

# Oneida Community JOURNAL

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ONEIDA, NY



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# The ONEIDA COMMUNITY MANSION HOUSE

## *A National Historic Landmark*

The ONEIDA COMMUNITY MANSION HOUSE (OCMH) was chartered by the New York State Board of Regents as a non-profit museum in 1987. It is the only site to preserve and interpret the history of the Oneida Community, one of the most radical and successful of the 19th century social experiments. OCMH publishes the *Oneida Community Journal* to inform the public of the cultural and educational activities at the Mansion House and to present articles about social and historical topics of interest within the context of its mission.

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### COVER

Croquet on the North Lawn in front of the first Mansion House, 1867. Players standing (left to right) are Annie Kelly, James Vail, Eliza Burt, Harriet Mallory, Lemuel Bradley, Albert Kinsley, Chester Underwood, Mrs. (Sarah) Mallory, Elizabeth Mallory, William Woolworth and Georgiana Sears.

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## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*Patricia A. Hoffman*

The Mansion House lost a good friend and twenty-two-year employee in June when housekeeper Donna Kowanes passed away following injuries sustained in an automobile accident. A day doesn't go by without remembering and missing her, and being reminded of how much she contributed to the daily operations of this organization.

June also marked the occasion of the second annual Strawberry Jam hosted by the Mansion House Friends. This free event began with a flea market in the Vineyard followed by the festival on the grounds of the Mansion House. Geoff and Spencer Noyes provided blue grass music followed by the country rock of the Twenty Main Band. The bake sale table showed much activity around the strawberry shortcake made from the original Harriet Skinner recipe. Not only did Mansion House Friends pick the berries and make the biscuits, they organized the entire community-wide event. No admission was charged to the Mansion House and Curator Tony Wonderley and a host of guides introduced the site, directed visitors and answered questions. We estimate that over 300 people attended, the vast majority of whom had never been to the Mansion House.

The Mansion House Friends was formed in 2011 to organize and staff fund-raising events for the Mansion House and has been chaired by OCMH trustee Sarah Spitzer since that time. Other members include Jody Hicks, Corinne Tudman, Shelley Petersen, Michael Cross, Jeff Garner, Brittany Halligan, Beth Jones, Anne Marie Costello, Dana Adams, Lyn Chundrlek, and Mark Papa. Some of their lively events have included a Mardi Gras celebration, revisiting their high school prom, an art auction, and a mystery dinner theatre, among others.

It has been especially rewarding this past year to observe the growing interest in watchable wildlife at the Mansion House, particularly bird-watching. On Mother's Day, Peter Gebhardt and Nola Desimone sighted a yellow warbler, common yellowthroat, a pair of northern orioles, and chestnut-sided and yellow-rumped warblers. Spotting a towhee for the first time in twenty years made their day. Further, bald eagles have been spotted at Sunset Lake. When a photo of them was posted on our Facebook page, views far exceeded the total allowed and froze all efforts to add more photographs to the page. Unfortunately, the eagles' photograph had to be removed.

The Oneida Community Mansion House is listed in the Watchable Wildlife brochure recently produced by Madison County Tourism. Since birding is now one of the most popular leisure activities in the country and an opportunity to increase visitorship, the board has included it in the strategic plan it is drafting with consultant Anne Ackerson.

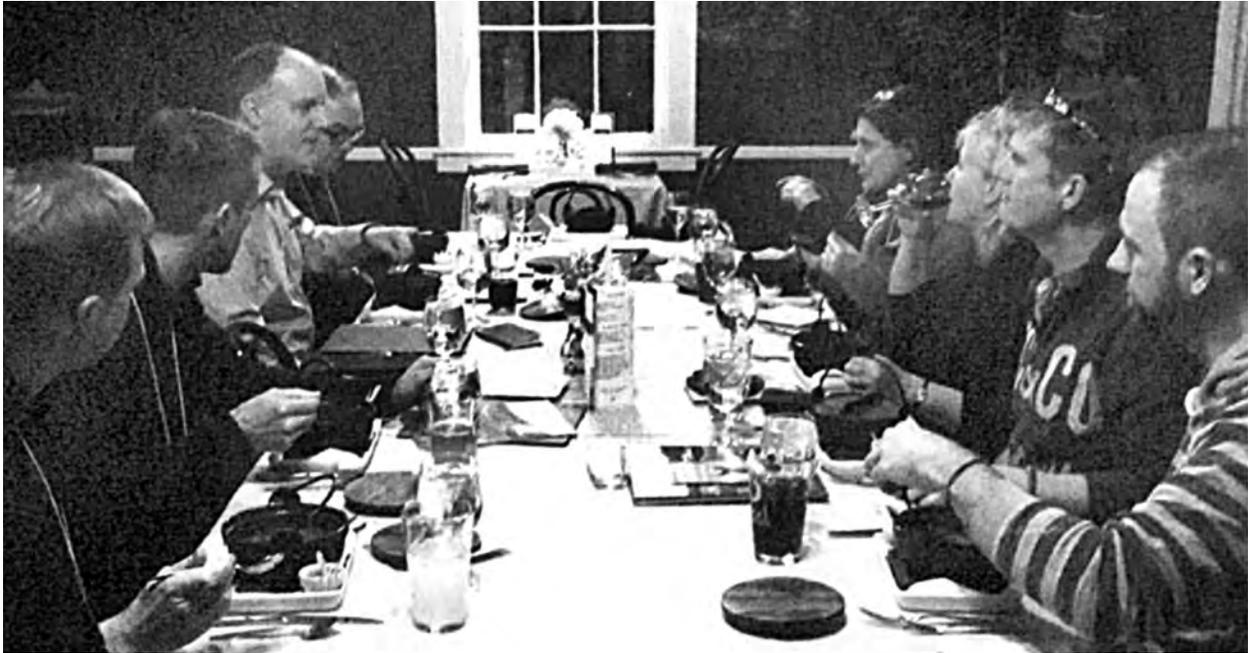
Most recently, consultant Beth Leibrick completed an organizational assessment to determine the most effective and efficient process for building an infrastructure. It will allow OCMH to develop pathways to resources for organizational and financial growth, to facilitate an organizational shift into becoming an educational resource for historic preservation in the region with national implications, and to increase funding streams to insure long-term sustainability. We are grateful for the Gifford Foundation grant providing funding for the consultants.

Finally, I regret to report that the excellent *Kenwood and Vine* restaurant at the Mansion House closed in May. We are looking for another restaurant to lease the space and any interested parties can call me at 315-363-0745, ext. 4224.

Not to be missed: Saturday, October 10, 8 p.m., *An Evening with Tom Rush*, and Saturday, October 24, an all-day *Historic Preservation 101 Seminar*.



*Mansion House Friends Sarah Spitzer and Jody Hicks*



*The Mansion House and Madison County Tourism welcomed British travel writers and tour operators.*



*Executive Director Patricia Hoffman celebrated 10 years at the Mansion House in February. Pictured with her are trustees Wilber Allen and Scott Swayze.*



*Beth and John Leibrick and Heidi Holtz at the dinner theatre, "Mystery at the Mansion House."*



*Don and Cathy Cornue with Al Cohen at the dinner theatre in March.*



*Victoria Buda, director of "Mystery at the Mansion House," chats with Tim Cumings at the sold-out event.*



*Bill Bowen (Arts & Crafts Society of Central NY) confers with Lang and Nini Hatcher about architect Ward Wellington Ward—the subject of Bowen's talk in the Big Hall.*



*Geoff and Spencer Noyes entertain Strawberry Jam attendees with blue grass music.*

*Collaborators on the new exhibit in the History Room: Michael Colmey (Building & Grounds Director), Patricia Hoffman (Executive Director), and designer Ted Anderson.*



*Carol Davenport brought family members together recently for a stay at the Mansion House (from left): Peter Van Hagen, Carolyn W. Davenport, David Dumas, Carol Davenport, Nick Davenport, Patti Woolworth, Andy Woolworth, and Lucy Lamphere.*



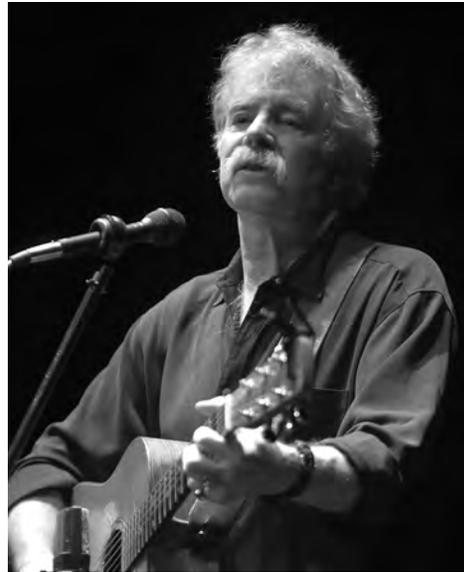
## THE MANSION HOUSE PRESENTS TOM RUSH IN CONCERT

Spend An Evening with Tom Rush and Matt Nakoia on keyboards on Saturday, October 10 in the ambiance and superb acoustics of the Mansion House Big Hall. Sponsored by the Oneida Savings Bank Charitable Foundation, The Gifford Foundation, and International Wire Co., the show is sure to be “Crowd pleasing.... an outstanding performance,” as reviewed by *The New York Times*.

A gifted musician and performer, Tom Rush, critics say, shows us what music has been, can be, and will become. His distinctive guitar style, wry humor, and warm expressive voice are legendary. His performances are nothing less than celebratory journeys filled with laughter and story-telling of a high order, spiced with sweet melancholy from ballads, and gritty passion from blues.

Rush helped shape the folk revival in the 1960s and the renaissance of the 80s and 90s. He impacted a wide spectrum of artists, including Country star Garth Brooks who credits Rush with being one of his top five musical influences. James Taylor put it simply: “Tom was not only one of my early heroes, but also one of my main influences.”

Tickets are \$35 for members, \$40 non-members and \$45 at the door. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. for the concert at 8 p.m. Call 315-363-0745 for information and tickets.



Tom Rush



## MEET THE NEW MUSEUM EDUCATOR

By Patricia Hoffman

A single visit to a one-room schoolhouse in the 4th grade was all it took for Molly Jessup to know that she wanted to be an historian. She will be that and more in the newly created position of Museum Educator at the Oneida Community Mansion House. The Board of Trustees added this position to facilitate future growth following an organizational assessment by consultant Beth Leibrick. With Molly in attendance, Curator Tony Wonderley will be able to concentrate all of his efforts on the expanding collections (currently totaling more than 30,000 items).

Molly was graduated from SUNY Geneseo with a B.A.

in History and attended Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs where she received her M.A. in History and recently defended her Ph.D. dissertation on education reform in the 1940s and 1950s.

Named Outstanding Teaching Assistant in a



Molly Jessup

university-wide competition in 2010, Molly has served in that capacity at Syracuse University for the last decade. One of her more interesting experiences was with the AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps in the south where she tutored in public elementary schools, repaired camping facilities, constructed homes, and repaired damaged roofs. Sounds like perfect ancillary experience for working at the Mansion House.

In her new position, Molly will oversee the tour-guide programs, work with area schools to develop

programs meeting core curriculum requirements, and expand programming for children and adults.

“I am very interested in 19th-century history and gender roles,” Molly says, “and I look forward to this opportunity to learn more about the Oneida Community.”



## WHAT HELD THE ONEIDA COMMUNITY TOGETHER

by Frank Wayland-Smith

**T**he following essay was written by Frank Wayland-Smith at some point after the Community's break-up in 1880. The text given here was transcribed by the curator from an eleven-page, hand-written copy given to the Historical Committee by P. B. Noyes in 1949. It provides a fascinating synopsis of Community life and how that changed over time as the fortunes of the Community dramatically increased. Wayland-Smith was a life-long supporter of the Perfectionist ideal as evidenced by the publication of his barely-disguised analysis of the Oneida experiment in "Heaven on Earth, A Realistic Tale," written under the pseudonym Gerald Thorne in 1896. However, if only in hindsight, the ironies built into his writing should not go unnoted. For example, it was precisely because he—and countless other men and women—put their extraordinary talents and entrepreneurial spirit to work that the Community realized increasing economic success and thereby brought pressure on their spiritual life and social unity. Likewise, it is not without irony that he was one of the thirteen young men sent to Yale for further education, which had equally destabilizing effects on the Community as he himself notes; that he was a concert-level violinist who bridled at having to periodically lock up his instrument to cure himself of an unusual form of "special love;" that he successfully petitioned the Madison County Court in 1879 to put a hyphen between his middle and last name in order to distance himself from all the other Smiths—"an appellation of a large class of unfortunates, no individual of whom can be properly identified or distinguished by it;" that he was one of the architects of the agreement allowing for the creation of Oneida Community Ltd.; and that, spurred by the vision of P. B. Noyes and others from the stirpicultural generation, he returned to Oneida in 1901 after a nine-year business stint in New York City to lend his cosmopolitan, market-tested skills to OCL, the now-secular iteration of the Perfectionist dream. -GWS

The world at large has always looked upon the experiences of the Oneida Community as little less than miraculous in respect to its unity and power of agreement, and I have been asked to tell what, in my opinion, was the most important influence in holding the society together for those thirty years and more, before it became a joint-stock company. Its record was, as everyone knows, that it had no serious quarrels, but all fared substantially alike, in peace and harmony, while working for a common object.

The most important influence in producing these good results and in holding the society together was undoubtedly its unity of religious belief, and its resolute purpose to subdue selfishness.

A man's conduct is controlled by the secret motives of his heart. If the motives are unselfish the conduct will be unselfish and harmonious.

The members of the Oneida Community were not only Christians, but they also believed that Mr. John H. Noyes was a leader chosen and inspired by God to usher in the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. Mr. Noyes claimed for himself that he was thus commissioned. You probably remember the account of the meeting at Putney, before the Oneida Community was established, in which Mr. Noyes declared his belief that "the Kingdom of Heaven had come;" and how, as soon as he had said it, there was a tremendous clap of thunder, although the day was clear and there were not thunder clouds visible. The believers took this as a supernatural signal that God approved their faith and had put his seal to their profession.

On February 20th, 1834, Mr. Noyes had publicly confessed that Christ was in him a Savior from all sin, and he believed that he would overcome death and not die in the natural way.



Theodore Noyes, George Miller and Frank Wayland-Smith, early 1870s.

The result of these beliefs, of the sincerity of which there can be no question, was that the members of the Community regarded themselves as a peculiar people, chosen by God to do a certain work. All selfishness must, therefore, be put away, and every heart be made pure. It was a school for the discipline and refinement of character, and it was deemed important to shield it as much as possible from worldly influences. Contact with the outside world, even one's natural relations, was

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*Frank Wayland-Smith, 1890.*

to be avoided; and in the early years, when the Community depended on agriculture as the leading means of subsistence, about the only necessary contact was through the man who drove our team to Oneida every day to mail letters, get the *New York Tribune*, and make a few purchases. He was the financial agent, handling all the filthy lucre, and occupying an exposed position.

This early period, when we were so secluded and free from outside influences, when we had no hired help whatever, but the members did all their own work including even the most menial service, when our food and clothing were of the plainest and scantiest, was the time of greatest faith in God's care over us, in Mr. Noyes's inspiration, and in the final triumph of our system. Many providences which occurred from time to time strengthened this faith and bound the Community together.

During this period, and in an effort to make the separation from the world as distinct as possible, its fashions of dress and personal adornment were discarded. The women adopted the short dress with pantalettes of the same material, which afterwards became known as the "Bloomer Costume." They also cut their hair short in the neck and turned the ends outward. Afterwards they rolled the ends under, because it looked better. The men left off the use of tobacco, and most of them put away their razors and wore full beards. All such things tended to mark the separation from the world, and to impress on the members

that they were a chosen people. As the years went by, the world, with its pleasures and allurements, was forgotten, and we had a complete society of our own. Good old Father Cragin still sometimes alluded to 'the world, the flesh, and the devil,' but as he never mentioned the one without the others, his words sounded as a warning. This period of comparative poverty, but of bright faith and hope, was the one in which our musical development began, and the enthusiasm was greatest for practice and for study.

When we advanced a step in material progress and engaged in manufacturing and trade, it became necessary to send out salesmen, and contact with the world was thus increased; but those who regularly went out into the world on business were not looked upon as likely to be very spiritually-minded, nor were they, if my memory serves. They were more likely to need searching criticisms, and on some occasion, when brought under conviction, they made confession in the evening meetings of their shortcomings and failures to maintain the Community standard. Some of them had smoked or chewed tobacco after it had been given up, others had attended a theatre, and one or two confessed to having beaten the railroads out of their just fares, a thing much more easily done in those days than now.

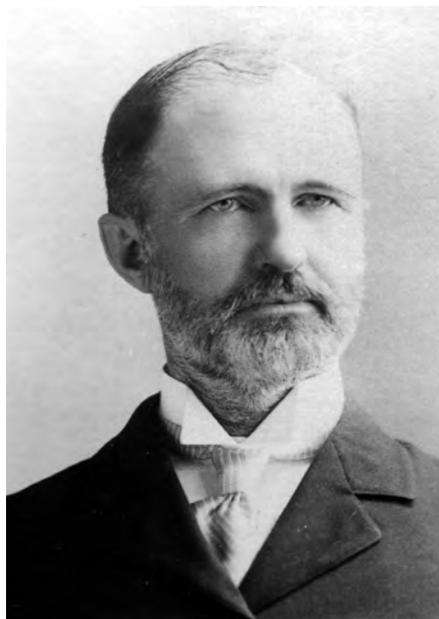
For quite a long time after we began to manufacture traps, our own people did all the work without hiring outsiders. The Trap Shop was then where the old Silk mill is now, and some of the women worked in the Trap Shop regularly, drilling holes in the pans and pan posts, blowing bellows for the men who worked at forges, painting the trap springs, and performing other light duties. The printing Office was then on the second floor of the old mill, and the type-setting girls added to the numbers employed there.

It is worthwhile to reflect a moment on the extreme industry of the members at that stage of our development. All the housework, laundry work, sewing, etc. was done by our own people, and in those days the women made all their own underclothing as well as their dresses, hats, and coats. We hired no outside dressmakers, and bought no ready-made clothing. We had our own tailor and shoemaker, but the women made all the children's clothes, and the men's shirts and neckties, besides knitting all the stockings used, making gloves, mittens etc. In addition to all this, the women worked in the Trap Shop, attended bees for picking peas and strawberries, cutting corn, and did the type-setting and other things. The men did all the farm and shop work, and all the building and painting, and helped the women in the housework.

With this tremendous industry, the members, young and old, found time for musical practice, for classes in various studies, for dancing classes, for learning and performing a cantata, for amateur theatricals on quite an ambitious scale, for public readings from 7 o'clock to 7:45 P.M., and evening meetings from 8 to 9 P.M. every day in the year. Breakfast was at 6 A.M., dinner at noon, supper at 6 P.M. The orchestra played in the hall from 12:30 to 1 P.M. every day. The doctrines of Horace Fletcher in regard to chewing food thoroughly were not then in vogue. Baths were taken once a week in the laundry, people slept in cold rooms, lived on the plainest fare, and everyone's time was fully occupied. Yet I venture to assert that no healthier, more rugged and contented people could have been found. There seemed to be plenty of life and enthusiasm.

It is true, and should be known, that from almost the first year at Oneida Reserve there were persons who gained admission to the Community without fully understanding its principles, who afterwards seceded. There were whole families whom the present generation probably never even heard of. In all, there were about 150 persons who joined and seceded during the life of the Community, including men, women and children. In respect to these, Mr. George Noyes once said that they came expecting to find a pleasant home and enjoyable surroundings, but that the Spirit of Truth which governed the Community was like an acid bath into which they were plunged. At first, the sensation was one of warmth and geniality, but as the acid of Mutual Criticism began to search out the bad places in their old lives, smarting and very uncomfortable sensations were set up, and such persons soon wanted to get away. Those who remained were searched and not found wanting.

As time went on, the period of the simple, secluded life, with its faith, hope and enthusiasms, was modified by still further contact with the world. The manufactures grew and it became necessary to hire outside help, first in the Trap Shop, then on the farm, then in the laundry, and at length in the kitchen, until we had outsiders with no spiritual training all around and amongst us. And as we increased in wealth, we began sending our young men to college where some of them im-



*Frank Wayland-Smith, about 1910.*

bibed ideas and theories which tended to break down the old, simple faith in God, and in Mr. Noyes's inspiration. From that time on there was not the same unity of religious belief among us. We prospered financially, and the standard of living gradually rose. We had built the present brick dwellings, and had more room. There was more leisure, and the members no longer worked so hard as formerly. If material comforts and personal ease were the basis of unity, the society would then have been bound together more closely than ever. But with this higher standard of living, more leisure, better dwellings, and higher education, having lost our unity of

religious belief, the old enthusiasms began to die out. There was a rapid decline in musical practice, and in voluntary classes for study. New members were taken in who did not assimilate and would not secede. Discords arose, opposing parties were formed, and to escape worse evils we abandoned communism and became a joint-stock corporation.

Some natural and pertinent reflections arise in the mind when we review the experiences of the Oneida Community, and we can see that the condition of our natural lives do strongly affect our spiritual natures. It is evidently easier for people to be spiritually-minded when they live simple, humble lives than when living in luxury. The poor trust in God, while the rich trust in money. And where people have grown up under selfish, worldly influences, a time of seclusion and rigorous self-discipline is necessary to enable them to overcome those influences and rise to a higher plane. Even St. Paul, after his wonderful conversion at Damascus, retired into Arabia for three years of reflection before commencing his ministry.

If it was the spirit of faith, hope, and love working through our old organization which gave it life and produces the results that look so bright and glorious to us in retrospect, is it not also true that without that spirit of faith and that unity of religious belief, the merely external features of close association would be only empty forms or social customs, without life or meaning?



## FROM THE CEMETERY COMMITTEE

by Kelly Rose

**B**urials in the Oneida Community Cemetery date back to 1863. Since then, hundreds have taken place, and continue to occur, on the grounds nestled between the present 10th and 11th holes of the OC Golf Course. The cemetery property, originally owned by the Community, was eventually managed by Oneida Ltd. and now is under the auspices of the Oneida Community Mansion House. A Cemetery Committee, made up of Oneida Community descendants, has been in place for decades and chaired over the years by Jeanne Garner, Merry Leonard, and most recently Kelly Rose. The committee oversees the general operation and finances of the cemetery and is responsible for the upkeep of its lawns and border.

Recently, historic tours have been conducted in the cemetery. Cemetery Committee-member Lang Hatcher has single-handedly extended and defined the borders. Maintenance of the grounds is managed by a Sherrill landscaping company at a reasonable cost and a couple of trees were planted in memory of Oneida Community families. Plaques have been installed to identify the burial spaces of John Humphrey Noyes and Harriet Holton, and historic gravestones have been repaired. While a few trees "at risk" have been removed over time, the committee has funded fertilization and pruning of the largest and oldest trees on the property to protect and preserve them. A few committee members recently compiled a complete inventory of all burials since 1863. This extensive list is maintained and is up to date.

With limited funds, the committee is careful to keep expenses at a minimum even as visitors comment that the grounds have never looked better. Future plans, which include cleaning and repair of the historic stones and improvement of the lawns and borders, can only be realized with additional funding. Several families have generously offered donations over the years but additional contributions are always gratefully accepted. Checks for donations and for burial fees may be made out to the Oneida Community Cemetery, c/o Polly Held, Treasurer, 170 Kenwood Ave., Oneida, NY 13421.



1900



Today

At a recent meeting of the Oneida Community Mansion House Board of Trustees, burial guidelines established by the committee, were formally adopted into policy. At one point, Oneida Ltd. directors and their families were permitted burial in the cemetery. Now burials are restricted to Oneida Community descendants and their spouses or are subject to the approval of the committee. Because space is a concern, cremation burials are expected and preferred. The current fee for a cremation burial is \$300 and many families have already chosen to "pre-pay." Repair of gravestones and maintenance of the area immediate adjacent to a stone are the responsibility of the family of the deceased. The committee has a list of recommended monument companies in the area who fix stone in need of repair and install new grave stones. Descendants interested in burial in the cemetery are asked to submit a letter indicating their plans to Kelly Rose, 717 West Hamilton Ave., Sherrill, NY 13461, or email her at [kellynrose@gmail.com](mailto:kellynrose@gmail.com). Along with the letter, it is advised that burial location preferences be specified either in writing or in the form of a hand-drawn map. The final decision on location will be made jointly between the family and the committee depending on space.

The cemetery, like the Mansion House, is a family treasure. The committee's mission is to preserve our historic past, to maintain and enjoy the cemetery now, and to ensure its future for generations to come. As always, suggestions and thoughts of all descendants and their families are welcomed by the Oneida Community Cemetery Committee:

Kelly Rose, *Chair*  
 Polly Held  
 Susan Campanie  
 Kathy Garner  
 Pody Vanderwall  
 Lang Hatcher

Dorian Cragin  
 Merry Leonard  
 Jeff Garner  
 Emily Swift  
 Jessie Mayer  
 Craig Crowell, *Consultant*



## ANOTHER ELLIOT HINDS SYORY

By Geoff Noyes

I much enjoyed reading the Elliot Hinds article in the September 2014 *OC Journal*. I am a long-time Elliot admirer, and as a kid, he was almost an idol to me. Since he died 23 years before my birth, how could that be?

Elliot was perhaps my grandfather's (P. B. Noyes) best boyhood friend, especially given their mutual proclivity for adventure and unconventional pursuits. He was, as well, the subject of many "Elliot" stories my grandfather told me in the 1950s.

A great one is this (I am retelling it at quite a time distance, so don't hold me to too much precision). In the early 1900s, one of the Wayland-Smith senior gentlemen (I think P. B. said it was Louis, but it may have been Frank or Gerard; I will use Louis [G W-S thinks Frank]) purchased a Tennessee Walker stallion, from a farm in Tennessee. He had it shipped to Kenwood by train. The freight car with stallion arrived on the O & W Kenwood siding with much fanfare. Many Mansion House and local people turned out to attend the introduction of this classy horse. Elliot was one of them.

When the horse, stiff-legged and weary from a 1,000 mile trip, came off the car and onto the

ground Elliot came up to Louis and said, "Hey, can I get up and try him out a bit?" Louis said, "OK." Elliot rode him to Hamilton and back.



*Elliot Hinds, early 1890s*

## CHARLIE THE BARBER REDUX

by Lang Hatcher

Jess' article in the last *Journal* put me in mind of the former barber shop in the OL Administration Building. It was very much a hang-out for Kenwood youth and for various reasons.

Along with Charlie (the Barber) Warren, the shop came equipped with two large mirrors with counters and cabinets below on the west side wall whose door opened onto the outside hall. A barber chair (or two depending on whether sales meetings were in progress) faced the mirrors. On the south side between the two mirrors was a large, white enameled sink for occasional shampoos and a hand-held vibrator which Charlie applied to the heads of those who were having a bad day after a good night.

In the southeast corner was a table with the daily paper and some vintage magazines. Office-type wooden armchairs extended along the east wall coming to a store-type glass counter along and in front of the north wall filled with candy and tobacco products. A large, tall brass spittoon was standing at the end of the counter which was seldom missed by cigar smokers. In between snips



*Charlie the Barber, early 1940s.*

at a seated hair customer, Charlie had to be prepared to make change for retail customers as well as keep an eye on young lingerers who might have had an eye on a five cent Hershey bar.

The kids did keep an eye on his barbering and we all remember Uncle Lou Wayland-Smith who came to the shop every mid-afternoon for his daily shave. Charlie seated him in the chair,

laid him back horizontally and, after lathering him up, worked a glistening straight razor around his neck and chin. And, Charlie never nicked Uncle Lou with that lethal-looking blade despite never having any one else to practice on. Charlie's tonorial training was a matter of speculation. My late father-in-law told me that when Charlie arrived in town, he was said to be a professional card-player down on his luck. My Aunt Kat who worked in the office came into the shop one day for some smokes and finding me in the chair proceeded to tell Charlie how to cut my hair. He was greatly offended to have his expertise so challenged.

Perhaps Charlie's greatest gift was his innovation and additions to the English language

*Cont'd. next page*

which were quickly passed around the office by Crawford Herick and others. "Aw, he ain't nothin' but a flash in the pants," and "There he stood, completely mucus," were reasonably typical of his expressions. For many years, he was treasurer of the Vernon Agricultural Society. Pete Noyes and others joined the society to hear Charlie read his annual report.



Lou Wayland-Smith, about 1948.

Charlie was devoted to Harley Noyes, OL's sales director, for whom he kept a supply of various brands of booze for use with customers staying at the Mansion House and card games staged in the basement "Locker Room." He must have run out of a desired brand causing Harley to say (unfairly), "That Warren, they'd send his brains to Harvard but they can't find a box small enough." Later Charlie was put in charge of the Administration Building janitorial and maintenance staff.

The Locker Room located in the Mansion House basement is a subject all by itself. It was originally intended to serve golfers after a round on the company's nine-hole course. It contained a few abject and disused lockers but its main attraction was its bathroom. This room featured two large fully tiled walk-in showers, a sink and a toilet. As such it attracted a certain amount of custom from kids and occasional adults. Some weekly customers were Jim and Cot Orton and their cousin Al Noyes. Their house in The Orchard had to accommodate five adults and the three kids and had one full bathroom. Nini's parents, Jerry and Betty Wayland-Smith, lived next

door and on Friday night would see Jim, Cot and Al headed for the Locker Room with towels in hand. Free-lance showering in the Locker Room ceased when OL turned it into the "Rumpus Room" which featured booze and cards for locals with company guests.

One of Charlie's regular non-OL customers was Fred Monroe, a well-known Oneida undertaker. Fred looked at Charlie one day and said, "When are you going to give up?" Charlie said warily, "What do you mean?" Then Fred said, "I bury people every week who look better than you. In fact, I make them look pretty good!" There's no report on Charlie's reply.

As you can see, Charlie the barber was a well-liked and long-suffering good guy who gave a lot to the place in many different ways. Also, he was not cadaverous-looking and he met Uncle Lou's high standards of blade and brush.

ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF  
JOHNSON INDIVIDUAL ROOM TEMPERATURE CONTROL

Oneida Community Limited's Kenwood, N. Y., Building. A. L. Brockway, Architect, Kenwood, N. Y., E. F. Dolis, Mechanical Contractor, Utica, N. Y.

**PROPER TEMPERATURE CONDITIONS  
ENCOURGE EFFICIENCY OF WORKERS  
AND SAVE TONS OF FUEL**

*Since 1928:*... the men and women employed in the Oneida Community Ltd. Kenwood building have given little thought to the regulation of heat in their offices. It is AUTOMATIC. The Johnson Temperature Control System is always on the job. No shivering with cold—no overheated, lagging workers. 57 individual room thermostats operate 111 radiator valves in this Oneida Community Administration and Office building—to maintain correct temperatures, to provide healthful comfort and to save large quantities of fuel. The uniformity of Johnson performance means that plant operators enjoy maximum convenience with minimum effort. They are able to turn their attention to other important work. Look into the advantages of Johnson Automatic Control Systems. There is a Johnson engineer near you who will be glad to talk over the desirable features and savings that the Johnson engineered Control will bring to your building... regardless of whether or not the building is old or new. Johnson maintains direct branch offices in principal cities. Call or write for a conference at your convenience. Johnson Service Company, Milwaukee 2, Wisconsin.

**JOHNSON** *Automatic Temperature and Air Conditioning* **CONTROL**  
DESIGN • MANUFACTURE • INSTALLATION • SINCE 1885

This 1946 ad in "Business Week" magazine featured the Sales Office for its advanced system of temperature control (gift of Mark Perry).

## A NEW EXHIBIT IN THE OLD HISTORY ROOM

by Tony Wonderley

One of the stations on our house tour is the "History Room," a space used for more than thirty-five years as a sort of orientation exhibit. In it was a diverse array of artifacts touching on many aspects of Community life, including costume, printing, diet, eugenics, clothing, childhood, tourism, furniture, advertising, fruit-canning, thread-making, traps, and silverware. For a long time, we hoped to bring it up to date and into sync with what we emphasize in our tours.

An important theme is this. The Oneida Community was the largest maker of traps in the U.S. and one of the country's leading producers of thread. At the same time, the Bible Communists were the most generous employers around. By vote, the commune turned itself into Oneida Community, Ltd. which became the world's largest manufacturer of flatware. At the same time, the

company ensured that all those working at Oneida could prosper. The two "Oneidas" are the same continuous story of industry and idealism.

We wanted a display space that would help us convey that message while also illustrating Oneida's quality advertising and design. We needed to show, as well, some of the ways Oneida affected the world and contributed to the character of our region.

To realize the new exhibit, "Oneida Industries," the Executive Director obtained grant money from the New York State Council on the Arts with support from Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature. Ted Anderson of Exhibition Alliance (Hamilton) designed the panels filled with historic and advertising imagery. Ted and Pat determined the decor, and our maintenance team of Mike Colmey, Chris Stedman, and Kevin Klossner installed it. Please inspect it and tell us what you think. There is also a book where you can share your memories of the company.



*The History Room in 1977  
(courtesy Richard L. Williams)*



*The History Room today*



## THE END OF BAG-MAKING IN THE ONEIDA COMMUNITY

“Traveling bags,” “carpet bags,” and “lunch bags” were manufactured at the Oneida Community from 1854 to 1868. The Perfectionists made a wide variety of such luggage from panels of carpet or leather stitched to metal frames. The business apparently was discontinued in the face of low profitability and strong competition. Overall, however, bag-making was a fairly lucrative industry in the judgment of Constance Robertson (*Oneida Community: An Autobiography*, p. 20)

The Perfectionists viewed bag-making as an important social activity bringing men and women together in productive labor. Yet, the industry also exemplified the Community’s move toward hiring outsiders to accomplish the work. In 1865, for example, the manufacturing of bags furnished “employment to fifteen of the Community people, men and women, to eight hired men, and about twenty-five hired sewing women and girls, besides the work done by daily bees and otherwise in the Community Mansion” (*Circular*, September 18).

Given below are notices of the bag business reported in the Community’s *Daily Journal* from 1866 to 1868. Economic considerations are not reported in any detail. Instead, what shines through these accounts is the joy Community members felt working together in their bag bees.

January 17, 1866

The Bag-bees were brought to a close to-day, the first time in eight or ten years. The suspension will probably be brief, as it results only from the present demand for bags. There is an interesting history of these bees which we hope will sometime be written. There has been romance in them as thrilling as anything in Scott’s Novels. They have been a school of intellectual improvement as well as of industry. Hundreds of books have been read while thousands of bags have been making. A wide range of literature has been canvassed, from Scott and Cooper to Dickens and Thackeray and Charles Reade. The last popular new novel and the last *Atlantic Monthly* have been listened to while fingers were busily stitching. These bees played an important part in the solution of the problem of attractive labor. They have been the means of fellowship between men and women, and between young and old. Who will ever forget them in the Old Parlor, under the Butternut tree on bright summer afternoons, in the New Hall, and in the Upper Sitting Room?



“Bag-Bee on the Lawn” was advertised as being “of interest to some as indicating how Communism renders work attractive” (1865).

March 5, 1866

Machinery for making bag frames and bag ornaments is nearly ready for use. It was voted that G. W. Hamilton employ several hands, by hiring, if necessary, and begin the business.

April 13, 1866

To the Community Agents. With this you will receive revised price list of Bags. On comparing it with the old list you will note important changes. Muslin common (lined and unlined) have been reduced from \$1.50 to 2.50 per doz.; Muslin Pelissier \$4.00 doz.; Gent’s. B Sacks an average of \$5.00 doz.; Solferino \$6.00; Magenta \$10.00; Fancy and Leather Pelissier \$6.00; Ladies’ Satchels from \$6.00 to \$9.00; and Lunch Bags from \$12.00 to \$16.00 per doz.

These reductions are made partly on account of reductions in cost of stock, but mainly with a view to making a price list which shall be generally acceptable, and which shall represent the new policy of “selling as low as we can, instead of getting all we can.”

Our prices may not now be in all respects as low as those of some other parties, but we trust they will be found nearly so considering the quality of work; and we promise further reductions as rapidly as the cost of stock and manufacturing and be reduced.

Last year the net profits of the Bag department were 10 per cent. on sales; we shall be contented this year with 5 per cent.

May 18, 1866

The bag-bees are quite well attended now-a-days and there is considerable demand for work. Ten dozen muslin bags were made in four days last week. Victor Hugo's "Toilers of the Sea" is now being read in the bees...

The work of reducing the Price List of bags is again going on. Our bagmakers and financiers seem determined to command the market, as well by the lowness of their prices as by the superior quality of goods. Seventy-six sizes of Traveling Bags, Gent's. and Ladies' Satchels and Lunch Bags, are now manufactured. The various names of the bags are as follows: Enameled Muslin, lined, unlined, Gothic and Pelissier; Brussels Carpet, Common and Pelissier; Gent's. Leather Magenta Sacks; Gent's. Leather Solferino Sacks; Gent's. Leather Magenta Sacks; Fancy Pelissier, Half Morocco and Full Morocco, lined; Leather Pelissier, Plain, With Pocket; Ladies' Leather Satchels, Gilt Mounted, and Steel Mounted, A. D. E. H. and O; Ladies' Quadrille Satchels, Plain Lock and Eagle Lock; Ladies' Muslin Satchels; Leather Lunch Bags, Drill Cloth Lunch Bags, Leather Cloth Lunch Bags and Ladies' Lunch Bags.

Twelve hired men and five hired women are employed in the shop now.



*Another bag-bee, staged in the Big Hall, shows a man (right center) reading aloud from a book (1865).*

June 7, 1866

In the bag-bees, the reading of "The Toilers of the Sea" has been finished and the book now in hand is another of Hugo's--"The Hunch-back of Notre-Dame."

September 26, 1866

We passed through the upper sitting-room this morning in quest of items and found a delightful bag-bee, including Maud among the number, grouped around the stove. During our brief stay, we heard such eloquence as might well commend itself to the emulation of the Theological class.-- This bee may be considered as very suggestive not only of the flushness of work in the the bag-department, but of the atmosphere of work and industry that pervades the Community generally. It is impossible to touch the O. C. at any point, without feeling the nimbus of a healthy activity.

November 3, 1866

A bee was called for, and well attended yesterday, in the upper sitting-room at the New House [1862 Mansion House], to assist the Bag-Shop hands in finishing off a lot of bags, that were needed to fill their orders--another bee is expected today. One of the sisters remarked, that the bee

reminded her of H. A. N.

[Harriet Noyes, perhaps then at Wallingford], and her labors of love, and gave her a renewed desire to see her.

November 29, 1866 — Bag-shop Experience

Our contribution of a Lunch-Bag to the World's Fair at Paris, was called for much sooner than was expected. Three days only were left us for getting out patterns, design &c., and part of the materials at least, in Utica and New-York. Our courage was at a low ebb, very, when we thought of the short time, and of those skillful Frenchmen the other side of the water ready to laugh at our Yankee attempts. We remembered

*Cont'd. next page*

also that the Lunch-bag sprung from an inspired idea of Mr. Noyes's so setting aside the thought of competition, and resolving to let it stand on its originality for merit, we determined that it should be done. With this, good luck started. No time was lost waiting for articles, thanks to the Agency brother who so fully entered into the exigency of the occasion. At the required time the Bag was finished, being quite appropriately surmounted by the American Eagle and stars for a lock. We could not but notice that a good Providence was over us, and that the invisibles were helping us. We were also struck with a certain admiration for the working of the Express lines, the Railroads and other conveniences, so near annihilating space in this wonder working age.

The Bag was made of Turkey morocco, nearly blue (the skin of the goat or chamois, with the most minute seeds pressed upon its surface), with a raised figure and trimming. A silver fork, with silver plated knife and lunch-box completed the out-fit.

January 17, 1867

In meeting last night, Mr. Woolworth brought up the subject of the Bag-business, for discussion. He thought that department needed strengthening, and it was proposed that more hands from the family be put into the work, and the Bag-bees resumed. The proposal was heartily sympathized with.

January 21, 1867

The Bag bees commenced to-day. They are held in the upper sitting-room at 1/4 to 10 o'clock A. M., and continue one hour.

April 1, 1867

Bag-Shop.-- Every month's experience brings with it, abundant reasons for faith and perseverance in doing business as unto the Lord. We have never found that keeping religion and business separate, has worked well for either. The thorough organization which we have in the Bag-department at this time, we believe to be the result of prayer and inspiration.

Mr. Noyes' talks about a soft heart have created an atmosphere in which it is easy to pray and be receptive to God in all things. We expect in a spirit of unity with God and each other, to accomplish all that the family hope we may, and make the department a means of income not only financially, but spiritually.

Muslin Bags made last month,	30 1/2 doz.
Leather, " " " "	36 1/2 "
Orders for this month,	108 "
Bag Sales,	\$3,043.43

June 10, 1867

Miss Nun said that the Bag Department had concluded to have bag-frames of a different pattern from those they have been making, and she wanted to know whether they should be bought or made at W. P. [Willow Place, where the factory complex was later located in Sherrill]. If made there it will require forty or fifty dollars worth of tools. Some thought it would be cheaper to buy. Referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. G. W. Hamilton, M. H. Kinsley, G. Campbell, J. F. Sears, E. S. Burnham and Miss Nun.

September 4, 1867

The bag-bees, that have been suspended during the pressure of business in fruit-preserving, commence again to-day. They will be held as formerly, in the upper sitting-room between ten and eleven o'clock A. M.

September 28, 1867

[Traveling agent H. H. Perry reporting from Ohio]: All bag dealers like our bags, say they are too good--too expensive for selling. Even our best customers sell ten times as many from Peddle and other manufacturers.

January 20, 1868

As our first move towards closing up the Bag business, our agents have been instructed to dispose of our manufactured stock, by giving their customers better rates of discount, as an inducement for them to buy more, and earlier in the season than is usual. We have received since Jan. 6, orders to the amount of \$1,287.00, with the assurance from some of the agents that we shall be able to sell all the bags we have made or can make, at good prices, without any difficulty.

As frames are the most unsalable stock we have on hand, we propose to make up our stock of leather, enameled muslin &c., with reference to these, which we can do and still supply our customers with any styles of bags they may order.

Our present number of hired hands is eight, four men and four women. These, with six men and three women of our family, half a day together with the bag bees, constitute our present force.



*Employees making Oneida Community bags (left to right): Nellie Bryon, Mary Baker Tipple, Frances Adkins Primo, Nettie Phelps, Frances Dewey, Mrs. Silas Gilbert, and Jane Gilbert (1866).*

March 19, 1868

We are encouraged in regard to closing up the Bag business. Yesterday, G. W. Hamilton took a memorandum of a lot of unfashionable, steel-mounted satchels--about forty-five in all--and to-day he sold them. True they were sold at a discount, probably some below cost, but we are satisfied with the sale. They were sold to a firm in Utica for \$150, on thirty days. We trust this is but a prelude of our future luck in this line of things. G. W. H. expects to take the train for Syracuse and Rochester to-night where he will try his hand at a large lot of gilt-mounted satchels.

March 20, 1868

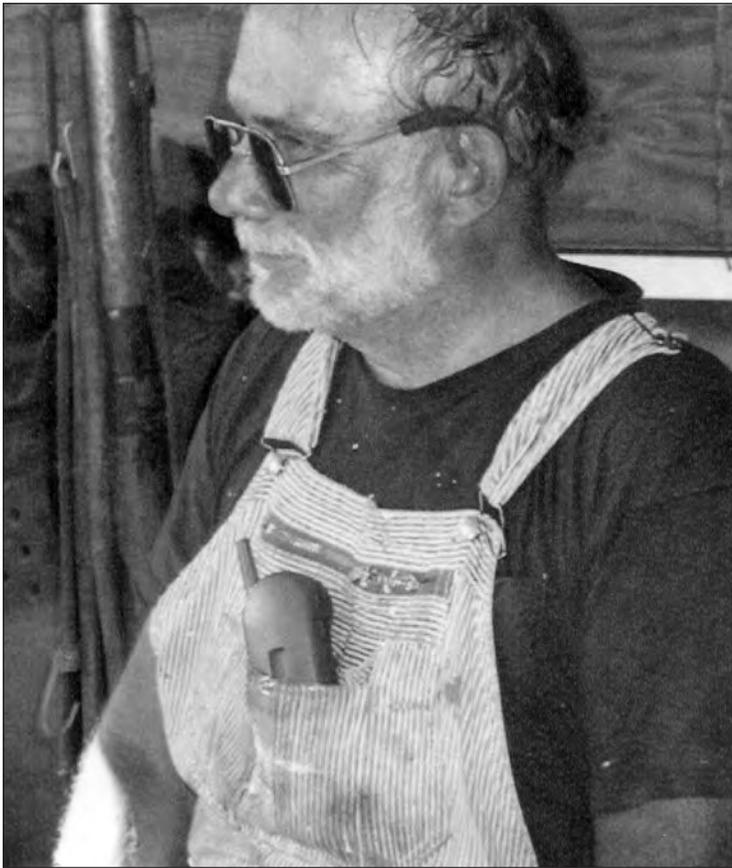
The question is often asked, "When do you expect to finish the bag business?" We cannot give a definite answer to this inquiry, but will endeavor to report progress occasionally. We have made, during the past year, 157 different kinds and sizes of bags. Fifty-two of these we have now discontinued making, forty-one of the different varieties being entirely sold out.

March 23, 1868

Mr. Woolworth remarked that they had fixed on the first of May as the time for closing the bag-business. If it can be finished before, it will be. This announcement was received with applause.



## REMEMBERING TOM RICH (1941-2015)



*Tom Rich (courtesy of Pody Vanderwall)*

### *Pody Vanderwall:*

Son of Jane (Kinsley) and Wells Rich, Tom worked his entire life for Oneida Ltd. In the 1970s, he was an engineer of the steam locomotive at the Erie Canal Village in Rome. He loved to tinker with machines and engines and, at one point, built (mostly from scratch) a tractor which he painted John Deere-green. He was an early member of the Oneida Rifle Club. The NY Steam Engine Association's annual Pageant of Steam near Canandaigua was the highlight of his year. Derek (Arizona) and Brandon (Florida) are his sons. Tom's progressive disability was attributed to post-polio syndrome, a remnant of a mild case contracted in 1956.

### *Ed Kirk (letter to Pody Vanderwall, April 8, 2015):*

[I visited Tom during his final years at Harding Nursing Home.] Tom loved it when I would have some news to tell him about Kenwood, Sherrill, a classmate or a fellow employee at the Ltd. What always inspired me about visiting him in Waterville was that he never lost interest in life in spite of being confined to a nursing home.

Every visit he would bring back memories of the wonderful days of growing up by the Knife Plant and in Kenwood. I cannot imagine how dull my childhood would have been without having Tom as a friend back then. It was his idea that we construct our own private telegraph line between his house and mine. It worked but we got into trouble with the State of New York when a tractor trailer hit the wire that we had run over and above the Oneida Creek bridge.

When my sister told me that Tom had died, we decided to get out of the house and drive down to the railroad tracks in Oneida and not leave until a train passed by. This was just a little thing we could do to honor him. As we approached the tracks, the gates came down and the longest train (125 cars) that we have seen in awhile went through the crossing. It was something I would have told Tom about on my next visit.

### *Tom Rich:*

Kirky [Ed Kirk] was really into trains (Lionel). He lived across the bridge on the opposite side of the road from the Knife Plant (four houses--all gone now). I made two telegraphs, one for him and one for me, bought about 500 feet of wire which we strung between the elm trees down to the bridge, then across the creek to Kirky's house. Trouble is, the wire was too low. An OL truck hit it and took it down. Boy, did we get into trouble for that. We finally got smart and ran the wire under the bridge to cross the street and then across the creek. Neither one of us learned Morse Code but we did have fun. We powered the two with Ed's train transformer (only 12 volts).



## REMEMBERING DONNA KOWANES (1943-2015)

*by Kelly Rose*

Donna had been a fixture at the Mansion House for more than 20 years but my family and I have known her considerably longer. Our paths first crossed in the late 1980s at the Gethsemane Church in Sherrill where she managed some custodial duties. In 1992, when my mother was preparing to move to the Mansion House and sell her house in The Vineyard, I called upon Donna to manage some “heavy cleaning” projects at Mom’s house. Donna went above and beyond the call of duty by working tirelessly all day and refusing to dismiss herself until the basement (a dark, damp, and scary space) had been scrubbed to a shine. This effort was testament to her strong work ethic, which did not go unnoticed by my family. Donna “taught” my girls the value of rolling up their sleeves to tackle jobs that might seem beneath them and of taking pride in the results. My older daughter made sure to invite Donna to her own Mansion House wedding, calling Donna a “knock out” when she arrived at the Big House ceremony in a stunning white suit.

When a housekeeping position at the Mansion opened up in the early 1990s, Neal and I recommended Donna for the job without reservation. We’d like to think that we helped change her life for the better through that employment opportunity. Her work at the Mansion House became her life. And like so many residents who have come and gone over the years, I believe Donna will maintain an everlasting presence in the house. It won’t surprise me at all to come across her rounding a corner, descending a staircase, or making her way down the hall with her linen cart anytime I visit the place.

Beneath Donna’s sometimes crusty exterior was a warm heart. She was always fond of my dog and my kids. She would absolutely beam when the conversation turned to her grandchildren, my niece Chloe, Spencer Noyes, Nancy Cumings, and so many of the Mansion House residents and guests whom she adored.

I don’t know if the feeling was mutual, but any encounter with Donna was a boost for my spirits. The Mansion House won’t be quite the same without her but is a better place because of her.



*Donna Kowanes*



*Donna at work*



## NEWS

*Compiled by Pody Vanderwall and Kelly Rose*

□ Mike and Erin Thompson and Evie (2 years old) have taken up residence in the Jim & Cindy Colway house in The Vineyard. Abby (Campanie) and Will Buchanan with son George (3 years) are residents of the Dutch End. Abby is practicing law part time with the firm of Campanie and Wayland-Smith in Sherrill.

□ Ellen Wayland-Smith and sister, Sarah Wayland-Smith, and their families spent several weeks this summer with Giles and Kate at the Mansion House. Kelly and Neal Rose have relocated to a renovated home in Sherrill where they were visited by their daughters, Jen and Jessica, along with *their* small daughters. One of the latter (Lucy, 3 years) had a chance encounter with the visiting Wayland-Smiths in the Sherrill swimming facility now called the "Al Glover Pool."

□ Paul and Judy Wayland-Smith spent July in town while Joe and Ellen Wayland-Smith summered at their local condo. Geoff Noyes enjoyed a spring trip to Germany to keep his language skills up to snuff. There, he crossed paths with daughter Noelle who was in Europe on business.

□ Jeff Hatcher paid Nini and Lang Hatcher an extended visit from Hawaii in July. John Hatcher hiked in the Scottish Highlands this summer. Maria (Perry) and Randy Skinner recently moved to Buffalo.

□ The Vanderwalls collected seventeen family members (including four by Skype) when the City of Sherrill unveiled a plaque at the new pump house dedicating the facility to Nick Vanderwall. Pody Vanderwall's granddaughter, Laura Strobel, will enter St. Elizabeth's School of Nursing in September. She is an EMT, member of the Sherrill Fire Department, and works at an Alzheimer facility in Clinton. Tom Rich's son, Derek, rode his bicycle 3,000 miles from San Diego to St. Augustine in June.

□ Thomas Hatch and Laura Wayland-Smith Hatch celebrated their 41st anniversary in July.

□ Congratulations and thanks to Gwen Smith, our Business Manager, who commemorated fourteen years at the Mansion House on July 31. Congratulations, also to her daughter, Kaitlin, a recent graduate of Morrisville State College, and to the neighborhood graduates of Vernon-Verona-Sherrill High School: Kayla Ward, Patrick Hart, Liam Traynor, and Emily Vallee.

### Nature Notes

□ There continue to be sightings of a bald eagle—usually at Sunset Lake.

□ Rumor has it that a bobcat is reducing the local fox population on the golf course.

□ A doe with triplet fawns is seen frequently on Skinner Road in back of the Mansion House.

□ Betty Wayland-Smith planted a small butternut tree at the northwest corner of the Vineyard. This year that tree is loaded with butternuts, perhaps for the first time.

□ There are more than twenty dogs in Kenwood. They bear such distinguished-sounding names as Leonard, Beau, Chloe, Winston, Finnegan, Elliott, Urban, Franklin, Bentley, Patina, Stickley, and Jackson.

□ The magnificent red oak tree in the OC Cemetery will be receiving some much-needed treatment this fall from Bartlett's Tree Experts. This tree at one time was distinguished by a concrete reinforcement in its trunk, which has since been removed. One of the largest trees on the ground, it likely got its start before the first gravestone appeared in the 1860s.

□ Overgrown bushes and scraggly trees at the Sales Office have been removed by the industrious Hicks family.

## ADDITIONS & SUBTRACTIONS

*Compiled by Nola DeSimone*

□ Peter and Tina Haley Phan are parents of a son, Jaxon Hayes Kien Phan, born July 10, 2015, in Los Angeles. Maternal grandmother is Annabel Haley; great-grandmother, Louise Smith. Mike and Kate George Clark are parents of a daughter, Vivian Rose, born December 20, 2014, in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Maternal grandfather is Jeff George of New York City.

□ Robert H. Fenner, 69, of Grand Junction, Colorado, died at home on July 6. The son of Haskell and Rachel (Peg) Fenner, he grew up in Kenwood and graduated from SUNY Morrisville with a degree in journalism. He served 51 months on active duty with the U.S. Air Force in the Vietnam War and, subsequently, belonged to several veterans' organizations. He married Marion Smith of Barnum, Minnesota, at the Royal Air Force Woodbridge Chapel in England in 1968. Fenner was employed as a sales representative and branch manager at Syracuse firms including the Pettibone Corporation, the Syracuse Supply Company, and the General Battery Corporation. He is survived by his wife and son, Mark (Grand Junction), and siblings Barbara Kershaw and Richard Fenner (Hamilton, New York).

□ Donna E. Kowanes, 72, died on June 6 from injuries sustained in an automobile accident. She was the daughter of the late Hollister and Herbieta Mae Roundy and was a graduate of P. D. Moore Scholl of Central Square. She retired from Oneida Ltd. as a machine operator at the Knife Plant prior to long-term employment at the Mansion House (see "Remembering"). She was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary Post in Sherrill. Survivors include her son, Tony M. Kowanes of Oneida. She was predeceased by a daughter, Tammy Kowanes.

## NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERS

(through July 31, 2015)

### BENEFACTOR

Mr. & Mrs. John L. Hatcher  
Mr. Andy Ingalls and Ms. Jane Noyes

### DONOR

Dr. Robert Fogarty  
Dr. & Mrs. Scott Gaynor  
Dr. & Mrs. Roger A. Hoffman

### CONTRIBUTING BUSINESS PARTNER

Bailey, Haskell & Lalonde

### CONTRIBUTOR

Mr. & Mrs. Nigel Bolland  
Mr. & Mrs. Geoffrey H. Ezell  
Mr. & Mrs. David Hill  
Dr. & Mrs. Douglas Kerr  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Solenick  
Mr. Jacob Soll & Ms. Ellen Wayland-Smith

### ASSOCIATE

Ms. Jennifer Allen & Dr. L. William Luria  
Dr. & Mrs. John Bowen  
Mr. Bruce Burke  
Mr. Graham Egerton & Ms. Anne Redfern  
Mr. & Mrs. Dwight Evans  
Capt. & Mrs. Jeffrey Fischbeck  
Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Garner  
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin M. Hanlon  
Mr. & Mrs. W. Donald Hanlon  
Mr. Jeffrey Hatcher  
Ms. Emily Herrick  
Mr. & Mrs. H. Ernest Hemphill  
Mr. & Mrs. Hugh Humphries  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael R. Kallet  
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Lyons  
Dr. & Mrs. Cleve MacKenzie  
Mrs. Kristin C. Marshall  
Mr. Robert Miller  
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Moulton  
Ms. Pamela Parker  
Mr. & Mrs. William C. Pasnau  
Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Pawlika  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Simberg  
Dr. & Mrs. Ralph Stevens  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Valesky  
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Wayland-Smith  
Drs. James & Barbara Yonai

### FAMILY/HOUSEHOLD

Mr. & Mrs. Howard Astrachan  
Mr. & Mrs. Ivan Becker  
Ms. Barbara Busch  
Ms. Pauline Caputi & Dr. Anthony Wonderley  
Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Durso  
Ms. Abby Gurgiolo (*Gift of Dr. & Mrs. Scott Gaynor*)  
Mr. Troy Grabow  
Mrs. Edward Haskell  
Mr. & Mrs. John King

Mr. & Mrs. Don Kingsley  
Mr. & Mrs. David LaLonde  
Mr. & Mrs. Craig MacKown  
Mr. & Mrs. Donald L. McIntosh  
Mr. & Mrs. Beal Marks  
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Militello  
Mr. & Mrs. Edmond W. Miller  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Milnes  
Mr. Paul Minton  
Mrs. Crystal Moshier  
Mr. & Mrs. Frank R. Nemeti  
Ms. Judith Parker  
Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Prowda  
Ms. Barbara Rivette  
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Rubin  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Sprock  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Wayland-Smith  
Mr. Willard R. White  
Mr. & Mrs. Barry Zebley  
Mr. & Mrs. Art Zimmer

### INDIVIDUAL

Ms. Nola De Simone  
Mrs. Shirley Drummond  
Mr. Ed Evans  
Ms. Barbara Fisch  
Ms. Anna Giacobbe  
Dr. Joscelyn Godwin  
Ms. Mary Lou Hastings  
Ms. Polly Held  
Mrs. Wanda Herrick  
Ms. Christine Hoffman  
Mr. Edward Knobloch  
Ms. Patricia Labrozzi  
Ms. Marie Magliocca  
Mrs. Mary Mero  
Mrs. Patricia Milnes  
Mr. Thomas Noyes  
Ms. Barbara M. Nurnberger  
Ms. Shirl Oatman (*Gift of Christine Bishop*)  
Mrs. Mary Lou Rosecrants  
Ms. Carol Salerno  
Mrs. Barbara Sanderson  
Mrs. Edith Smith  
Ms. Margaret P. Stevens  
Mr. Scott Swayze  
Dr. Michael Tomlan  
Mr. Terry Tubbs

**RECENT GIFTS TO OCMH**

*(through July 31, 2015)*

**ANNUAL FUND (UNRESTRICTED)**

Mr. & Mrs. Howard Astrachan  
Ms. Cornelia Brewster  
Ms. Pauline Caputi & Dr. Anthony Wonderley  
*(In Memory of Donna Kowanes)*  
Mr. Eric Conklin & Ms. Trine Vanderwall  
Mr. & Mrs. Don Cornue *(In Memory of Jim Colway)*  
Ms. Carol Davenport  
Mr. & Mrs. Wilber Earl *(In Memory of Wilber N. Earl)*  
Mr. & Mrs. Randall Ericson  
Estate of Myrtle Clark  
Mr. & Mrs. Dwight Evans  
Mr. & Mrs. Donald R. Everhart  
Mr. Peter Gebhardt  
Ms. Cindy Gaete  
Mrs. Natalie Gustafson  
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Hanlon  
Mr. Jeffrey Hatcher  
Mr. & Mrs. H. Ernest Hemphill  
Ms. Patricia Hoffman *(In Memory of Donna Kowanes)*  
Dr. & Mrs. Douglas Kerr  
Dr. Marlyn McGary Klee  
Ms. Dawn Leslie Link *(In Memory of Robert Bloom)*  
Mr. & Mrs. Cleve MacKenzie  
Mr. & Mrs. Craig Mackown  
Ms. Marie Magliocca  
Messrs. Wesley & Wester Miga *(In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Walter Miga)*  
Ms. Hope Owen McMahon  
Mr. J. Richard Manier *(In Memory of Jack Kingsbury)*  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Minton  
Mohawk Valley Quilt Club  
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Moulton *(In Honor of Cynthia Gyorgy)*  
Ms. Barbara M. Nurnberger  
Mr. & Mrs. Denato Rafte, Jr. *(In Memory of Donna Kowanes)*  
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Ready  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Sprock  
Mr. Edward Trach  
Mrs. Nick Vanderwall *(In Memory of Tom Rich)*  
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Wayland-Smith  
Mr. & Mrs. David White  
Mr. & Mrs. Jay Williams  
Ms. Lisa C. Wood *(In Appreciation of Lang and Nini Hatcher)*

**CEMETERY**

Mr. & Mrs. Beal Marks

**CONSERVATION**

Mr & Mrs. John L. Hatcher

**CURATORIAL DEPARTMENT**

Mr. & Mrs. John L. Hatcher

**EXHIBITIONS**

Ms. Barbara Busch

**GRANTS**

Kenwood Benevolent Society *(operations)*  
Museum Association of New York *(conference)*

**IN-KIND**

Maren Lockwood Carden – *ten copies “Oneida: Utopian Community to Modern Corporation”*  
White Begonia *(Mystery Theatre Dinner Silent Auction)*  
Ms. Katherine Garner *(Mystery Theatre Dinner Silent Auction)*  
Greek Peak Mountain Resort *(Mystery Theatre Dinner Silent Auction)*  
Mr. & Mrs. Kipp Hicks *(Mystery Theatre Dinner Silent Auction)*  
Ms. Patricia Hoffman *(Mystery Theatre Dinner Silent Auction)*  
Kenwood & Vine *(Mystery Theatre Dinner Silent Auction)*  
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Klossner - *Kirby vacuum cleaner/ carpet shampooer*  
*A Moveable Feast by O’Connor’s – Food, supplies and service to Strawberry Jam In Memory of Donna Kowanes*  
Mark Papa *(Mystery Theatre Dinner Silent Auction)*  
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Petersen *(Mystery Theatre Dinner Silent Auction)*  
Mr. & Mrs. Dwayne Spitzer *(Mystery Theatre Dinner Silent Auction)*

**LAWNS AND GARDENS**

Ms. Linda Schupp  
Ms. Joan Nickerson *(In Memory of Nick Vanderwall)*

**LIBRARY**

Mr. & Mrs. John Kuterka *(Mother’s Day gift for Pody Vanderwall)*  
Ms. Christine Bishop *(In Memory of Donna Kowanes)*

**PROGRAM SPONSORSHIP/TOM RUSH**

The Gifford Foundation  
Oneida Savings Bank Charitable Foundation

**PIANO TUNING**

Tina Wayland-Smith & Mr. Gregory Perkins

**FROM THE PAST**

Gertrude Noyes: Army Wife and Teacher courtesy Paul V. Noyes;  
see "Gertrude H. Noyes, Army Wife," by Jessie Mayer, *Oneida Community Journal*, December 2009)



*Early 1901 in Nagasaki, Japan: Gertrude Noyes (second from left) awaiting return of Capt. Charles R. Noyes, fighting in the Boxer Rebellion, China.*



*About 1918 in Pittsburgh: Gertrude Noyes (right) teaching Kindergarten at a settlement house.*

**Correction**

In the March 2011 issue, we published a picture of Sally Mandel playing the piano on the stage in the Big Hall. The caption indicated she donated the instrument. In fact, the piano probably was purchased in January of 1907. What Sally Mandel did was to have it rebuilt--a generous and kind donation which continues to benefit us.

Oneida Community  
**MANSION**  
**HOUSE**

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