



# Gilboa Historical Society

Learning, sharing and preserving our history.

Autumn 2018

Gilboa Historical Society  
PO Box 52  
Gilboa, NY 12076

## Officers

President- Kristen Wyckoff  
VP- Linda Newerla  
Secretary- Janette Reynolds  
Recording Secretary- Carolyn Brown

Treasurer- Wilma Jones

**Board of Directors-** Christl Riedman, Kristen Wyckoff, Lee Hudson, Linda Karlsen, Val Riedman and Connie Ruehle.

## Gilboa Museum Director

Kristen Wyckoff  
kristen.wyckoff@yahoo.com  
607-588-9413

## Gilboa Town Historian

Janette Reynolds  
janreyS1@yahoo.com

**GHS Meetings** – Third Wednesday of the month at the Gilboa Town Hall 7PM March thru December

**The Gilboa Museum** is located at 122 Stryker Rd. The Museum phone number is 607-588-6894. The Museum is open every Saturday and Sunday from May 26 to October 7 from 12 -4:30pm.

**Newsletter Editor-** Karen Cuccinello karenc@midtel.net

## Presidents Report By Kristen Wyckoff

It has been a wonderful Gilboa Historical Society (GHS) season! I have enjoyed all of the events that we have implemented at the Gilboa Museum and Juried History Center. So many happy times happen here. I meet interesting people every time I am at the museum as a tour guide or at our major events.

The Gilboa Fest in July had a great turnout and I think everyone enjoyed the music from Mike Herman, the vendors and the wine tasting! The day was beautiful and warm.

I am very impressed with our Fund Raising Committee Chairperson Linda Karlsen. She is on the go day and night; looking for vendors, networking with businesses and organizations in the area, soliciting donations for gift baskets; the list goes on and on. She has been a huge asset to our group the last couple years. Linda recently worked with Carolyn Bennett from the Pratt Museum and Paul and Sheila Trautman, of Windham, coordinating the "Paint Out."

The Paint Out offered 30 paintings for auction on August 18th at the Pavilion. It was my first time participating in this type of event and I did so as an artist by submitting two water colors of Gilboa. All paintings auctioned needed to pertain to Gilboa and all were beautiful. The artist's themselves received half of the proceeds for their artwork.

In my capacity as director of the Gilboa Museum and Juried History Center, I dedicated the first annual Paint Out event to my mother Sylvia Van Houten. She also is an artist and painted a painting of the Gilboa Methodist Church on slate for the event. It gave me great joy to publicly thank my mother for all her support throughout my life and for putting that paint brush in my hand as a toddler. Due to her support I had the courage to paint a mural-of the Devonian Forest! Mom was also on the board of the Iroquois Museum during its creation and she was on our committee for the creation of the Gilboa Museum. This well attended fund raiser helped raise money for the Tri-County Publication which will in turn help support all the arts councils in the area.



Wow! from our little schoolhouse museum to the Juried History Center and Pavilion. All thanks to Nick Juried and his interest in our group and wanting to honor his parents at the place he grew up. When I look around our complex I still cannot believe how far we have come. For the first time in 13 years we opened the museum from Memorial Day to Columbus Day weekend. It has been a year of adjustment for me scheduling tour guides on every Saturday and Sunday. Nick Juried has made it possible for us to hire part time tour guides which has relieved some of the pressure on our regular volunteers. We will review the costs and evaluate the extended season to see if it was worth it to be open more than our usual July and August hours. Fortunately Nick has also helped create scholarship funds for students at Gilboa-Conesville Central School. I met with eight students who are interested in volunteering at the museum. They all came the night of the Ice-cream Social! I am really excited to work with these great students. Chazden Ford, a GCCS senior, is first in line for a scholarship and she is awesome! She worked with an adult the end of August and discovered she likes the gift shop, which is often intimidating for young and old alike. Zinia Reese was our last recipient of the scholarship and she is onward to college. Fortunately her sister Sinzia just graduated from college and she became a part time tour guide this summer. She has been wonderful and very helpful to the museum. We had two different Quilt shows this season; both were phenomenal! Marianne Neuber organized the first show which consisted of conventional quilts that she and her quilting friends have made. I was so impressed and loved this exhibit. Some of the works of art even had photos of family members in them. I hope you had a chance to see them. Marianne's group had committed to another show later in August so Linda Karlsen organized a Vintage Quilt show to finish out the season. Don't miss out on this quilt show as viewing them will be well worth a trip to our Gilboa Museum! Gerry Stoner and Ellen Thorn helped out by making the quilt stands and setting up the quilts with "tender care." Most of the quilts are from the 1800's and are amazing. They will be on display until October 7<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to everyone that loaned quilts to us for this exhibit.

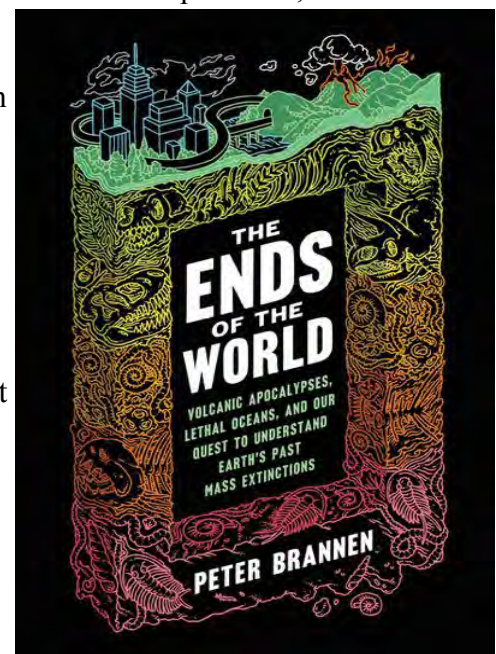


#### **NEW ASSISTANT DIRECTOR**

This organization has been all volunteer for 20 years and the museum the last 13 years. Since we have been growing in leaps and bounds we really had to look into other options in order to satisfy our expansion. I have been the Chair of the Museum Committee since its creation and have now been upgraded to director of the museum. It has been overwhelming for me at times; especially because I work full time. So I felt an assistant paid director was something needed. We are lucky to have Nick Juried grant us monies to start this part time position. The need for grant writing, gift shop management, website administration, marketing, a financial adviser, and increasing youth involvement are needed within our group at this time. Many volunteers have taken on these positions, but the need for a paid assistant has become clear. We are happy to announce that we have hired Nelta Miller, a heritage family descendant in the area, to oversee some of these responsibilities. Nelta has been taking grant writing classes and partnering with me to help with the work load. Only positive projects and activities can come from this. I am sure you will be seeing the results next year!

**BOOK REVIEW** by Kristen Wyckoff-“The Ends of the World” by author Peter Brannen

While at the museum, my first weekend, on June 30<sup>th</sup>, I discovered there was a book out there that I needed to get my hands on! First a person came in from Troy and informed me that everything I was saying is in the book! He said he had read several chapters and realized that Gilboa was only 1 ½ hours away from where he lives so he got his grandson and headed for Gilboa. “The Ends of the World” is about the last five world extinctions and the research done on them. I then remembered that about four to five years ago a gentleman met me at the



museum and interviewed me. I must have given him permission to quote me; I am sure! He actually must have taped me, because he quotes me word for word on many of my facts and stories about the elders that remembered growing up in Gilboa etc.

Then an hour later a young woman enters the museum and says she has driven all the way from Ithaca because she is reading a book that quotes a Kristen Wyckoff at the Gilboa Museum! She had the book so I was able to get a look at it. I ordered it immediately. I am up to the third extinction as I write this.

Wow! Is it interesting. I am learning a lot about the Devonian period and the evolution of our earth.

The writer, Peter Brannen, is excellent at keeping your interest and writes in a humorous manner. He traveled to many areas to interview passionate people like me that are devoted to a certain fossil time period. I am very flattered that he quoted me in his book.

### **JULY FIELD TRIP - by Linda Karlsen**

This year the field trip was in July on our regular meeting date. We visited Abbas Acres in Cobleskill

where we learned about raising goats (we

were even able to pet

the goats) and

chickens and how to

make a chicken coop

out of a greenhouse.

The owners, Matthew

and Jerri Betsinger,

said the coop stayed

very warm in the

greenhouse even when

it was freezing outside

in winter; and they did

not want to leave the

chickens when it was

really cold out. Their

maple and honey

products are delicious.

It was a great trip and

we purchased fudge,

eggs, jam and syrup.

Their address is 5206

St Rt 10 Cobleskill and

their number: 518-823-

4402 if you are

interested in any of

their products.

### **ICE CREAM**

**SOCIAL-** by Linda

Karlsen

We were supposed to

have the Hot Pots at

the Ice Cream Social,

but the main leader,

Cherie Stevens, passed

away unexpectedly



and we had to find another musical venue. The Esperance Band, that we have had for years was already booked up; so when a gentleman from Harrington Road in Gilboa volunteered to play his guitar for us we were delighted. Ed Mateyunes did a splendid job of entertaining us for the event. We can't thank him enough for helping us out and creating a beautiful night. Stewarts Shop donated the ice cream as usual; thank you Stewarts it was delicious!

**AUCTION** October 7- by Linda Karlsen

The Auction will be a fund raiser for GHS. Starting at 11:30 there will be a BBQ of pulled pork, chicken, hot dogs, hamburgers and stuffed potatoes! The preview of the assorted items to be auctioned will start at 1:00pm and the auction will start at 2:00pm. The museum closes after this week end but you can always contact Kristen for a special tour at other times of the year if the snow is not too deep!

**CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE** December 2

The Christmas Boutique was a huge success last year and I am sure we will have many of the same vendors coming back this year. It really brought you into the Christmas Spirit to see all of the vendors selling their wares throughout the whole museum floor. A lot of us from the group were able to do our Christmas shopping all in one day. Our Silver Jewelry in the gift shop makes a great gift (FYI-and if you buy five pieces, you get a card for free pair of earrings!)

**ANNUAL BOTTLE AUCTION** December 19 -What is a bottle auction?

In case you have never been to our annual bottle auction at Christmas time; let me explain how much fun that night is. You buy a bottle of something you would love to receive, it doesn't have to be an alcoholic beverage, but that is the most common bottle wrapped. Some wrap up gourmet olive oil, or a special lotion or bubble bath-use your imagination. Then they are auctioned off by our Supervisor Tony Van Glad who makes this occasion worth coming too. Tony has a great sense of humor that we all love. You spend the night laughing and bidding on beautifully wrapped bottles, but you can't open them until they all are sold. When you do get to see your bottle-it's like a surprise gift! The refreshments that night are incredible. Many of our members bring their homemade Christmas cookies or favorite deserts to the refreshment table along with Kristen's punch.



## **2018 EVENTS IN A NUT SHELL**

SEPTEMBER 19th- Regular Meeting at the town hall 7pm. Guest speaker Mike West will give a presentation about Abraham Lincoln.

OCTOBER 7th - GHS Auction at the pavilion, BBQ 11:30am, preview 1pm and Auction 2pm

OCTOBER 17th- Regular Meeting at the town hall 7pm – Guest Speaker Francis X. Driscoll Greene County Landscape photographer of “ Images of the Northern Catskills”

NOVEMBER 14th (2nd Wednesday!) - Regular Meeting at Town Hall 7pm – Program- Monarch Butterflies and their Migration routes

DECEMBER 2nd - Christmas Boutique at the Museum

DECEMBER 19th- Bottle Auction at the Town Hall 7pm

## GHS PUBLISHES 2<sup>ND</sup> ISSUE OF CATSKILL TRI-COUNTY

*Catskill Tri-County Historical Views* is excited to announce that the November issue is coming your way as a member of the Gilboa Historical Society. And there is a lot of history to look forward to. Here is a preview. Dave Dorpfeld shows us how the Baseball Hall of Fame had its genealogical origins in Athens pottery. T. M. Bradshaw traces Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show to its roots in Stamford. Bill Birns delivers a moving tribute to the pioneering environmental work of U.S. Congressman John Davenport Clarke born in Hobart and living outside Delhi. Bill bets you never heard of him! If that isn't enough, Bob and Johanna Titus explain, as only they can, why there are so many caves in Northern Schoharie. Cyndi La Pierre and Robert Gildersleeve take you on a new interior photo tour of the former Hotel Katterskill. Then we learn about the amazing folklore and history—and caves-surrounding Baraack Zourie in Carlisle from Ted Shuart and enjoy Kevin Berner and Nancy Nile's insightful warm account of Kevin's great great grandfather Clifford Davenport's participation in the Jefferson Coronet Band. John Duda explores the Fleischmann family and their impact on the town and area while Ray LaFever turns Old Scott's bridge into an important person in the history of Bovina. All in all, nine articles and two Rooster Tails (shorter essays adding to previous articles) will shape the issue, like the essay from our own Bee Mattice who wants you to know that not all the Conesville folks that went west traveled by land—some went by way of the Erie Canal and Great Lakes. With Museum Notes of upcoming special events during the off season and Book Reviews, this issue of *Catskill Tri-County* is another 80 page delight. We so hope you enjoy it and get your friends to subscribe or give a gift subscription to support the publication's future. You, the members of our local historical societies, are our primary audience but many others are interested about our engaging history so help us let them know about it. Like the May introductory issue, GHS members will receive the November issue at no charge due to the seed funding support of Nick Juried. Going forward into 2019, GHS members will be eligible for a full year's two-issue subscription for half price, only \$7.50 a year. Please consider subscribing.



### **Tri-County Paint Out Auction August 2018, photo by Amy Sternstein**

#### **PLAQUE PROJECT UPDATE** by Linda Newerla

Our GHS fundraising effort continues with the plaque project honoring our heritage families along with memorials to loved ones and sponsors. For this last cycle (ending December 2017) there were 12 heritage, 14 memorial and 11 sponsor plaques added (including several that were inadvertently omitted prior to December 17).

This is an on going project and the cut off date for the next cycle is December 20, 2018. Please use the following Plaque Request Form and submit to Wilma Jones with the appropriate donation.

The outside wall of the museum is adorned with beautiful engraved plaques honoring those who have supported the building of the Nicholas J. Juried History Center. If you would like to purchase a plaque for the Heritage Families, Memorials, Sponsor/Business please select the option that is best for you below.

#### HERITAGE FAMILIES

\_\_ \$100 \_\_ \$250 \_\_ \$500 \_\_ \$750 \_\_ \$1,000 \_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Are you descended from one of Gilboa's founding families who lived in the town from the 1700's to 1925? This plaque will recognize families from Gilboa's earliest history and honor your families heritage.

Family Name \_\_\_\_\_

Donor Name \_\_\_\_\_

#### MEMORIALS

\_\_ \$100 \_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

This plaque will celebrate "The Memory of" an individual you name.

Enter Names: In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

#### SPONSORS

\_\_ \$50 \_\_ \$100 \_\_ \$200 \_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

This plaque will acknowledge your generosity as a supporter of the Gilboa History Center.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

You can direct your gift to (Circle Choice): Exhibits, Genealogy, Events, Preservation of Materials, or Youth and School Activities.

#### BUSINESS SUPPORTERS

\_\_ \$100 \_\_ \$250 \_\_ \$500 \_\_ \$1,000 \_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

This plaque will serve a tribute to businesses who contribute money or services.

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

Your name, address, and membership status appears on the label of the physical *Quarterly*: a \* next to your name indicates a paid-up individual membership; likewise, \*\* indicates a paid-up couple's membership, and \*\*\* indicates a paid-up family. A single dagger † indicates lifetime membership and a double ‡ indicates a couple's lifetime membership. Please consider joining if you are not a member, and let us know if we have incorrect address information.

Membership Application Form	
Name: _____	( ) Lifetime membership (\$100.00) \$ _____
Subscription format: Physical <input type="checkbox"/> Electronic <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/>	( ) Family membership (\$25.00) \$ _____
Email: _____	( ) Couples membership (\$15.00) \$ _____
Address:* _____	( ) Individual membership (\$10.00) \$ _____
_____	( ) Senior or student membership (\$7.00) \$ _____
City: _____	( ) Scholarship fund \$ _____
State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____	( ) Gilboa Historical Society <i>Quarterly</i> \$ _____
* Please provide any temporary address for our seasonal mailings.	( ) Gilboa History Center Building Fund \$ _____
Seasonal address for mailings: Spring <input type="checkbox"/> Summer <input type="checkbox"/> Fall <input type="checkbox"/> Winter <input type="checkbox"/>	( ) Gilboa History Center Display Fund \$ _____
Address: _____	( ) Gilboa History Center Genealogy Area \$ _____
City: _____	( ) General fund \$ _____
State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____	( ) Memorial gifts† \$ _____
	_____ \$ _____
<b>Gilboa Historical Society, Post Office Box 52, Gilboa, NY 12076</b>	Total amount enclosed \$ _____
	† The Board has a "wish list" of memorial gifts; please inquire of a board member, and provide the complete wording of the dedication, your name and address, and the name and address of a next-of-kin to be notified.

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