a member of the Ogdensburg Presbyterian Church. He also enjoyed walking and was known for being very meticulous about his clothing.

Predeceased by his wife, Clare (Lozier) Stoll; son Donald Stoll; and five brothers Jack, Ken, James, Robert, and Russell Stoll, Rick is survived by his daughter, Brenda Pettenger and her partner, Mike Sanclementi of Hardyston; grandchildren Donna Heverly and husband Randal, Jenna Matthews, and Laurie Miller; and great-grandchildren Cameron and Randal.



We are always looking for volunteers to help curate the museum throughout the year, please feel free to contact us, if you are interested.

Passings con't

The intent of this newsletter is to pass along information about OHS, this quarter we take time to reflect on several residents that changed Ogdensburg for the better, but have now passed on.

John “Poppy” Hornyak passed away peacefully on Wednesday, September 27, 2023 at home. He was 98 years old. John was born in Witherbee, NY to Andrew and Mary Hornyak. The family moved to Ogdensburg, NJ soon after his birth. He was a lifelong resident of Ogdensburg.

John served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He served in both the Atlantic and Pacific Theaters of war. After being honorably discharged from service, all he wanted to do was come back home to Ogdensburg, raise a family, and be the best father he could. John worked in the Maintenance Department for the NJ Zinc Company until most of the surface crews either had to go down to work in the mine or seek other employment. He left and went into new home construction, specializing in carpentry, roofing, and siding for many years. He then went to work for Cellate Co. in Franklin, NJ working as a Shift Foreman. After working there for 10 years, the company decided to relocate down south. John was asked to relocate with them, but he declined the offer as he had a son going to college in Pennsylvania, and he did not want to leave his family and friends in Ogdensburg and Sussex County. Later, John went to work for the Ogdensburg Department of Public Works and retired as Assistant Superintendent on 8-1-88.

John was a member of the U.S. Navy Memorial in Washington, D.C., a member of the American Association of Retired Persons, an honorary member of the Ogdensburg Fire Department, a member of the American Legion Post 0132 in Franklin, NJ, and a lifetime member of the Ogdensburg Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10152 where he served in the Color Guard. John was also a member of the Ogdensburg Athletic Club, participating in boxing and football for the Ogdensburg Semi Pro Bears.

He was predeceased by his mother, Mary and father, Andrew Hornyak, and stepfather, James Timko; his wife, Alice (Helms) Hornyak; 4 brothers: Andrew and wife Helen Dudash, Joseph and wife Mary Auché, Steve and wife Lillian Auché, and Paul. He was predeceased by 4 sisters: Margaret and husband Irving Lozier, Julia and husband Earl Poyer, Olga and husband Steve Dekmar, and Elizabeth. He was also predeceased by two grandsons, Brent Borum and Tommy Laner, as well as one great-grandson, Billy Storms.

John is survived by 5 children: son, Earl and his wife, Tracy (Demmer); son Johnny Hornyak II; daughter, Gail and husband, Donald Pollard; daughter, Carol and husband, Tom Laner; and daughter Diane. He is also survived by several nieces and

Karen Greene of The Villages, FL entered into the arms of the Lord at Cornerstone Hospice on October 4th after a long and brave battle with COPD.

Karen was born on August 20, 1944 in the Bronx NYC, she attended Our Lady of Mercy School and St Helenas High School. She worked for Met Life in Manhattan until she married her beloved husband Murray on May 1, 1965. Eventually, they moved to Ogdensburg, NJ where they owned Murray's Mini Market for 30 years, it was a store that will be remembered for many years.

Karen was a charter member of the Walkill High School Booster Club, President of the Sparta Elks Ladies Auxiliary, and Ladies Coordinator for the NJ Elks State Exhibit. She was a volunteer like no other. Her family was everything to her. She cooked Thanksgiving for 30 consecutive years and always said Thanksgiving wasn't work, it was about family. Karen and Murray moved to The Villages, FL in 2008, continuing to grow their family with all their neighbors and friends from The Villages.

Karen leaves behind Murray, her best friend and loving, dedicated husband of 58 years. Daughter Sharon and partner Lucy. Son Ken and wife Lori. Son Edward and wife Jackie. Grandchildren Ashley and husband Brian, Matthew and girlfriend Jaymie, Christian, Sam, RJ, Taylor, Nick, and Chelsea along with her children Riley, Parker, and Addison



Watch for all different types of articles, topics, celebrations and pictures on our Facebook page

THE STORY OF OGDENSBURG BOOK: A PEOPLE'S PERSPECTIVE

In and around 1976 was the last time a commemorative book was published about the history of our beloved town. Since it is over 45 years since that publishing, we are looking into continuing our story with the help of others. There is a lot of history in this small town and many life long residents who know it. Please consider taking some time and sharing the history of Ogdensburg and your family. We will need some historical information as well if you have that we will welcome it.

Photos are always welcomed!

Reach out to us at oburghhistoricalsociety@gmail.com with questions, comments, stories and facts!

The History of Ogdensburg...A People's Perspective

Join us in sharing your memories of Ogdensburg...as a child; as a teen; as an adult

We are looking for stories from you!

How do you think Ogdensburg helped shape you?

How do you impact Ogdensburg?

What was the landscape like when you were growing up? Do you have pictures to share?

Who were your influencers? A special teacher? A neighbor? A leader?

What is your fondest memory?

Could you write 1,000 words to help us show how Ogdensburg was when you were here?

Information we will need included in the perspective -

The street you grew up on and the dates you lived in Ogdensburg

Contact us at oburghhistoricalsociety@gmail.com if you are interested in participating.

OHS Membership

Your membership in the Ogdensburg Historical Society acknowledges your awareness of Ogdensburg's rich and unique history. Join today and with your support help us preserve and promote our history.

Membership Fees:

Annually:

Seniors \$6.00

Individual \$12.00

Family \$18.00

One Time:

Lifetime \$50.00



OGDENSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Ogdensburg Historical Society is a non-profit and non-partisan organization formed not only to ascertain and preserve the history of Ogdensburg, NJ, but also to foster the education and preservation of Ogdensburg history for its residents and visitors. The OHS obtained grant monies in 1988 and 1989 to refurbish the 1910 school addition/firehouse to be converted into the Old Schoolhouse/Firehouse Museum—the society's headquarters.

The museum's first floor lobby holds a display case (that was originally in the grade school) with minerals from the Ogdensburg Zinc Mine. The fire truck bays contain the Ogdensburg Fire Department's retired 1935 and 1959 American LaFrance Pumper trucks. In June of 2006, the bays were dedicated in the memory of William "Doly" Dolan and Joseph Fitzgibbons, Sr. These men were former students, OFD fire chiefs and OHS charter members and vice presidents—all within the walls of this building.

The second floor serves as a meeting hall for the society's meetings. It contains showcases which hold donated Ogdensburg memorabilia old Ogdensburg, school history and graduation pictures, a scale model of the mine's hoist, and Ogden family history documents. There are also old exhibits of Thomas A. Edison memorabilia to honor the ten years Edison spent mining iron ore at the old Edison Ore Milling Company on Sparta Mountain, as well as memorabilia showcasing our town and first responders and the VFW.

The OHS sponsors two annual dinners. In June, a catered picnic meeting is held at the Sterling Hill Mining Museum. In October, an Ethnic Dinner is held at the school where each family is asked to bring a covered dish that represents their ethnic background.

We look forward to seeing you at our next Ogdensburg Historical Society meeting!

General Membership Meetings

Thursday, February 8th—Trustees Meeting 7pm

Thursday, March 14th—General Membership meeting 7pm

Thursday, May 9th—Trustees Meeting 7pm

Ogdensburg Historical Society Officers & Board of Trustees

Officers -

President - Jane Krueger

Vice President - Mark McFadden

Secretary - Christine Dabrowski

Treasurer - Megan MacMullin

Trustees -

Dion Derkach

John Kibildis

Dominic Zampella

Tom Kuplan

Bud Decker

Candace Horner

Ogdensburg Historical Society

14 Highland Ave
Ogdensburg, NJ 07439

Email: oburghhistoricalsociety@gmail.com

Facebook [@facebook.com/oburghhistoricalsocietypage](https://www.facebook.com/oburghhistoricalsocietypage)

Borough of Ogdensburg's website: ogdensburgnj.org/committees/historical-society