

Spafford Area Historical Society

Newsletter

Volume 17, No. 1 (Issue 163)

January – March 2009

Wynne Cotton..... A Loss Deeply Felt

By
Ed Lukens

Wynne volunteered time and effort to many causes. She was involved in church activities with Erwin First United Methodist church and the United Methodist Women's Association, Zonta, and she co-chaired her 50th class reunion at Syracuse University. Many doors were opened that brought lasting happiness.

After climbing the 46 major peaks in the Adirondacks, she became a member of the Adirondacks High Peaks Club. In her younger days she became quite efficient in the equestrian art and when she became owner of a camp on Otisco Lake, swimming and sailing became an integral part of her life. Wynne delighted viewing beautiful wilderness areas. To friends of long standing she might say, "Let's go for a walk in the park". That might mean Yosemite, Glacier, Yellowstone, Tetons or possibly the Grand Canyon. Eventually, they were all checked out. All brought joy to her heart. Animal life as well added to her happiness. Chipmunks to Buffalo were always welcome in her presence.

She had a fine sense of humor and considerable understanding of the world around her. Wynne's loss left a lonesome place to all that walked along her road of life.

Loss of a Friend....Wynne Cotton

By
Elizabeth Rogalia

The members of our historical society will truly miss Wynne's support, generosity, sense of humor and friendship. Wynne was just fun to be with. Every program meeting she attended and she didn't miss very many, Wynne took photographs of our guest speakers and other points of interest. She developed them and made sure I received them for our archives. So, it is only fitting that we share some wonderful pictures of our friend through the years. A service will be held for Wynne on Thursday, April 2nd at 11 AM, at the Erwin Methodist Church, 920 Euclid Avenue in Syracuse.



Wynne
Cotton '45



**Spafford Area Historical Society
Presents
Dick Case**

May 13th

7:30 PM

**Borodino
Hall**

Route 41

**Borodino
New York**



REMEMBERING

SYRACUSE

DICK CASE



AMERICAN CHRONICLES
A HISTORY PRESS SERIES

Author Dick Case will talk about his new collection of stories "Remembering Syracuse", along with a few local stories. Copies of his new book will be available. Call Anne McElroy, 673-2558 for details.

**Spafford Area Historical Society
Presents
Webb Stevens
Draft Horses and Our History**

April 7th

7:30 pm

**Borodino
Hall**

Route 41

**Borodino
New York**



You may have passed Webb Steven's farm on Route 41 when the majestic Percherons were grazing. Or maybe you saw the foals in the spring. Mr. Stevens' will talk about how draft horses have provided the power to build and feed our nation before trucks and tractors. He will include the effort it has taken by many to keep these magnificent horses from becoming a thing of the past.

PRESIDENTS JOURNAL

The Spafford Community Center or Borodino Hall as some prefer to call our building that used to be the Grange Hall received its certificate of occupancy just hours before our annual dinner in December. The major renovation project that replaced the heating system, bathrooms and installed a handicapped access door took most of last year making the building unusable for our activities. At the Annual Dinner in December, as your newly elected president, I announced that our goal for 2009 was to maximize the use of the building by local individuals and organizations. I suggested that it would be wonderful to have a wedding in the hall. Little did I know at the time that the next event in the hall would be a wake, a Celebration of the Life of Peter Payntar, who died January 2, 2009. Peter and his wife Carol were hard working supporters of SAHS with Peter serving as a Trustee and Chair of the Grounds Committee and Carol chairing many events and helping to decorate the hall for special events.

The Payntar Family generously designated SAHS as recipient of memorial gifts in Peter's name. To date, those gifts have totaled almost \$4000.00, a welcome and much needed gift after our treasury had been depleted by the renovations. The memorial gift will support the basic needs of maintaining the building while we work on fund raising for our next project, repair/replacement of the back wall of the building that is currently covered by a blue tarp. We anticipate this stage of the restoration will cost \$14,000, and hope to raise that amount in 2009.

Future programs include:

- June 17th, Mike Woodford of Woodford Brothers will talk about restoring old buildings.
- July, date to be announced, Scott Real, will present a historic reenactment that will be entertaining for the whole family so we will schedule this event on a Saturday.
- September 16th, Patty Elkovitch will present a program on quilts and invites attendees to bring their family quilts to share.
- We have open program dates in August, October and November and welcome your suggestions for programs. Call Anne McElroy at 673 2558 with your suggestions or to volunteer to help with refreshments.

The Side Hill School, Circa 1813, on the corner of Willowdale and Stanton Roads is another SAHS responsibility. Last year classes from several school districts attended school for a day with students and teachers in dress of the era and using the learning tools available at the time. The children enjoy this learning experience immersed in the history they are studying in their classrooms.

Fund raising events in 2009 will include the Giro of Otisco Lake, bike race on Saturday, June 27th, a barn/yard sale in early August and the Christmas House Tour in early December. We plan to add some family programs to this years events so our children can learn from and enjoy their local history.

The hall is available for use by individuals, families and organizations with some restrictions. To date, Spafford Area Garden Enthusiasts has designated the hall as their regular meeting place and a small local Bridge Club has expressed interest in using the hall bi-weekly. We encourage you to think of using the hall for your upcoming event. There is a simple application so we know who will be responsible and we can be sure you are comfortable with any applicable restrictions. The Board envisions some uses for the hall being family reunions, weddings and anniversary celebrations, political events, scouts, and clubs. We do not yet have a kitchen: Perhaps that will be next years project.

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SAHS Board meetings are routinely held the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM and regular program meetings are the second Wednesday at 7:30 PM at the Spafford Community Center/Borodino Hall/Borodino Grange Hall. No program is scheduled for January and February.

BECOME A MEMBER OF SAHS Spafford Area Historical Society

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

**Make check payable to "SAHS" and mail to
P. O. Box 250, Marietta, NY 13110-0250**

Membership levels

Individual.....\$ 10.00
Senior(60 or more).. 6.00
Youth (18 or less).... 6.00
Family..... 20.00
Patron..... 50.00
Sustaining..... 100.00
Donation.....\$ _____

If there is a pink dot on your mailing label, we have not heard from you in several years. Help us to manage costs effectively and let us know you enjoy the newsletter by renewing your membership.

APRIL MEETING
April 7, 2009 @ 7:30 P.M.

Spafford Community Center
Rt. 41 at the Borodino light

**Webb Stevens, Spafford Town
Supervisor will speak about the
historical significance of draft horses.
You have probably seen his majestic
Percherons grazing at his farm on
Rt. 41.**

MAY MEETING
May 13, 2009 @ 7:30 P.M.

Spafford Community Center
Rt. 41 at the Borodino light

**Dick Case, author and columnist
for the Post Standard will
introduce his new book, a
collection of stories
Remembering Syracuse.**