

# Oneida Community JOURNAL

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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 ILLUSTRATION

An aerial view of the Mansion House taken in the 1940s that gives today's viewer a reminder of the many roofs that need to be maintained year after year.

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## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Christine Hall O'Neil

If a non-profit museum can be compared to a painting, OCMH would be a Seurat. The pointillist master's work consisted of a series of seemingly disparate--contrasting--dabs of paint. When seen from a distance, the separate dots appear to dissolve, colors blend together and the painting becomes a vibrating, unified whole.

This metaphor describes the efforts of OCMH's supporters. With COVID's impact and the building's urgent needs, OCMH has relied more than ever on the work of countless people. Some of these efforts are highlighted in this issue but like any collective endeavor, the effort and planning involved in the final product is never fully apparent.

The work to preserve the Mansion House is an excellent example of collective efforts--from Trustees leading committees, volunteers rolling up their sleeves, to members making larger gifts. The Board made a commitment to match the \$600,000 NYS preservation grant. Oneida Savings Bank Charitable Foundation led private efforts to protect the exterior of the building with the first exterior grant and then a multi-year commitment towards preserving the Mansion House. This year, Kenwood Benevolent Society (KBS) stepped up to offer and support a **KBS Matching Gift Campaign**. When individual donors' support exceeded KBS's initial match commitment of \$75,000, KBS generously increased their support to meet the enthusiasm of donors. **The result: over \$243,000 was contributed to the KBS Matching Gift Campaign for the fall exterior project of the Mansion House!**

Lang Hatcher, before his passing, committed \$75,000 to the building project. Former Board Chair, longtime member of the Historic Preservation and the Finance Committees, Lang and his wife, Nini, and their children (John, Betsy, Jeff and Joe) set up a fund to support Lang and Nini's causes beyond their lifetime.

The support for the building has been augmented by foundations and organizations such as: a **Preservation League of NYS/Northern Border Regional Commission** grant; a **Central NY Community Foundation Grant for \$50,000**. Support continues to roll in as others become partners in preserving the Mansion House and its communal history.

While grants and gifts approached nearly \$1.2M, bids for the project came in higher than expected. Like many pandemic construction prices, the \$1.2M project became \$1.5M. Rather than cutting back on the repairs, the Board of Trustees agreed to take on the entire scope of work for

\$1.5M. Ongoing and emerging leaks in the envelope reinforced the wisdom of this decision.

**Thanks to the many who inquired, brought attention to the building's needs and gave to the campaign!** We are excited to begin this project as OCMH embarks on this important building preservation work.

**Like museums across the country**, OCMH's offerings have been impacted by COVID closures. OCMH is grateful for the work of volunteers and docents who contribute their energy and expertise to committees and programs, field requests from colleges, school groups, researchers, and collect stories for the Oneida Ltd. Oral History project. We thank the volunteers and staff who help keep OCMH functioning: painting, cleaning, gardening, including volunteers who clean trails or roll up their sleeves to paint.

Our deep appreciation to all who have contributed time, talent and treasure, including Mark Strong, who stepped off the Board recently. We are grateful to have Dave Hill, past Education and Public Service Committee member, join the OCMH Board and serve as Board Treasurer. Please join us in welcoming Tom Guiler, OCMH's new Director of Museum Affairs; marketing extraordinaire, Tracey Mumford; Polly Held, who holds down the fort, and Jim, Lori, Brandy, Cory, Tia, Gail, Terri, Connie, Lauren who keep OCMH in shape.

COVID has taught us to adapt. We are more proficient with virtual tools so we can connect better with audiences at home or far flung--virtually shrinking our distance from each other and widening our community. Last fall, OCMH held its first virtual Annual Meeting via Zoom; in May, to celebrate Preservation Month, we hosted a Zoom Preservation Talk. Look for us to continue to offer opportunities to connect virtually and safely out of doors: in November we will again offer the Annual Meeting virtually.

As we remember OC members working together in "bees", or Oneida Ltd's planned community for their workers, we know inspiring collective efforts have emerged here since 1848. If we are fortunate, we see people today working together serving the whole. And if we are even luckier, we get to be a part of this aspirational, collective endeavor.



## A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST STAFF MEMBER

OCMH is pleased to welcome Thomas A. Guiler, PhD, as the Director of Museum Affairs.

Tom will lead the museum into its next stage of interpretation and engagement. With a focus on relevancy and community engagement, Tom will highlight the unique Communal story and explore its impacts on us today.

Members will have an opportunity to meet Tom virtually later this fall at a Meet and Greet Zoom Event. Please check the OCMH website or our Email News for more information.

Born and raised in Rochester, New York, Dr. Thomas A. Guiler earned a BA in History and Philosophy Summa cum Laude from the University of Scranton in 2009. He was also awarded a MA and a M. Phil. in History in 2012 as well as a PhD. in History from Syracuse University in 2016. Prior to coming to the Oneida Community Mansion House, Tom spent just over five years as Assistant Professor of History and Public Humanities at Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library outside Wilmington, Delaware. There, he was a professor in the Winterthur Program in American Material Culture (a joint master's program with the University of Delaware), managed their international research fellowship program, was a staff reader for their academic journal (*Winterthur Portfolio*), and assisted on a variety of exhibits from interpreting the diverse histories of early America to American entrepreneurship and contemporary art.

At heart, Tom is a scholar of utopian and intentional communities and the Upstate New York region. He has published on a wide range of topics including communal groups in the Arts and Crafts Movement to the long material history of the Oneida Community from its roots into the twentieth century. Tom is also engaged with the digital humanities and founded and managed UpstateHistorical, an interactive website that brings the rich history of Upstate New York to life by pinning key historic sites with text, photographs, audio, and video content to tell the story of a particular place, the people that lived there, and events at that location. He is currently serving as Vice President for the Communal Studies Association.

We conducted an interview with him over the Summer to get to know Tom a little better.

### **How did you first become interested in history and working at a historic site?**

Growing up in Rochester, I was constantly surrounded by history—the Erie Canal, Frederick Douglass, Susan B. Anthony, Kodak, and the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, to name a few. I was the little boy who always wanted to know more about the



buildings and places I was seeing and could often be found reading the historical markers on the side of the road. I just wanted to know more about where I lived! But I think the biggest moment was when I first went to Genesee Country Village and Museum in Mumfords, NY for a field trip. Seeing and touching those historic buildings, interacting with interpreters, and learning more about our state inspired me to be a historian. I was a 10 year-old history nerd and never stopped being one!

### **How did you originally become interested in the Oneida Community? Do you see any parallels between the history of the Oneida Community and current issues affecting American society?**

I remember first hearing about the Community in college and being fascinated by the fact that the silverware I was using at home had its roots in this radical nineteenth-century community. I began to research it in graduate school when I wrote an article in *Communal Societies* about how the Mansion House underwent significant material changes that paralleled the social changes the community endured in the late nineteenth century. I visited the Mansion House for the first time while writing that article. When I first took in the building, I was in awe. Walking through the spaces the Perfectionists once inhabited, seeing the amazing artifacts and books, and meeting descendants and people who were so passionate about this place impressed me immensely. I was instantly hooked, and knew I would spend a lifetime researching the rich and diverse stories that emanate from that important structure.

What really excites me about joining this amazing team at the Mansion House is that there are so many incredible stories that have such relevance today. It is so critical that people from all walks of life can see themselves in the OC. The Oneida Community is a story of community, family, and the desire to imagine a better world. People, and especially Americans, have always valued ideas of family and community. There is something inherently American about people wanting to band together to make life better for all people. I think there is a lot we can still learn from the Oneida Community about what it means to be a member of a community—to look out for one another, to value compromise, and to come together to celebrate life as a collective. I also think that there is a lot we can learn about what a family is from the OC. Families have always come in different shapes and sizes. Some folks live with a mom and a dad, some with grandparents, stepparents, aunts, uncles,

adoptive brothers and sisters, foster siblings, and every combination thereof. The OC was and still is a family, even though it looked different from others. I think that we can do so much in telling the story of different kinds of families—stories that all people, young and old, children and adults can relate to and see themselves in. Finally, there is something so human about dreaming—dreaming of a better way to live. By experiencing the Mansion House and learning about these dreamers, I hope that we will inspire people today and into the future to imagine a better world and then give them the courage to enact their vision!

**We have been working on an oral history project with former Oneida Ltd. employees. How do you see connecting their stories with the original Oneida Community?**

I am so glad that an oral history project has already been well established! I am trained as an oral historian and I can't wait to support this good work and help the project grow. One of the things I talked about with many folks at OCMH was the idea of the "three utopias" at the Mansion House. The first utopia is the story of the original Perfectionists; the second utopia is the story of Oneida Limited; and the third utopia is being built today as a present-day community and historic site that aims to educate and inspire. In this sense, I believe the community never stopped being a community; —it just continues to evolve. Together with today's community, I want to tell all those stories together to inspire people today and into the future. I am really looking forward to diving into the deep, complex, and diverse stories and narratives that our current moment is still grappling with: community, social justice, faith, equity, democracy, entrepreneurship, and idealism—all of

which are concepts that people confronted—or at times didn't— at the Mansion House and in today's world. In that spirit, running a museum is a team sport that includes exhibits, oral history projects, community programming, and educational outreach. I am looking forward to working with staff, docents, board members, volunteers, our audiences, and members of the greater Central New York community to listen to those voices and tell complex and nuanced stories in an inclusive and compelling way to local and national audiences.

**What are your goals for your first six months at the Mansion House?**

I think the most important thing someone in this position can do is meet, listen, and learn. My main goal in the immediate future is to meet all of the Mansion House's stakeholders: staff, board members, docents, volunteers, community members, descendants, cultural heritage professionals, state and local officials, and teachers from elementary to college. I want to meet the people who are coming to the Mansion House as well as the people who have yet to discover its magic. I want to know about the myriad of things that we are doing well and where we might have some opportunities for growth and enhancement. One of my core values is that only with a community is success possible. Studying, fostering, and growing a community of people around something we are passionate about—something that has the power to change the world—is something I have built my career on. It is the bedrock of my thinking and I am absolutely thrilled to be joining this community. I know we can do some incredible things in building this "third utopia."

I can't wait to see you all soon!



## OTHER STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

OCMH has made great progress over the last year thanks to the devotion of our staff: A special thank you to maintenance staff; Jim Anderson, Chris Stedman, and Lance Aldrich for all of their hard work renovating the guest rooms and maintaining this great building. Thank you to our housekeepers; Lori Anderson, Brandy Eaton, Cory Patterson and Tia Mahoney for getting the spaces ready to accommodate guests this summer! Thank you to our receptionists; Polly Held, Connie Henry, Terri White, Gail Raynsford, and Lauren Pawlika for continuing to help guests and residents with a smile. Lastly, thank you to Kathy Garner, Roseanne Carmody, and numerous dedicated volunteers for maintaining the grounds and beautiful gardens.

We are excited to welcome a new member to our team, Tracey Mumford, as the Marketing Manager for OCMH. Tracey grew up in Verona and now lives in Sherrill with her husband, Kevin. She worked for Oneida Limited for 22 years, and during that time she was introduced to the Mansion House. She has fond memories of events and parties at the Mansion House during her employment with Oneida Limited, and is looking forward to getting OCMH more involved with the community! Her professional experience in marketing and her deep community roots make her a valuable asset to the team!

## ARCHITECTURAL TOURS: PRESERVATION MONTH – MAY, 2021

Catherine Cornue

If you are, or ever have been, a homeowner, you are all too familiar with the need to make improvements and repairs to your home, both inside and outside. The older your home and the longer you have lived there, the more invested you might be in preserving it for future generations. This is certainly the story of our beloved Oneida Community Mansion House.

During May of this year, three Architectural Tours were held, providing us with the opportunity to share the story of the Mansion House with 31 interested visitors. While the pandemic kept the inside tours on hold, the warmer weather allowed us to walk around the outside of the building and tell its story. As we began, docents Linda Evans, Gary Onyan, Tim Cumings and myself, working in pairs, explained that we are not architects but would do our best to answer their questions.

Although it is one “house” it was built in five different stages, from the initial 1862 building to the lounge in 1914. Each one has its own architectural style: Italianate; Second Empire; Vernacular; Victorian Gothic Revival; possibly another Vernacular style. Imagine having to care for a home that is 93,000 square feet with 29 different roof sections! As the different architectural features were pointed out, some background information about each of them and the roles that each section played for the Community were briefly explained.

As we gathered on the lawn, facing the main entrance, we invited everyone to imagine a group of 170 people meeting to come up with a style for their new home to replace the wood framed Mansion House, built in 1854. Thanks to community member and self-taught architect Erasmus Hamilton, various possibilities were presented and debated until a decision was made for the Italianate style. Visitors are always astonished at how quickly this building, including the interior, was built, beginning in April, 1861 and ready to move in by June, 1862.

*“There is much in this style adapted to the wants and tastes of their country and wealthy men of the world and consequently it is quite a favorite and no doubt is an improvement.”* (Community member)

Moving to the south side, we pointed out the differences in both style and function for this section. By 1868 the Community was planning to increase its birth rate and decided to build a larger, more modern space with the latest technologies on heating, water and sanitation. By then, Second Empire architecture was in fashion, with mansard roof, dormer windows and a tower, similar to the one in the 1862 house. A bit more elegant than the 1862 building, it had patterned roof shingles, decorative brickwork and more elaborate brackets.

The Quadrangle offered the opportunity to see all of the buildings linked as one and again, to see the areas in need to restoration. In 1863, the curiously named Tontine was built as a multi-purpose center for light industry, laundry, cooking and various business activities. Its Vernacular style is plain, as befits its functions and was a stand-alone building until it was connected by the Lounge in 1914.

In 1878, the Victorian Gothic building with its four stories, gothic arches, and tall windows presented yet another architectural style, one which emphasized high ceilings, air circulation, and sunlight. Lewis Leeds was an architect from New York City who specialized in healthful designs for high-capacity buildings such as hospitals and government offices. The Community was looking at the possibility of merging the Wallingford branch of the Community and moving all its members to Oneida. They had been suffering from malaria for a number of years and it was causing not only the physical discomforts of fever, aches and chills, but was also disruptive to the businesses that had been thriving there. Despite many attempts at finding cures, in the end, Mr. Leeds was commissioned, the building commenced and eventually, a large contingent moved from Wallingford to Oneida, away from the cause of malaria and into the more healthful environment, the “New House.”

While the experiences of the Wallingford branch are only briefly touched on during the Architectural Tour, a fascinating look into that time and place can be found in the New Circular, June 2018 Issue edited by Anthony Wonderley, on the Oneida Community website at [oneidacommunity.org/oc-journal](http://oneidacommunity.org/oc-journal). The first-person accounts of various individuals and the effect malaria had on the whole community make for fascinating reading. Having experienced the sickness and disruptions caused by the COVID pandemic, we can certainly identify in some way with these problems, if not their treatments!

Throughout the tour, we pointed out the woody bushes and trees that had been removed around the building. These plantings trapped moisture and impacted the foundations, part of the restoration needed. At the time this was built, foundations were designed to be exposed. Just think of Downton Abbey!

One interesting tidbit that we shared with these visitors was that some of the cement work on the first section of the Mansion House foundation and the back of the Lounge was different than the rest of the house. How was the cement made to look so even? Thanks to some research last fall, we found the answer. The cement is extruded between the stones. The extra cement is smoothed out and then a straight edge level was pressed against the cement and the cement was scored on each side, leaving



*Close-up of the mortar work mentioned above*

about  $\frac{3}{4}$ " of straight, smooth cement work between each stone. The extra cement was scraped away, leaving the straight section, which looks like a very even box around each stone. We have no idea why it was done this way but imagine it was time-consuming, which may be why it was not continued.

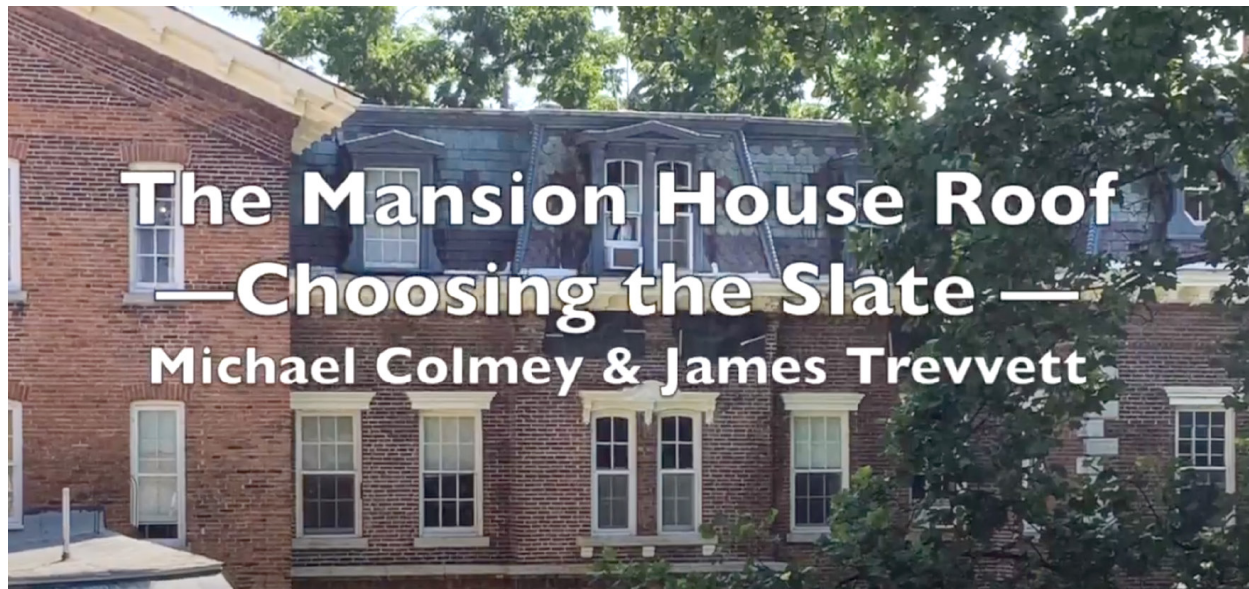
We pointed out rubber sheeting which covered areas of brick that were in need of repair, improper mortar and water damage caused by the removal of Yankee gutters in the mid 20th century. While all of this might seem overwhelming, the good news is

that preservationists and architects tell us that the Mansion House has "good bones" and is structurally sound. In fact, the construction exceeds many of our standards today and was technologically advanced. The brickwork is actually six courses thick! The historic preservation architect working with the OCMH Board reported "The majority of the buildings are 150+ years old and are functioning, for the most part, as designed. A testament to good design, construction and quality materials."

With these tours taking place during Preservation Month, it gave us an opportunity to mention the OCMH preservation grants and the \$1.5M roof project that should start soon. We were in the midst of the matching gift campaign as well, where any amount donated by individuals, like our visitors, would be doubled. Repairs will begin with the roof of the Main House and South Wing, eliminating the damage caused by water, ice and snow, both outside and inside. Like our own homes, there will be more to repair, and in doing so, it will preserve the Oneida Community Mansion House and its story for generations to come.



## INTRODUCING OCTV



**W**e're excited to launch OCTV! A short video series featuring topics from preservation to Communal history.

The videos will be created monthly and shared via Facebook, YouTube and Instagram.

In these short video clips, our talented staff and team of volunteers will share their knowledge, work, questions and discoveries about the Mansion House.

Featured in our first installment on Facebook you will find Mike Colmey, OCMH Director of Building and Grounds, and James Trevvett, OCMH Board Member with Bell & Spina Architects, being interviewed by Chelsea Scheurman. Watch as they choose slate colors for the crucial roof preservation project scheduled to begin this Fall!

*Acknowledgements: Made possible with the help of a MANY/IMLS Capacity Building Grant*

## THE KENWOOD BENEVOLENT SOCIETY: PRESERVING THE MANSION HOUSE AND SUPPORTING ONEIDA COMMUNITY DESCENDANTS

*Carolyn Strobel-Larsen*

As a descendant of the Oneida Community who grew up in Kenwood and Sherrill, I have had a close connection with the Mansion House my entire life. This connection was deepened three years ago when I joined the board of the Kenwood Benevolent Society, a small charitable organization that became known to many more people this spring when we led a matching gift campaign for OCMH. The Kenwood Benevolent Society, or KBS as it is known to those involved, has been mentioned in previous issues of the Quadrangle, first in 1902. I am excited to author a contemporary article about KBS and our recent campaign to support the preservation of the Mansion House.

The Kenwood Benevolent Society was started in 1902 by a group of Oneida Community descendants. Two of the primary reasons for the organization's formation were to provide support for descendants and to preserve the communal home. The founders of KBS recognized that the Oneida Community provided a support net for individuals when sickness or hard times hit, and that following the dissolution of the community, that built-in support structure no longer existed. The founders were proud of the fact that wealth was distributed evenly among community members during its existence and wished for that same support net to exist for descendants. The founders also desired to support the "common Kenwood home," which continued to be the home of many descendants and their children, and to improve the Mansion House and ensure that it would continue to be well-maintained and preserved even after the end of the community.

Over the past 120 years, KBS has continued to support these two primary purposes. There are currently 11 members, all of whom are descendants. Every year, we make a gift to OCMH and an additional dozen or so charities that are focused on making an impact on residents of the local community.

In 2020, several KBS board members attended OCMH's annual meeting, which included an update about the building preservation efforts and dire needs of many aspects of the building. Our group had previously received an overview of the preservation needs from Christine O'Neil and other members of the OCMH team the year before. During our yearly meeting, we reflected upon what we had heard in the annual meeting and decided that now was the time to make a sizable gift that would truly impact the needs of the Mansion House. We decided to give \$75,000 in support of these preservation efforts, significantly more than our typical annual gift, and I offered to help OCMH with a

matching campaign so that our contribution could help inspire additional gifts.

Throughout the spring, a small group of us—including Christine, myself, board member Laura Wayland-Smith Hatch, and OCMH staff Theresa Batty and Chelsea Scheuerman—met regularly to develop the plan for the matching gift campaign. We worked on a mailed letter, multi-part email campaign, dedicated campaign webpage, social media posts, press release, virtual and in-person events, and more. We decided to run the campaign during the month of May, to coincide with National Preservation Month.

When we launched the campaign in May, we had no idea what to expect. This was the first time that OCMH was running a fundraising campaign outside of the annual appeal. Although we were offering to match up to \$75,000, we weren't sure whether we would even reach that goal.

The response that we received was immediate and inspiring. OCMH received donations by mail and online, from current donors and those who hadn't given recently, often for amounts that exceeded their typical annual donations. At our virtual event midway through the campaign, over 30 people joined in over Zoom to learn about the unique architecture of the building and hear about the preservation needs of the Mansion House. We received positive engagements and support on social media, with friends liking, commenting, and sharing our posts.

When May ended, the final tallying showed that we had exceeded our goal and had brought in over \$105,000, more than \$30,000 over target! Given this exceptional showing from supporters of the Mansion House, the KBS board decided to fully match all of the gifts made, as well as to give an additional \$28,000, bringing the campaign total to \$239,000. The impact of these donations made a significant impact on moving the needle and bringing OCMH close to the total funds needed to cover the first phase of building preservation.

It was truly a privilege to work on this matching campaign and to see the way in which OCMH's supporters responded to a call to support the building's preservation. The Mansion House is lucky to have a talented and dedicated team of staff and board members who care deeply about the organization and its continued legacy. I am excited to see how the preservation work made possible by this campaign helps preserve the Mansion House for decades to come, and I look forward to sharing details about the progress of preservation work with campaign donors over the coming months.





## HAMMER TIME

Michael Colmey

Years in the making. Copious temporary efforts of band-aid after band-aid. Countless meetings with staff members, board members, community members, volunteers, tenants, overnight guests, codes department personnel, contractors, architects, and engineers. Well, the time has come! It's finally here! A collaboration of forces unlike any ever seen before. All a representation of your efforts, the readers of this journal, the contributors to the Oneida Community Mansion House, and the dedication of past and present employees. It is now Go Time! Together with the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, we will embark on the first phase of our facility's exterior facade work. This \$1.5 million dollar project is scheduled to begin in

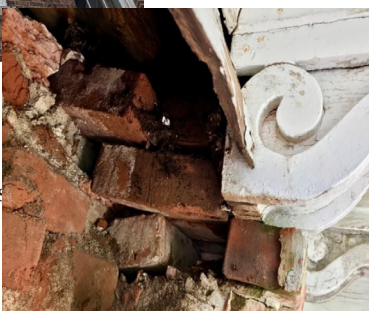


West wall of the South wing in the quadrangle

After this year's priority work, and as early as weather allows next year, Pulver Roofing, the General Contractor who

was awarded the bid for this first phase construction project, will continue with roof rehabilitation around various areas of the Mansion House. The scope of this work will consist of many upper flat roof removals and replacements, mansard roof work including flashing and slate removal and replacements, dormer woodwork and metal trim removal and replacements, some porch roof removal and replacements, and extensive gutter installation around the buildings including ice melt systems in critical areas. Pulver Roofing is no novice to their trade as this year they celebrate 121 years in the business. Some of their project references include work on the Alexander Pirnie Federal Building in Utica N.Y., Willard Chapel in Auburn N.Y., Owen Dyoung Central School District in VanHornesville N.Y., and yes, previous work at Oneida Limited and the Oneida Community Mansion House.

September of this year, with the initial focus on a priority work area located on the west wall of the south wing in the quadrangle.



Masonry, wood framing, & cornice priority work / quad

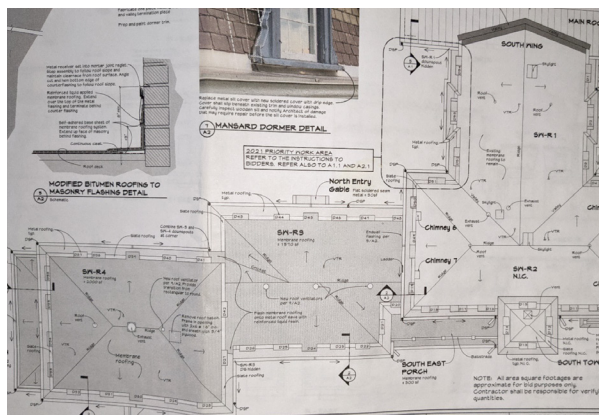


Figure 3: Print of the South wing rehabilitation work

Another critical scope of work involved in this first phase deals with masonry issues. Specifically, repointing, hard incorrect mortar removal and repointing, masonry cleaning, and in some instances brick rebuilding. Key areas include chimneys and roof water outfall locations where deterioration has intensified. Coming in as a subcontractor providing masonry detail on this project is Lupini Construction, who specializes in historic masonry restoration. A few of their project references include work on Hamilton College in Clinton N.Y., Colgate University in Hamilton N.Y., West Point Military Academy in West Point N.Y., and Bolt Castle in Wellesley Island N.Y. It goes without saying how thrilled we are to be working with these two professional, well established, community-oriented businesses.

Last but certainly not least, I would like to bring to your attention the efforts of Architects and Preservation Planners Crawford & Stearns, who have a long history with the Oneida Community Mansion House. Between 1997–2002, this firm was responsible for compiling the thousands of pages of documents which make up The Historic Structure Reports pertaining to all our individual buildings. In the winter of 2016-2017 they prepared our Building Envelope Condition Report, which by now I'm sure most of you have heard about, and most recently, they were contracted as our architects for this first phase roof rehabilitation project.

Although this is only the beginning of a multi-year endeavor, it is indeed a very critical one. The work beginning to take place will certainly help secure the physical sustainability of both the exterior and interiors of the Oneida Community Mansion House. Once again, we thank you all for your tremendous efforts which got us to this point.



## GUEST ROOMS UPDATED WITH AN EYE TO HISTORY

*Chelsea Scheuerman*

In order to continue to attract visitors to the Mansion House, OCMH needed to update overnight guest rooms. Out of respect for the historic nature of the building, the Board hired a historic interiors consultant, Barbara Bartlett. As former Executive Director at Lorenzo and a restoration consultant for NYS Preservation Office, Barbara has an extensive background in historic interiors and furnishings. Barbara made recommendations for the guest rooms on the first floor of the New House that paid homage to the building's features, remained true to the historic context and was sympathetic to the aesthetic history. The work would be a rehabilitation of the spaces, not a restoration due to previous changes in the spaces and its history of use. Modern appointments with a period feel would be used and furnishings would be modern reproductions, reflecting the period. While not museum spaces, the guest room and public areas can still help tell the story of the OC, enhancing visitors' experience.

The museum is now open for daily tours and guests have been enjoying both guided and self-guided tours. The museum has had over 250 people tour the exhibits since opening in mid-June. We are thrilled to see life in the Mansion House again!

In addition to the museum, we opened our first updated guestroom in June, and have been slowly opening the rest as they become available! Most of the updates have been done by OCMH staff along with the help of local contractors and generous volunteers. Thank you to Neal Rose and George Franchell for their many hours of help painting guest rooms, and to Nancy Pawlika for donating her time to sew custom drapes for the magnificent - and large! - windows. Guests have been impressed with the updates, particularly with the removal of the worn carpets and addition of tile in the bathrooms. Barbara's interior design recommendations have allowed us to showcase these spaces in a historically appropriate yet comfortable way.

The guest rooms have been steadily booked throughout the summer.



*Quality Paint and Wallpaper installing William Morris - Strawberry Thief wallpaper in room 141.*



*Left to Right: Jim Anderson, Chelsea Scheuerman, and Mike Colmey installing Bradbury & Bradbury's Lion and Dove frieze wallpaper in room 144*



*Room 134 - Furnished by Stickley, William Morris Pimpernel wallpaper, colors and design from Barbara Bartlett*

“From a historical and interpretive perspective, the decorative motifs of the Arts and Crafts Movement are an ideal way to furnish the new guest rooms. It will allow the Mansion House to contribute to and connect with the rich history of Arts and Crafts in Central New York, as the area was home to luminaries such as Gustav Stickley, Henry Keck, and Adelaide Alsop Robineau. More importantly, Oneida Community, Ltd. and later Oneida Ltd. fully embraced Arts and Crafts in the early 20th century. They invited renowned Arts and Crafts architects Ward Wellington Ward and descendant Theodore Skinner to design structures that have become important historical landmarks in their own right. It is very likely that these homes were kitted out with similar kinds of Stickley furnishings that guests will enjoy in the new rooms. As such, they will allow us to further expand our narrative into the 20th century to tell stories of people who worked and lived in Kenwood and Sherrill in an immersive way. Finally, the new guest rooms will be key in enhancing architecture tours by connecting the interiors of the Mansion House to the rich architectural history of Kenwood and Sherrill in a more cohesive and expansive way.”

*--Tom Guiler, Director of Museum Affairs*

Information about reserving a guest room can be found at: [oneidacommunity.org/overnight-guest-rooms](http://oneidacommunity.org/overnight-guest-rooms)

### CYCLING GUESTS FROM COLORADO



*This year has seen an increase in the number of cyclists coming to stay at the Mansion House. Folks riding across the state on the Empire State Trail--Erie Canalway Trail get off in Oneida and ride to the Mansion House with most staying overnight and taking time to soak up the history and ambience of the site. This group from Colorado was between the ages of 68 and 80 and enjoyed participating in one of Susan Belasco's guided tours.*

## CEMETERY NEWS

*Kelly Rose*

In the business of running a cemetery, “no news is good news”. 2021 has been a relatively quiet year for the Oneida Community Cemetery. That said, a burial ceremony for Marie Perry took place in June and another for Lang and Nini Hatcher took place in July. While Marie, Lang, and Nini are sorely missed, we are grateful that they are interred with family and friends of the Oneida Community on our cemetery’s lovely grounds. The property itself has been beautifully maintained this summer by Dave Stamp of Durhamville. Mr. Stamp is a self-starter who mows the grass and keeps track of anything amiss. The Cemetery Committee voted to treat and preserve a giant Red Oak Tree on grounds that was damaged in a storm a few years ago. The committee had debated about bringing the ancient tree down, but decided to extend its 160

year lifespan a bit longer. We hope that anyone visiting the Kenwood area will include the cemetery on their list of places to see and enjoy.

### **Cemetery Tour:** Saturday, October 9, 10 –11:30 am

Join us for a presentation about the death and mourning practices of the Oneida Community, and how their practices differed from conventional society.

Meet in the Big Hall of the Mansion House for a presentation, then walk to the cemetery for a guided tour.

It is suggested that you wear comfortable shoes.

To register for this tour, email [hospitality@oneidacommunity.org](mailto:hospitality@oneidacommunity.org) or call 315-363-0745

## FROM THE DOCENTS – NEW FACTORY TOURS

*Susan Belasco*

Slowly but surely, life at the Mansion House is returning to some semblance of normal, and these days it is good to see visitors in the House again. Since June, the Mansion House has been open for self-guided and docent-led tours, by reservation. We’ve ushered cycling groups, extended families, overnight lodgers, visiting house guests, and sightseers on a series of tours around the House. As exciting as it has been to be hosting tours again, the docents also worked in May and June on developing a new series of special Factory Tours, which began on July 23. As we emphasize in our regular tours of the House, the story of the Oneida Community and the Mansion House spans three centuries: the founding of the original utopian community in the 19th century; the development of the most successful silverware business in the 20th century; and now, the ongoing account of the restoration of the Mansion House and the presence, in the old factory site, of new businesses. The new Factory Tours are a part of the 21st century story in the life of the Mansion House.



*Greg Owens explains the process of manufacturing flatware during a recent tour*

From the beginning, the members of the Oneida Community were shrewd about business, and that acumen has been a feature throughout the three centuries of its history. Unlike other utopian communities in the 19th century that depended exclusively on agriculture, the Oneida Community manufactured a variety of products, especially metal animal traps, that supported the Community and built the Mansion House. By the early 1860s, they dominated the trap market and were making over 200,000 a year. Production on that scale demanded the construction of a factory and the hiring of scores of employees to



*Back in the day...*

work in assembly-line fashion. The factory they built in 1864, about two miles north of the Mansion House, was the largest trap-manufacturing works in the U.S. After the Community disbanded in 1880, they formed a joint stock company, Oneida Community, Limited. At first, the company continued the trap business but later turned to silverware, which they initially produced in their Wallingford, Connecticut and Niagara Falls locations. By 1910, OCL decided to sell the trap business and concentrate on silverware. In 1914, they moved the silverware production to Sherrill, including all the factory workers who wished to move. In the space of three years, the population of Sherrill grew from 89 to 3,750. Throughout the 20th century, the company was renowned for their quality silverware, effective advertising, and attention to the quality of life of their workers. Following the core values of the original Oneida Community, the policy of OCL was that everyone involved in production should share in the benefits of production. Long before federal legislation in the interests of workers was passed, the firm provided generous pensions, health/welfare benefits, and a share of the profit.

By early in the 21st century, international competition, changing administrative practices, and even the loss of flatware contracts with airports and airplanes in the wake of the September 11, 2001 attacks, changed everything for the company. In 2004, the company moved its operation overseas and eventually closed its doors in Sherrill. But the story has a new chapter. Greg Owens and Matt Roberts, two former Oneida employees, bought the factory and the machinery in 2005. Despite some difficult early years, today they are producing stainless steel flatware under the name of Sherrill Manufacturing—with considerable success.

Our new Factory Tours are designed to highlight this industrial and business side of the history of the Community. In concert with Sherrill Manufacturing, we have begun scheduling these special tours for anyone who is interested. Beginning in the Great Hall of the Mansion House, docents provide an illustrated presentation to the tour groups, emphasizing the business history of the Community. After questions and a visit to the Bookshop, the tour groups drive themselves to the original factory site on the north side of Sherrill where they are

met by Greg Owens, who personally conducts the tours. The Factory Tours are all scheduled for Friday afternoons, after the manufacturing company is closed for the week. According to Greg, conducting a tour during business hours would be impossible because of the noise from the machinery. Even without workers in the cavernous building, it is easy to imagine the dozens of workers at their stations as the tour progresses through the factory. Tour groups are guided by Greg through the production process of the flatware, starting with the long, rectangular blanks of stainless steel that arrive in the factory and through the process of rolling, cutting, shaping, and finishing the stainless steel into knives, forks, and spoons. Much of the process remains the same as it was in the early days of Oneida Limited, but new technology is gradually altering the processes by which the tableware is produced. The only stainless-steel tableware that is manufactured in the U.S., the company uses an internet-based direct sales model, marketing its items to consumers online—quite different from the ways in which consumers in the mid-20th century would have bought their Community flatware at department stores like Macy's and Kaufmann's. At the end of the tour, visitors have an opportunity to see the variety of products that Sherrill Manufacturing makes today in their showroom.

Our Factory Tours will be scheduled throughout the late summer and fall. Reservations are available by email: [hospitality@oneidacommunity.org](mailto:hospitality@oneidacommunity.org).



## MANSION HOUSE CHILDREN'S TOURS

Linda Evans – Docent

The first children's tours were held in 2007. I was a new docent and recently retired from teaching art in the Oneida School District. I knew about the importance of "prior knowledge" from my classroom days in the 70's, so I enlisted the teachers from my schools to host an in-school program, before their visit to the Mansion House. In the early days I would write the outline



in colored chalk on the board for each presentation. The colors referred to the five components of any society: family, religion, economics, education, and government. The outline gave details of the founding of the community, its leader, John Humphrey Noyes, and how the members lived in this utopian society. The three main structures of the society, Complex Marriage, Perfectionism and Bible Communism are discussed on an elementary student's level.

After many hours of chalking the outline, I made large poster boards of the information, using the same color format for the five components. My traveling kit also contained many photos of the house, family life, clothing, and recreation. Since animal traps, sewing thread and silverware were major industries in the community, I had several traps and a layout board of a spoon in the manufacturing process. Spools of thread and a doll in period clothing added to my "show and tell."

My mother, Margaret Rosbrook, had saved a small pamphlet about the community that she found in an attic trunk in Barberton, Ohio, when she was 13. When she died in 2015, we found the pamphlet in an envelope with the message of its origin, and her thoughts, saying, "who would think that I would ever come to live here." She was a 66-year resident of Sherrill and enjoyed all its history, including the Mansion House. In her honor, I had a reform dress designed and made by Jody Luce from Peterboro.

By this time the traveling show had been presented to 3rd graders in Stockbridge, the Oneida classes and Sherrill 5th graders. I added a straw hat and basket of flowers and decided on the spur of the moment as I entered the Sherrill classroom, to give the presentation in first person! It went very well but I was exhausted from thinking two words ahead of what I was saying. The talks lasted about 30-40 minutes and then the questions began!! The students asked very intelligent questions and often ones I had

never been asked on a regular adult tour. A student once asked, "How can you be from the 1800's and still be talking to us today? We all learned about "in character" and "out of character" as it was hard to have a discussion "in character."

In June of this year, this presentation was held on a Friday afternoon in the Robertson Park Pavilion with two very attentive 5th

grade classes from McAllister School. They arrived by school bus the following Monday morning and started with a short outside architecture tour, led by Cathy Cornue, and then proceeded up to the Big Hall for a powerpoint orientation program comparing well known Sherrill landmarks with Mansion House activities. Several docents were available to take small groups on the house tour, always mindful of putting the information into a kid friendly presentation. The tour ended with a napkin folding bee, a commonplace activity within the Mansion House of long ago. Carol Bandlow made this a fun and "competitive" experience, as she challenged each of them to fold three napkins correctly in shorter and shorter amounts of time.

Before going out to the Quadrangle for lunch, the children saw where the napkins were stored for meals and Tim Cumings told a short story about napkin care and use. When students came in the winter, they would have lunch in the dining room and the Sherrill classes would go sledding on the South lawn, weather permitting.

The present Sherrill teachers are very interested in having their students know more about their city and surrounding area, so I took them on a short tour of Kenwood Ave. We discussed city and county boundaries, the Oneida Creek, and several of the houses built designed by Theodore Skinner. Recent changes to the Sales Office were mentioned, and many in the group know the Hicks children and the parents who now run the building. We ended up in the summer house, an original structure and playhouse for the community children. New docent, Kim Allen, told stories of when she played there and how the children would ride their bikes from one window to the other, playing "McDonald's."

Croquet was a very popular pastime in the community, even in the winter. Several sets were borrowed from the Sherrill Library and students were

introduced to that “old fashioned” game. This year, docent Tim Cumings had several sets ready for students to give it a try, on the north lawn.

Back in the classroom, students write thank you letters with questions for the docents. I answer all the questions and in a non-covid year, I revisit the school with their letters and answers, and show a power point of the “behind the scenes” tour that is held at another time. They love to see the basement! We are so grateful to the teachers, Miss Hill and Mrs. Marsland, for all that they do to make this such an enriching experience for their students – and the docents!

We look forward to expanding this program to other elementary schools as well as continuing to welcome McAllister groups. I have been able to do the presentation for two of my grandchildren, and hope I am still available for the 8-year-old when she is in 5th grade!



What the kids had to say:

*I really found everything interesting, but I'll tell you my favorite. It was interesting to learn about the three libraries. The old one, the children's one and the new one. (The new one's my favorite.) And I really thought having two of the world's largest trees in the state was very interesting. I really enjoyed the trap room. (The biggest trap was my favorite.) Lastly, croquet was very interesting to play. I just have one question. How much did the house and land cost all together?*

Savannah

*One thing I learned is that all belongings were shared. Next, everybody was very religious. Then everybody was very smart. The children only stayed with their mother for 1 ½ years. One thing I found interesting was the paintings in the ceiling. Each one meant something. Something else I found interesting was they tried to make their paintings 3D.*

Cole

*I learned that everyone in the community shared everything with each other. I learned about the jobs and that everyone alternates jobs. And finally, I learned that everyone works together in what is called a “bee.”*

Kaydence



*I highly enjoyed learning about the tapestries made by Mrs. Kinsley. I also enjoyed learning about the clothing they wore back then. I cannot stop thinking about how cool the Victor traps were. The coolest thing I learned about was how awesome it is that after 160 years the Mansion House is still a wonderful part of history. I hope that someday I will get to see it again. I thought this tour was an amazing experience. And so is the community around it. I thought the art and pictures on the walls of the extraordinary building were delightfully interesting. But only some things are as interesting as the way of life back then.*

Delilah

*I think the Mansion House is a great part of our community's history and is put in the best city, Sherrill NY. The tour gave me lots of information and was very important to me. One thing that I found interesting is the roof...and the design inside the house. The next thing that I found interesting is all of the rooms. My favorite interest was the roof.*

Garrett

*I thought the tour was fun. They invented the lazy susan. They made spoons. They use big windows to look rich. They make heaven on earth.*

Braydin

*I appreciate that you let us play croquet. I learned there were hundreds of people living in the Mansion House. Even now, there are descendants of people who used to live in the Mansion House.*

Sophia

*The looks of that building can be very deceiving. I mean, from looking at it when you're just driving by, it looks like any old building on the outside. But on the inside it kind of looks like a story book. To me, anyway. Like it has a story within every detail of it just waiting to be told! Not to mention the size of it, that's one big story book. The front of it makes it look like a pretty decent size mansion. But when you took us around the building I was shocked by how big and beautiful it was! All of these things just tucked behind six layers of brick wall I would never have known without this amazing tour!*

Riley

## OCMH REVIVES THE MANSION HOUSE MUSIC SERIES FOR FALL 2021-SPRING 2022



*Jonathan Edwards and last years' concert*

The series features original musicians in Sunday afternoon performances in the Mansion House's historic Big Hall. We invite you to come see exceptional music from touring artists.

While the first season in 2019-20 was cut short by the pandemic, the series had great reviews.

*"Performers and audiences were energized by the rich history of the building, a truly unique concert venue unlike anything else in the area. We are all looking forward to a time when these concerts can return!" - musician Jim O'Mahony.*

### 2021-2022 Schedule

October 17, 2021	Jonathan Edwards
November 14, 2021	Mike Powell
December 5, 2021	The Cadleys
January 9, 2022	Chuck Lamb
February 6, 2022	Loren Barrigar
March 13, 2022	Karen Savoca
April 3, 2022	Jim O'Mahony Trio
May 1, 2022	Livingston Taylor, with Rachel Sumner opening (two shows)

All shows begin at 3:00pm with the exception of Livingston Taylor concerts on 5/1. There will be two shows for Livingston: 2:00 pm and 6:00 pm.

Tickets will be available on Eventbrite. Check the website and Facebook for more information.





## SHARING OUR STORIES – ONEIDA LTD. EMPLOYEES

David Hill

*Over the years, the museum curators at the Oneida Community Mansion House have searched for ways to tell the stories of the people who lived in the perfectionist community. Thanks to many first-person narratives from original members, books, Journal and Circular articles their stories are brought to life in interpretive exhibits and scholarly works. The Orientation Room at OCMH gives a wonderful overview of their history, leading up to the early 20th century Oneida Ltd. Company and its leadership.*

Continuing with the idea of telling the Oneida Community (OC) story through the everyday experiences and voices of the people involved, this past spring Linda Evans, Cathy Cornue, and I, with the help of others (Susan Belasco, my sister Linda), organized a project involving the collection of memories of working for Oneida Ltd. (OL). A project proposal for the OCMH Board of Trustees to review was drafted and included questions for former employees to respond to, scripts for interviewers, and the requisite consent and tracking forms. Several OCMH Museum docents volunteered to conduct interviews. An option to permit the use of the names of the participants or to participate anonymously was provided. Interviews begin with a question regarding how the person got his or her first job at OL and conclude with a question about what was unique about the company. When complete, the project will provide personal narratives of what work and recreation were like for OL employees.

In the first few months of the project we contacted a number of people we knew who have worked for OL – from corporate leadership to supervisors to line workers. Eleven participants have been interviewed and recorded with more to be scheduled from just our small list of former employees in the Sherrill and Kenwood areas. These recordings are in the process of being reviewed for content to identify common themes. In addition, we have been fortunate to have identified collections of photographs of OL and Community Associated Clubs (CAC) work and activities. Many thanks to Matt Roberts at Sherrill Manufacturing for allowing us access to a box of OL factory photos and to Jim Demerest for helping make prints of those photos. Our thanks also go to Eric Kimball and Paul Marzella for their help identifying additional sources of photos.

The interviews to date have included many references to summer activities at Lewis Point, both employee and family functions. In our search for pictures, we found a document indicating that Lewis Point was purchased by the company in 1937. The “Point” included a hotel and 2 camps at that time and was mostly developed into the facility many remember between the purchase and the 1980’s. We have several pictures of those activities.

It was not uncommon for groups of employees to work collaboratively on community improvement projects. One picture shows employees on a Saturday morning work group clearing brush, trees, and shrubs from Central Park (now Robertson Park). The group

includes Pete Noyes, Dunc Robertson, and Dunc’s Jeep pulling stumps. (I remember that work Saturday—I was there.) Happily, this is still the case for residents of Sherrill/Kenwood – community members working together. (See photos on inside back cover.)

Many of the narratives suggest that not all was rosy at the factory or sales office; memories have included both the good and not so pleasant, but the stories we’ve recorded so far have generally been very positive with respect to communication, collaboration, supervision, and compensation. Former employees recall that there were lots of committees, as was the case with the old Community. Their pride in working for OL and their appreciation of being a respected employee are reflected in the interviews.

Future plans include a social media campaign to inform more people of the project and invite those who are former employees of OL. We hope to interview many more. The recording sessions last an hour or less and are anything but formal question and answer sessions. Participants are provided with a few questions to get memories flowing. OCMH Museum docents coordinate and conduct the recording sessions. The OCMH website has contact information for those who would like more project information or who would like to volunteer to have their memories recorded. Check the website ([oneidacommunity.org/ol](http://oneidacommunity.org/ol)) for more information.

Some former employees have asked why we think it’s important to record their memories of working at OL. As we’ve sorted through stacks of photos of OL machines, recreation facilities, sporting events, retirement luncheons, and retirement club bingo parties, we’re reminded that as Wilfred Peterson, author of “The Art of Living,” suggests, the stories that we tell about our work and play, our accomplishments and significant events in our lives, reflect our personal and collective experiences; a record of trial and error, defeats and successes. Stories of individuals who worked together at OL provide a record of the legacy of the Community. Things end, but memories last forever. Our project intends to preserve at least some of those stories.

We are excited about beginning this collection of OL history as a legacy of the Oneida Community. We hope to begin pairing narratives with photos for a slide show exhibit in the OCMH Museum in the coming months. We look forward to having many more former employees sign on to be interviewed and more photos collected to help tell the stories of the employee experiences at OL.



## ONEIDA COMMUNITY GOLF COURSE

*John Raynsford*

As mentioned in the Spring 2021 OC Journal the Oneida Community Golf Club (OCGC) has a rich connection to Oneida Community's history dating back to 1898. This long-term relationship was almost lost in 2003 when Oneida Ltd. decided to sell the golf course.

Realizing the course could be in jeopardy of losing the strong tie with OCMH, and possibly no longer being a golf course, a group of people formed an LLC, Sherrill-Kenwood Golf Club (SKGC), in hopes of saving the course and keeping our community treasure we have so endeared for the last 100 plus years. SKGC and Oneida Community Mansion House (OCMH) put together a plan where the course could remain connected to Oneida Community's heritage. Besides the golf heritage, the golf course surrounds the Oneida Community's historic cemetery and the Larches and the Rail Trails--recreational trails well loved by the community.

Through a donor-sponsor program OCMH was able to purchase the golf course. This was a key first part of a two-phase plan. The next phase was managing golf operations. Given OCMH's lean staff they were not in a position to take on this effort but the group from SKGC thought they could and developed a business plan where they would lease the course from OCMH.

Although these past 18 years have brought trials and tribulations, to both SKGC and OCMH, it is comforting to know that the tiny 6-hole golf course that was first introduced in 1898 has continued its legacy with Oneida Community 123 years later and hopefully many more decades to come. And SKGC's lease arrangement with OCMH provides OCMH with additional revenue.

OCGC has hosted many outings and tournaments at the golf course. Although you would

think golf is the main attraction at the course, the clubhouse may be what is most appreciated by the community. Especially after all we endured from COVID last season. The clubhouse brings visitors, neighbors, family and friends together for everyone to relax and enjoy a good time.

There is another important element the golf course has offered the community for many years and that is its participation with junior golfers. As long as I can remember, OCGC has allowed the VVS school golf team to hold their matches at the course and has encouraged young golfers to learn and enjoy the game. Golf instills a moral sense of etiquette, rules and sportsmanship that Oneida Community embraced from its humble beginnings.

Keeping with this tradition Ruth Weydig, club professional at the course, has various programs for the junior golfers. Forty-five kids, aged five to fifteen, joined OCGC's summer camp this past July. The program was held on each Monday and Wednesday of the month.

Mondays the kids learned rules, etiquette and course management. They were taught chipping and putting on the practice green and then played a few holes out on the course. Wednesday's sessions were held at the practice range focusing on key elements such as – grip, stance, alignment and swing. At the end of the golf camp the kids enjoyed a pizza party, received a tee shirt and enjoyed a special event as shown in picture below.

In addition to the camp, from mid-May through August there were two brackets for thirty-two junior golfers. One bracket was for ages thirteen and under and the other for ages fourteen to seventeen. This consisted of a competitive travel team where they played eight matches. Four of the matches were held at OCGC and the other four were held at Yahundasis, Sadaquada, Cavalry Club and Endwell. A wide range

of matches were played such as captain & crew, better ball, match and stroke play making these young golfers aware of the various competitive games golf offers.

There was also a junior "In-House" league for the month of August. Children aged nine to twelve competed in this league. These various programs introduce the young golfers to a game they can play well into their senior years. And golf promotes ethical and moral



behavior that will last them a lifetime.

On August 16th the annual "Debbie Austin Junior Tournament" was played with the 9-hole winning score of 43. As most of you know, if not all, Debbie was a professional tour player on the LPGA. She was born and raised in Oneida and played on the tour from 1968 to 1987. She won a total of seven tournaments on the LPGA, including five in 1977 earning her player of the year by Golf Magazine. It is only fitting to have this tournament held in her name.

This year we also welcomed Will Heintz in his first year as our superintendent. Will spent most of his career as Superintendent at Pound Ridge which was a high-end country club near New York City. We feel very fortunate having someone with his experience maintaining our course. He and his crew worked hard bringing conditions back to when Oneida Ltd. owned and operated the course.

As mentioned earlier, the clubhouse plays a strong role in golf operations. Lakeside Landing

Restaurant is a perfect place to wine and dine with your friends, neighbors and family. Often referred to as the 19th hole, the restaurant hosts various events such as weddings, baby and bridal showers, anniversaries and of course – golf tournaments.

For the summer months there is usually live music on Thursday nights bringing in golfers and non-golfers for a relaxing night. During the golf season, late spring to early fall, dinners are served from Monday to Saturday. In the early Spring and late Fall, dinners are available from Wednesday and Saturday and winter months the restaurant is open Thursday to Saturday.

The whole golf operation is a collaborative effort by our surrounding communities and without their support we would not have a course that so many of us play and appreciate. If you haven't had a chance to see what is offered at OCGC, please come and visit. You don't have to play golf to enjoy the facility. And for those who frequent the course thank you for your past, present and future support.



## NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERS AND DONORS

March 8, 2021 – September 26, 2021

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P. Geoffrey and Kristi Noyes  
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David and Carol White

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## GIFTS TO OPERATING/ANNUAL FUND

*March 8, 2021 – September 26, 2021*

### \$15,000 to \$20,000

Kenwood Benevolent Society

### \$1,000 to \$4,999

Central New York Library  
Resources Council  
Katherine Garner *For garden &  
grounds maintenance*

### \$500 to \$999

Amanda Bolles  
Cheri A. Goodson *For the OC  
cemetery*  
Barry and Sally E. Mandel  
Alan and Josephine Noyes

### \$250 to \$499

James and Sarah Dam *For the  
Larches path and bridge*

### \$100 to \$249

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*For the Larches path and bridge*  
Sean Hart *For the Larches path and  
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Thomas C. and Laura Wayland-  
Smith Hatch *Donation for the Syra-  
cuse Deaccessioning Symposium*  
Wanda Herrick  
Kipp and Jody Hicks *For the  
Larches path and bridge*  
Wester and Lorraine Miga *In  
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er who was a decades long supporter*  
Sheryl L. Lively and Brian Morgan  
Marc Wayland-Smith *For the  
Larches path and bridge*  
Rhoda Vanderwall

### Up to \$99

Theresa Batty  
Bruce Burke  
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Linda Evans *For the J.C. Kinsley  
Exhibit*  
Ronald J. and Karen Gregory *For  
the Larches path and bridge*  
Suzanne LaLonde  
James and Janine Nogawa  
Margo and Russel Sampson  
Kate Wayland-Smith *In memory of  
R. Fogarty*  
Kate Wayland-Smith *In honor of  
Kathy Garner*  
Mark Strong  
Terry Tubbs

### In Kind Items / Services

Jim Demarest *Computer Monitor*  
Nancy Pawlika *Seamstress of drapes  
in Guest Rooms*  
Neal Rose *Painting of Guest Rooms*  
Mary and Steve Thompson *Furni-  
ture for Renovated Guest Rooms*

### SAVE THE ROOF CAMPAIGN

*March 8, 2021 to August 10, 2021*

### \$150,000 to \$200,000

Oneida Savings Bank Charitable  
Foundation

### \$75,000 to \$99,999

John P. L. and Cornelia Hatcher  
Family Fund

### \$50,000 and up

Community Foundation of CNY

### \$100 to \$249

Susan Kuterka *In honor of her  
mother Pody Vanderwall's birthday*

### Up to \$99

Annabel Smith Haley

### KBS MATCHING CAMPAIGN

*Supporting the Mansion House  
May 1 to June 30, 2021*

### \$100,000 to \$150,000

Kenwood Benevolent Society

### \$20,000 to \$24,999

Anonymous

### \$10,000 to \$19,999

Deborah Austin  
Katherine A. Garner

### \$5,000 to \$9,999

Robert and Linda Wayland-Smith  
*In honor of Giles and Kate Wayland-  
Smith*  
David and Carol White

### \$2,500 TO \$4,999

Susan Belasco & Linck Johnson *In  
appreciation of John Raynsford*  
Rick and Deborah Stickels

### \$2,000 to \$2,499

Cheri A. Goodson *In memory of  
Julia Jane Ackley Anderson and  
George (Andy) Anderson*  
Jeffrey A. Hatcher

### \$1,000 to \$1,999

Monique LaLonde Alig  
John Froass  
Ernest and Lynne Giraud  
Cynthia Hartwig Gyorgy  
Thomas C. and Laura  
Wayland-Smith Hatch *In memory of  
Gerard and Carol Wayland-Smith*  
John Hatcher  
Douglas and Wauneta Kerr *In  
memory of Harriet Allen Kerr*  
Cleve and Mary MacKenzie  
Jeannette Noyes  
Alan and Josephine Noyes  
Sara Orton *In memory of Eliot  
(Cot) Orton*  
Peter Siersma and M. Greyson  
Pannill  
Neal and Kelly Rose *In memory of  
Charles and Ida Kate Noyes*  
Howard and Keith Rubin  
Kate Wayland-Smith *From the fam-  
ily of Giles Wayland-Smith*  
Robin Vanderwall and Dan Strobel  
James Trevvett  
Joseph and Carole Valesky  
Rhoda Vanderwall  
Edward Vanderwall *In memory of  
My Mother, Susan E. Vanderwall and  
her co-workers in the Mansion House  
Kitchen*  
Edward Vanderwall *In memory of  
Nick Vanderwall*  
Michael E. Whitney and Susan  
Stevens Whitney *In memory of  
Margaret P. Stevens*

**\$500 to \$999**  
Wilber and Judy Allen  
Amanda Bolles *In memory of Bar-  
bara Noyes Smith*  
James and Sarah Dam  
Annette Noyes and John Fifer *In  
memory of David, Richard, Eula and  
Dick Noyes*  
Joseph Hatcher  
Barry and Sally E. Mandel  
David and Joyce Newhouse  
Mimi Gendreau and Eric R. Noyes  
Meredith Leonard & Edward Pitts

Nora Leonard Roy *In memory of Dorothy Barron Leonard and her mother, Beulah Hendee Barron*  
 Paul and Judy Wayland-Smith  
 Eric Conklin and Trine Vanderwall *In honor of Gregory R. Iannello III, Son of Laura (Strobel) and Greg Iannello born 4/30/21*  
 Claudia Wiley  
 Marilyn E. Woo *In honor of Vincent and Luella Eager Family*

#### \$250 to \$499

Nigel and Ellen Bolland  
 S. John and Sue Campanie  
 Peter Cooke  
 Don and Cathy Cornue  
 Costello Eye Physicians & Surgeons  
 Dwight and Linda Evans  
 Emilie Gould  
 Troy Grabow  
 Donald and Patricia Lake  
 J. Richard Manier  
 Rhoda Molin  
 Gary and Becky Onyan  
 Jonathan and Holly Pawlika  
 Mark Perry *In memory of Frank and Marie Perry*  
 John Swift and Ann Raynsford  
 Jon Rosbrook *In memory of Harry and Margaret Rosbrook*  
 Tina Wayland-Smith *In memory of Leonora Wayland-Smith and Bruce Wayland-Smith*  
 Roy Thomson  
 Richard and Gretchen Tudman  
 Kathryn Warner *In memory of the Garners*  
 John and Karen Wellman  
 Sharon Woodworth *In memory of Theodore Matt*

#### \$100 to \$249

Anonymous  
 Howard and Mary Jo Astrachan *In memory of Gloria Jukes*  
 Peter Austin  
 Frederic Barns  
 Marshall Blake *In memory of Faye E. Dudden*  
 Sally Fischbeck and William Boomer  
 Barbara Busch  
 Robert and Linda Cochran *In memory of Jane Rich*  
 Timothy Cumings *In memory of Phyllis Cumings*

Dorothy Wilsey & Norman Dann  
 Althea L. Davis  
 Wilber and Christine Noyes Earl  
 Kevin and Laura Noyes Engel  
 Richard Fenner *In memory of The Vin Yard "Crew" circa 1958*  
 Jeffrey Garner  
 Paul Garside  
 Scott and Betsy Gayner *In honor of Jeff Hatcher's birthday*  
 Kenneth & Mary Gilkes  
 Annabel Smith Haley *In memory of Louise Miller Smith*  
 Steven Hamsness  
 James and Beverly Messenger-Harris  
 Susan Haynes  
 Wanda Herrick  
 Bill Hicks *In memory of Jerry Getman*  
 Patricia Hoffman  
 Chloe Ingalls *In honor of Jane Noyes and Kelly Rose*  
 Connelly and Elizabeth Jones  
 Michael Joslin *In memory of Tim Eppolito*  
 Kay Real Estate  
 Robert Khan  
 John F. and Katharine R. King  
 Dawn Krupiarz and Richard Kinsella  
 John and Jacquelyn La Raia  
 Jennifer Lloyd  
 Jennifer Allen and L. William Luria  
 Daryk Macrina  
 Jonathan Marks  
 M.E.I.D., LLC Construction  
 Elizabeth Hill Munroe  
 Joan Nickerson  
 Oneida Indian Nation  
 Christine Hall O'Neil  
 Pamela Parker *In memory of Roland and Martha Parker*  
 Alan Parkhurst *In memory of Karl Hatch*  
 James and Nancy Pawlika  
 Ralph's Collision, Inc.  
 Tomlinson Rauscher *In memory of Dr. Grant K. Rauscher & Rosalind Rebecca Smith Rauscher*  
 Noelle Noyes and Darren Reavme  
 Regina Rosbrook  
 Neal and Kelly Rose *In memory of Jane Rich*  
 Greyson Ross  
 Betty Ann Stewart  
 Theresa Sullivan  
 Edward and Ann Thoma

Michael Tomlan  
 Anthony and Jennifer Troilo  
 Corinne M. Tudman  
 Dirk and Allison Vanderwall *In appreciation of Pody Vanderwall*  
 James Walker  
 Tanya Beshgetoor Weiss *In memory of Lang Hatcher*  
 Pauline Caputi & Tony Wonderley  
 Priscilla Wood  
 Francie Wyland  
 Barry and Elizabeth Zebley  
 Karla Zounek

#### Up to \$99

Anonymous  
 Leslie Alvarez  
 Richard Applebaum  
 John and Mary Bailey  
 James Borchert  
 Abigail Buchanan  
 William Card  
 Matthew F. Carney, III  
 Brian and Nancy Carroll  
 Neil Champoux  
 Lori E. Chen  
 Mark Cramer  
 Marybeth Darrow  
 Anne Herrick and Nick Diemel  
 Elizabeth Earley  
 David Evans *In memory of Harry S. Jones*  
 Mark Ferrara  
 Patrick Fowler  
 Ellen Fox *In memory of Emily Wayland-Smith Herrick Schmidt*  
 I Cynthia Fryer  
 Judith Gabriel *In honor of Mary Beth Meehan*  
 N. Gordon Gray *In memory of Judy Gray*  
 Paul and Patricia Hagerty  
 Nanette P. Hance *In memory of Thomas and Scott Hance*  
 Aaron Hatch  
 Polly Held *In memory of Miriam Noyes Earl and Joan Earl Held*  
 Kit Hermanson  
 Emily Herrick *In memory of Emily Wayland-Smith Herrick Schmidt*  
 Gregory Iannello  
 Gale Irland  
 Marlyn McGary Klee  
 Betty Kordus *In memory of Kimberly Johnson*  
 Nairn Kucharik  
 John R. and Susan J. Kuterka *In honor of Pody Vanderwall*

Carol Lema  
Eleanor Licht  
Halina Lotyczewski  
Jennifer Rose and Jessica  
Rose-Malm *In honor of Kelly Rose for Mother's Day*  
Joe Markley  
Karin Marris  
Catherine Matusz  
Georgia Frank and Jeffrey McArn  
Donald and Patricia McIntosh  
Monica Mercado  
Shirley Nasci *In appreciation of History*  
Shirl Oatman  
Mary E. Payne *In memory of Carol Wayland*  
Kenneth Peters  
Tina Marie Haley-Phan *In memory of Louise Miller Smith*  
Steven Potter  
David Reichard  
Laurie Ann Ross *In memory of Ms. Shanna Ayers*  
Megan Roy  
Laurel Saiz  
Robert and Sharie Sblendorio  
Charles and Gretchen Sprock  
Carolyn Jane Strobel  
Cynthia Swain *In memory of Andrew Szego*  
Stuart and Judith Talbot  
Robert Tegtmeier  
George Tofte  
Jason P. Walters and Hilda Mayer Walters  
Norman Whittaker  
Dale Wilson  
Sharon Woolsey *In memory of Stanley E. Sprague; Father*  
Xavier Medical

In Kind Gifts

Thomas C. and Laura Wayland-Smith Hatch  
*Self-Publisher for Tony Wonderly's book In memory of Bruce "Bruno" Wayland-Smith*

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## FROM THE PAST



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**MANSION**  
**HOUSE**

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