



# Gilboa Historical Society

Spring 2007

Volume 9, Issue 1

## **OWLSVILLE SCHOOLHOUSE**

*Kristen VH Wyckoff*

We think the Owlsville Schoolhouse was built in 1858, and we have maps dating back to 1866 showing Schoolhouse District #2. It is located on the corner of Flat Creek Road and Kingsley Road (Kingsley Road was originally Owlsville Road).

The Gilboa-Conesville Central School was built in the 1920s, and therefore the small local schools were closed and the land given back to the original owners. The Wyckoffs had kept a good roof on it and used it for storage, and that is probably what saved it all these years. It was reborn last year when we renovated the Owlsville Schoolhouse so our daughter and son-in-law had a place to live.

Doris Steinhardt, a member of our historical society, had told us that they would put old shoes in the foundation of buildings to keep out witches, and she had brought in a pair of shoes found in the old Manorkill Church while having the structure moved. It was very interesting. As superstitions are handed down from generation to generation (and the Gilboa area was well known for its folklore and superstitions), I was of course on the lookout while my nephew and daughter were crawling around underneath the building trying to get plumbing hooked up. I was not surprised when they found old shoes in the foundation of this schoolhouse—they found a big sole to a shoe and then a whole bunch of little shoes!

I wanted to put these historical little shoes in the Gilboa Museum and this is where we had a disagreement. My husband, Walter Wyckoff, felt they should go back under the foundation because that's where his ancestors had

(Please turn to Owlsville, page 5)

## **Restoring the Roof of Old Stone Fort**

**Schoharie Museum Director to address the Historical Society on this important restoration**

Built in 1772, the church was fortified in 1778 for the then-current unpleasantness. The church/fort was finally bought by the state in 1857 and was used as an arsenal until 1873 when it was deeded to Schoharie County. There is a lot of history here, and for the first time in more than 150 years the roof of the Old Stone Fort has been completely restored.

Schoharie County Museum Director Carle Kopecky will present an illustrated talk on the restoration project and what was learned about the history of the building during the course of the restoration. He will also bring some historic materials recovered during the restoration.

The March 21 meeting (7:00, at the Town Hall) will hear the history of this building and the facts and fictions that were hidden beneath the roof.



The Owlsville School as it appeared before restoration. Photo by Kristin Wyckoff

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### **Feedback**

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**The Gilboa Historical Society meets at 7:00 PM at the Gilboa Town Hall, the third Wednesday of the month, March through December**

## REPORTS ON SCHOOL DISTRICTS

I don't understand why, but Bee Mattice went south for the winter. Before she left, she passed us a folder relating to the Newsletter's one-room schoolhouse theme. These articles refer to South Gilboa school district 6 (Kemper Mountain Road) and school district 7 (the Fork-in-the-Road schoolhouse) and date from 1813 through 1842.

### History of School District No. 7 South Gilboa

Originally Part of Blenheim and  
Jefferson

Luman Lawrence, South Gilboa, has the original lease for the land on which School No. 7 was built. It was given May 18, 1812, by David Stewart, farmer, of the Town of Blenheim, Schoharie County, New York to the Trustees of District No. 7—viz., Aaron Stevens, John Beach, Thomas Maynard and Ariel Wellman and their successors in office. For the sum of one shilling he leased, for the purpose of building a school house, a parcel of land in Blenheim described as follows: "Beginning at the north-west corner of a certain lot of land commonly known as the 5-acre lot on the north line of Lot 52 and adjoining the highway and runs thence south 25 degrees west, 1 chain 50 links to a stake and stones standing on the line of the 5 acre lot and David Jones, Jr., thence north 25 degrees west, 1 chain 50 links to a stake and stones; thence north 25 degrees east, 1 chain 50 links to the centerline of the highway;

(Please turn to History, page 6)

### Report of number of children between ages of 5 to 16 residing in District 6, 21st Feb. 1826

by *Horace Lawrence, Clerk*

	Children
Asabel Franklin	4
Benjamin Kenyon	1
Theophilus Howard, Jr.	5
Casper Martin	2
John Beach, Jr.	2
Orrin Beach	1
Thomas Griggs	1
Cornelius Baley	3
John Hunt	2
Johnathan Smith	3
Luther Williams	1
William B. Champlin (Trustee)	2
Daniel Steward	4
William Choate, Jr.	1
Thomas Maynard	3
Bildad Hodge	3
Betsey Brown	2
Harmon Rulifson, Sr.	2
Harmon Rulifson, Jr.	1
Randal Clark	4
Elisha Jones	4
John W. Champlin (Trustee)	2

(Please turn to Numbers, page 8)

### Record of the First Meeting of School District No. 6, 1813

In an old notebook carefully sewed together by brown linen thread appears the minutes of the first meeting of District No. 6, held May 22, 1813.

"Proceeded to choose a moderator, also chose 3 trustees, viz: Casper Martin, William Choate, Jr., Ariel Wellman; also 1 collector, William Choate, Jr.

Whereas, there was a good school house in said district, the meeting had no other business before them, therefore adjourned to the same place, viz: the school house."

Ariel Wellman, District Clerk

Note:—From 1813 until 1839, the last minutes in the Lawrence collection, the order of business was the same.

Allen Carrington was commissioner of schools in 1828. He lived in Jefferson. Nathan B. Tyler, later commissioner, lived in Blenheim.

The original schoolhouse was on the present Luman Lawrence farm.

### School Meetings of District No. 6, Towns of Blenheim and Jefferson, now Gilboa

1814—26 July; a moderator was chosen to conduct the meeting, Horace Lawrence, Harmon Rulifson and Ariel Wellman, were chosen Trustees, Ariel Wellman, Clerk.

Adjourned to May 1, 1815, at 2 o'clock.

1815—Horace Lawrence, Harmon Rulifson, Casper Martin, trustees; Ariel Wellman, moderator and clerk, William Choate, Jr., collector.

Actions by the Board in these years were as follows:

November 1, 1816—Special meeting. Resolved, that a wood-bee should be held to get firewood for the school;

(Please turn to Meetings, page 3)

### New Geology Book Uses Gilboa Museum Mural

*The Rise and Fall of the Taconic Mountains: A Geological History of Eastern New York* by Donald W. Fisher, New York State Paleontologist Emeritus with Stephen L. Nightingale is just coming out from Black Dome Press. The Gilboa Museum will be selling copies next season at the gift shop.

This book traces the geologic history of eastern New York through the rise and fall of the Taconics—New York's Rockies. It's a story of rocks and fossils, life and evolution, unimaginable stretches of time—a chronicle of continual, ongoing change and transformation.

Included in the book is a detailed color geological (tectonic) map for the Columbia County—heart of the Taconics—the result of over fifty years of fieldwork and study. On this map is the color mural, "Devonian Dawn" by Kristen Wyckoff. This mural is painted on a wall at the Gilboa Museum.

Meetings, cont'd from page 2

any person sending children to school who did not attend shall pay their share in cash to the Trustees.

Resolved to purchase andirons, shovel and tongs for use of the school, money to be raised by subscription, and failing that, by tax.

April 4, 1919—Collector shall collect teacher's wages.

Each parent shall supply ½ cord of wood or pay \$1, for each "schollar," money to be added to regular tax and collected by the collector if not paid.

November 8, 1819—Resolved to remove the schoolhouse chimney and the end of the house where it stood shall be finished with seats and windows convenient for school, & a suitable and convenient stove set in the schoolhouse in lieu of the chimney, this alteration to be made at any time the Trustees shall think proper, so as to have the work completed in season for a winter school in the year 1820.

(Conditional on the Town of Jefferson paying its share) of expenses if done to be raised by tax.

Oct. 4, 1820—Resolve to alter schoolhouse and buy stove declared void as Jefferson refused to pay its share.

8 Nov. 1822—Jefferson district was annexed to No. 6; \$50 voted to be raised by tax to repair schoolhouse and buy stove.

There were 73 pupils. From Jefferson 24, Gilboa 32 (Blenheim) 1828.

Oct. 16, 1824—17 lbs. of iron were taken from the chimney when the schoolhouse was repaired, also 1 pair andirons; these were sold for \$1.25 and the money was applied to the teachers' salary.

Oct. 6, 1832—\$2 was raised by tax to repair the schoolhouse. \$8.70 was voted to build a "necessary house" or "Jakes." Resolved that Peter Hillikers' School tax, if it can't be collected, be added to next winter's tax.

Receipts signed by teachers for salary received include the following:

James White, Jr., June 3, 1818—\$16.66, received of Silas Bradford, Trustee.  
Lewis J. P. Thorp—March 13, 1821—\$15.50 for teaching winter school. C. W. Havens—1822—\$16.82; Trustee R. W. Rulifson. He also paid his own bill to teaching, \$3.50.

Public money—1822—\$13.18

School costs—1823—\$14.20—Public money

Durinda Choate—1838—\$5.00—On account

Roseann Canfield—1835—\$18.30 in full

Roseann Canfield—1836—\$7.70 on account

John T. Felter—1837—\$36.00 and 10¢ for buying a broom.

Durinda Choate—1837—\$5.00 on account.

David W. Parsons—1840—\$27.50

E. Newell—1848—\$7.27

(Public money—1838—\$22.94; collections \$31.06)

Paid C. W. Havens \$49.00, Durinda Choate \$5.00

October 11—\$7.10 Collected taxes.

(Please turn to Meetings, page 7)

## Forthcoming Issues of the Historical Society Newsletter

Gerry Stoner

Harvard's new president was trained as an historian, and was asked how this training might help her in the new position. She pointed out that historians study *change*—how people adapt to change, and how they create it.

Well, the *GHS Newsletter* is also undergoing change: We are expanding the Newsletter to 8 pages published 3 times per year (March, June, and October). The content will focus on particular issues (as we have explored schoolhouses), and will show how people in this area survive in a changing environment.

The June issue will be devoted to farming. One article will focus on the barns of hardscrabble farms in the early nineteenth century, and how these barns were designed for a subsistence-level farming operation.

A second article will deal with the regional marketing made possible by railroads, and the changes this brought to barns and farming. Larger dairy herds were possible, but at the cost of making family farms more dependent on outside factors.

There will be two articles on the changes that were necessary to allow farms to stay within the same families for better than a century, and an exploration of how farming is evolving toward a factory orientation for the production of products.

In future issues, the single themes should reflect *your* interests: children's games, cooking, farm tools, herbals, hobbies, outbuildings, or music.

What is *your* interest? Where is *your* passion? We need to know the topics that would interest *you*. Then, we'll try to develop an issue of the *Newsletter* showing your passion for the benefit of our society and providing an opportunity for each of us to record the history of our homes, interests, lives and society.

### Bottle Auction Returns

The Holiday Bxottle Auction was a great success with the exuberant support of our community. Tony Van Glad played his role as auctioneer to perfection and Al Hess, Kristen Wyckoff, Connie Ruehle, and Wilma Jones were cheerful and energetic elves.

The Auction raised \$963.00 which will help support the museum, the newsletter, and the scholarship program. Much fun was had by all and the refreshments were without question the best served at any event in the region. Many thanks to everyone who worked to make the evening so pleasant, who contributed bottles, and who then bought them!

## VICTOR DISANTO TO SPEAK ON SLED DOGS AND THE ARCTIC

Musher Vic (Dr. Victor DiSanto) will tell us of the role sled dogs have played in history, including the Inuit creation myth, arctic expeditions, the Alaskan Gold Rush, the 1925 Diphtheria Serum Run, and the Iditarod. This talk will be at the 7:00 PM meeting of the Historical Society on April 18th in the Gilboa Town Hall—we will not have to face biting cold. (As this is written, the temperature outdoors is in single digits and 22" of snow is on the ground.)

Dr. DiSanto is an historian with a background in museum interpretation. He has authored articles about arctic expeditions, sled dog racing, and northern breeds for *Mushing Magazine* and *Adirondack Life*.

Dr. DiSanto is passionate about mistreatment of these dogs. He works with various shelters and writes articles for the Alaskan Malamute Help League's *Howler*. He has extensive experience with abandoned/abused sled dogs and will explain the special characteristics and needs particular to these Northern families of dogs.

We thought it would be especially nice if we were to bring donations for the Schoharie County Shelter: dog and cat food, laundry detergent, clear trash bags, bedding, litter, etc., *so, please come bearing pet gifts.*

## HOLIDAY FOOD BASKETS

Connie Ruehle

Canned donations were down this year, especially in terms of the staples of the season. Nevertheless, the Society was able to pitch in and we ended up with 10 boxes worthy of a holiday meal.

We also received certificates for two 15 lb turkeys and so all was well.

I want to thank members of Historical Society and the community for donating the food for these two families. Special thanks to Walter Wyckoff for transporting the boxes, Mary Wyckoff for womaning the drop off site, and Jim Eisel, Jr. of Great American for the turkeys.

## THE RISE AND THE FALL OF THE ONE-ROOM SCHOOLHOUSE

Betty Matalavage and Gerry Stoner

In 1800, southern Schoharie County was an area of small, one-family farms evenly spaced over the countryside with little clustering of population. Education generally took the form of on-the-job training—a family would teach their children the skills needed on the farm, and any additional education occurred at night from the family's Bible.

Nevertheless, there were some hamlets in the area: a general store, inn, or even a cluster of farmhouses could concentrate population enough to support a small school and a local church. The Horace Lawrence article in this Newsletter describes this population and the source of funding for School District 6 (Kemper Mountain Road) and the 53 students that he reported attended school in 1826.

With the advent of the railroad (according to the Ulster and Delaware Historical Society, the first southbound train stopped at mile post 70.6, South Gilboa Station, in 1874), farmers became connected to the outside world and could market milk economically to New York City. Railroading brought an economic boom to the area and a population boom to the schools. Families on more distant farms moved to work as hired hands on farms closer to the railroad, swelling the school-age population of their new school district.

Schools were of variable size: Horace Lawrence mentions 53 students at the Kemper Mountain Road schoolhouse, while Betty Matalavage remembers a peak enrollment of 20 in the Shew Hollow School. Betty's school was on the southwest corner of Shew Hollow and Souer Roads, and had children coming from the nearby Shew, Decker, and Wells farms as well as coming cross country from the more distant Meeghan and Bates farms on Meeghan Road. Shew Hollow children walked less than a mile to school. The school was destroyed by maple in 1948: a tree fell on it and the building was subsequently lost.

Betty also remembers three other schools in the neighborhood: South Jefferson, Cornell Hollow, and South Gilboa. The South Jefferson school has been converted to a private home and is across Cape Horn Road from the South Jefferson Baptist Church at the corner of Blenheim Hill Road; the Cornell Hollow School serves as a portion of a private residence at 549 Shew Hollow Road; and the South Gilboa school served as a Grange Hall and now is a private residence at 505 South Gilboa Road.

Students at these schools were generally children either of the farmer or his hired help. By the 1930s, however, labor-saving equipment reduced the need for a large labor force, farm populations were aging, and school enrollments were dropping. Betty's last few months in the Shew Hollow School were basically private tutoring.

The internal combustion engine delivered the coup-de-grace in the form of the private car and later the school bus. After Shew Hollow closed, Bill Wells was hired to transport Betty and the younger Wells brothers, Walter and John, to the Jefferson Central School in his private car. Later the system hired Clarence Hartwell to drive a 27-passenger school bus on a loop that

(Please turn to Shew Hollow, page 8)

### A few facts from old Gilboa:

Population of the old village:

1840	11 houses in the village
1850	566 residents, 2 hotels, 6 stores, 2 or 3 mills, electric generating plant
1870	2,222
1880	2,500
1900	489*
1907	1,600

\*May 3, 1890—fire destroyed many buildings in a row, and was stopped by dynamite creating a dead space that the flames could not leap.

*Gilboa House* had its grand opening on Dec. 18, 1890.

*Gilboa Cotton Mill* was owned by Burton Morse and Luman Reed and formed in 1840 with a capital of \$50,000. 100–150 looms and about 250 employees. The raw cotton was brought up to Catskill on the Hudson River and transported to Gilboa by teams of oxen or horses. A flood in 1869 destroyed the business.

*Three churches*—Methodist, Reformed, and Baptist. While the dam was being built, a Catholic Church was built for the workers.

May 25, 1916—a movie was filmed in the old village called *Caprice of the Mountains*.

October 25, 1925—Arrangements had been made to burn the remains of the town before the reservoir was filled, but Gilboa's remaining citizens heard that a movie company planned to film that conflagration for use in a film. Legend has it that they set the town on fire before it could be filmed, but *Gilboa's Monitor* said this mysterious fire was the result of a rubbish fire. No one knew who truly started it.

The *Gilboa Monitor* was in existence for almost 20 years.



The Owlsville School as it appeared before restoration. Photo by Kristin Wyckoff

I spoke to Mildred Wyckoff Kelley and Rosemary Wyckoff Richtmyer (recently passed away) about going to school there before the “big” school was built; they both recollected sleighriding down Wyckoff Road to school in winters. They both vividly remembered having a sleigh crash at the bottom of Wyckoff Road and ending up in the creek! Fortunately a neighbor was going by Flatcreek Road and heard the screams and came to their rescue. The bridge at that time was just a couple of planks and was hard to steer the sleigh over. Helen Wyckoff (their aunt) was their schoolmaster at the time. Helen Wyckoff Carson went on to teach kindergarten at Gilboa school for the next 40 years.

Previous schoolmasters that I found were Clarence Cornell in 1900 and Arthur Southard, 1904. Thelma Serrie Terrell mentions in a video taped recollection that her mother was one of the students and later taught school there. Among the students names were many Wyckoffs, Lewises, Spragues, Baileys, and a Daniel Ellarson.

It also stated a Floyd Baker was teacher in 1904. He was paid \$236 for the whole year. That year the roof needed repair of nine squares totaling \$36.00—Cyrus Stilwell and Lev Baker did the work.

So far, no one can tell me why it's called Owlsville. I know of no Owl family (that it, Owl with a capital O). I suppose if you use your imagination and had been on that dark and twisty road on a stormy night, you might well believe something Owly to have happened!



The Owlsville School in its new life as a cottage home. Photo by Trista Wyckoff

Owlsville, cont'd from page 1

put them, and probably for a good reason! Remember, I told you earlier that the Gilboa area was well known for its folklore and superstitions.

My daughter and nephew agreed with him that they too wanted to keep out the witches. I was lucky to get the schoolmaster's worn-out sole because all the rest remained in the foundation.

History, cont'd from page 2

thence south 55 degrees east along the highway 1 chain 50 links to the point or place of beginning, containing 36 square rods of land, be the same more or less."

The rental, to be paid by the afore-said trustees and their successors, was "3 pints of good merchantable winter wheat" to be delivered to Daniel Stewart on Feb. 1st of every year at the City of Albany, or to John Lansing or to his heirs or assigns.

The lease is made out exactly as the tenant leases were on the farms, and is duly signed by Daniel Stewart—the earlier use of the name David must have been an error—and the trustees, and is witnessed by Job and Elizabeth Whiting. Diamond-shaped pieces of paper were stuck on with some kind of black glue in lieu of seals. The signature of Thomas Maynard does not appear on the lease. The penmanship is fine and legible.

## THANK YOU

Again, the list of those naughty and nice is headed by Tony Van Glad and Al Hess. The nice award was for playing Santas at the Bottle Auction; the naughty award was earned for coming in with bright red noses.

Thanks also to Bottle Auction elves Connie Ruehle, Wilma Jones, and Kristin Wyckoff.

## Photographs

We are in *desperate* need of period photographs of people, activities, artifacts, and equipment. We can scan such photos and return the originals to you quickly, thus preserving your photos, maintaining a backup of your photos in case of flood or fire, and also developing the Society's archives. Please forward any information on this to Gerry Stoner (607 652-5988) or send an email to [pictures@gilboa-home.com](mailto:pictures@gilboa-home.com).

## Forks in the Road Schoolhouse Status Report

Linda Stratigos

The Forks in the Road Schoolhouse District was formed 180 years ago in 1827 as District #7 in the Town of Blenheim. The Schoolhouse, which is located on the fork of South Gilboa and Lumber Roads, was built 168 years ago, in 1839. It was placed on the National Register of Historic Places four years ago. Ray Smith, the field rep for the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, has said that it is the most intact one room schoolhouse that he's ever come across.

The building, which is in good condition thanks to the efforts of the Forks in the Road Committee, which was made up of local residents who cared for it from the time it closed sometime



Forks in the Road Schoolhouse, courtesy Linda Stratigos

around 1935 until the 1970s, is exactly as it was 168 years ago. It contains one wainscoted room which has many of the original desks in it. The well-worn wood floors carry the patina of children's footsteps and the washstand with the children's cubby holes are still in the small front hallway. There are lithographed roll-up maps on the walls with the names of countries such as Siam, Rhodesia, and Burma. The outhouse, out back, still functions. Three years ago, thanks to a grant from the O'Connor Foundation and funds from the Town of Gilboa which is the current owner, the roof was replaced and minor repairs were done to the foundation. Two years ago, James Orlando took on the clean up and organization of the building as his Eagle Scout Project. With the help of the Gilboa Girl Scout troop, his parents and some friends, they washed down and repaired the desks, catalogued the old books there, built new cabinets, and cleaned up the interior so that it shines. And last year, Gerry Stoner and Ellen Thorn gave part of it a quick coat of paint.

Many of the old attendance books, treasurer reports, minutes from Board of Director's meetings as well as old text books survive. They have been temporarily removed for protection.

For many years the building was used as a polling place by the residents of South Gilboa. Unfortunately, the building is not handicap accessible so voting was moved to Town Hall. Since that time, the building has seen little use.

We have long thought that the building should be opened for local schools to tour and for at least a couple of days for the general public. . . how different schools were 150 years ago! We're hoping that someone in the community would like to join a Forks in the Road Schoolhouse Committee so that it can be shown off as the important building that it is.

If interested please call Gerry Stoner at 607.652.5988 or Shirley Kutzscher at 518.827.6304.



The new whitewash, courtesy Linda Stratigos

# TOURISM MAP OF THE TOWN OF GILBOA

Gerry Stoner

Kristen Wyckoff has had a goal of producing a map of Gilboa which would emphasize the historical aspects of our town and be useful for guiding tourists in the area. This dream is slowly becoming a reality, and the current draft is inserted with this Newsletter.

The map is currently 11" x 17" and covers all of Gilboa and most of Conesville; plus the adjacent edges of Delaware County, Greene County, and the Schoharie County towns of Blenheim and Jefferson.

There are icons locating trails, campgrounds, cemeteries, churches, fire towers, restaurants, picnic areas, and other tourist activities. On the reverse side of the map are brief descriptions of each of these highlighted attractions with coordinates in square brackets.

The problem is that we need to make sure that we add all attractions that should be included (we don't want to miss anything); that all attractions are correctly located on the map; and that the descriptions and directions on the verso are complete and accurate.

We would like to have the map available for this summer. Therefore, please look carefully at it and get your suggestions to us within the next 3 weeks. I'd like to ask for all feedback by Income Tax Day—15 April 2007.

- *Are there categories of attractions that should be added?* For instance, is there still enough of a B&B industry here to justify adding this as a category?
- *What specific attractions would you like to see added?* What businesses, ruins, buildings etc. should we add? For example, is there a hack riding stable in the area? Please supply name, address and phone for each of these additions.
- *Are there attractions highlighted here that should be deleted?*
- *The amount of description for each attraction are variable.* For instance, the Blenheim Covered Bridge has a line-long description but the Gilboa fossils have no equivalent explanation. Please provide a short, one-line description for those items that appeal to you.
- *Are the locations on the map correctly placed?* Could a visitor easily drive to, and then identify, the various attractions? Are the map icons correctly placed *and on the correct side of the street?*
- Please: any other comments, additions, deletions. Remember, the name of out town is going on this document!

Meetings, cont'd from page 3

James White refers to himself as an "instructor," all the others spoke of their work as "teaching."

1848—Average teachers wages, \$12.00 per month. Winter term, 3 months. The whole amount paid that year for wages was \$67.00. For library books \$7.27.

Feb. 5, 1848—Voted to build a new schoolhouse on the old site, cost to be \$260. Later, to re-roof the old school with a double roof of hemlock boards. Note: No action was taken because the school would become part of Gilboa if the merger of Blenheim and Broome took place.

Below is a list of books bought for District 6:

Cat. Library Books District 6:

	Cost
"Way to do Good"—Abbot	.75
"Life of Franklin"	.50
"Judson's Offering"	.63
"Guide for Young Disciples"	.50
"Little Henry"	.17
"Charles Lynn"	.22
"Judah's Lion"	.50
"Anecdotes for the Family"	.50
"Visit to Nahant"	.22
<i>(This place was a famous summer resort in the 60's)</i>	
"Dairyman's Daughter"	.28
"Caroline Hyde"	.13
"Story of Joseph"	.22
"Life of Newton"	.32
"Village in the Mountain"	.18
"Normand Smith"	.13
Total cost of books	\$5.25

Membership application form Name: _____ Address: _____ _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$10.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime individual \$100.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Senior or student \$7.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Couple \$15.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$25.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Tax deductible donation: Gilboa Museum \$ _____ Scholarship fund \$ _____ Old Gilboa video \$ _____ General fund \$ _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____
Gilboa Historical Society, Post Office Box 52, Gilboa, NY 12076	



Numbers, cont'd from page 2  
 School was held 7 months and 13 days that year. Public money collected \$16.70: \$11.38 from Blenheim, \$5.39 from Jefferson.

Children taught: 62.

**1842**

Among the Lawrence papers were found the School District Clerk's Oath of Office and the Collector's Warrant for the year 1842, signed by Philo Johnson and Stephen Haines, Trustees. On it is listed the bill for 3 months of teaching, to be paid by each parent as follows:

Names	No. days sent	Amt. pd.
Charles Whiting	320	1.95
Ruliff Ruliffson	156	.95
Elijah Steward	180	1.10
Casper Martin	59	.36
Peter Brady	140	.85
John Beach	114	.69
Peter Hiliker	118	.72
Jas. McKenzie	110	.67

Cornelius Bailey	104	.63
Nancy Martin	239	1.46
Peter Golden	79	.48
Jos. Ruliffson	45	.27
Hamilton Judd	11	.07
Thomas Maynard	102	.62
Philo Johnson	30	.18
William G. Maynard	104	.63
Ariel W. Lawrence	47	.35
Hiram Bailey	4	.02
Ebenezer P. Merrill	13	.08
Samuel Latham	10	.06
Elisha Jones	37	.23
Benjamin Howard	52	.32
Ira Carrington	11	.07
Oscar Howard	6	.04
David Bailey	20	.12
Daniel Stewart	50	.30
		13.22

- Three months of teaching @ \$12 per month = \$36.00
- Public money applied on this bill—23.41
- Collector's fee being 5% of 12.59— .63
- Amount of tax to be raised in this bill—13.22

(Shew Hollow, cont'd from page 4)  
 picked up children from Cape Horn Road, down Meeghan Road to the Pete Meeghan farm, and then back on Shew Hollow.

As a bus monitor, Betty once had to crawl out of the back door's emergency exit to get to a farmhouse for help when the bus went off the road and slid down a hill.

**Gift Basket Extravaganza**

This year, our glorious Gift Baskets will be on display in late spring and early summer with the winner being picked at the Ice Cream Social in July.

Contents will include local products and historical society items. Look for them around town and buy tickets! Money raised from the baskets will be used toward operating the museum and printing the newsletter.

Gilboa Historical Society  
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