

# MHS NEWSLETTER

SHOP LOCALLY | HOLIDAY PARTY 12/3/2023 | ROC the DAY | MEMBER HIGHLIGHT | [DONATE](#)

Macedon Historical Society (MHS)

**MHS is a 501(c3) non-profit Organization.** We proudly undertake stewardship of preserving and keeping the vast historic moments captured from our community of Macedon relevant.

### Historic Sites owned by MHS

The Historic Macedon Academy  
1185 Macedon Center Rd.  
and the Macedon Center Meetinghouse/Macedon Grange #326  
1208 Macedon Center Rd.

**Mailing Address:**  
PO Box 303, Macedon, NY 14502

**Phone:**  
315-538-0051 leave a message

**Email:**  
macedonacademy@gmail.com

**Website:**  
macedonhistoricalsociety.org

**Facebook Page:**  
Macedon NY History

If you'd like to make a donation to help keep the lights on, check out our Website at [MacedonHistoricalSociety.org](http://MacedonHistoricalSociety.org) and click the [DONATE](#) button. This will take you to MHS's Pay Pal account.

When using the website to make a donation, please check the box to share your information. MHS would like to thank you.

Or mail a donation to:  
MHS, PO Box 303,  
Macedon, NY 14502

## The Brighton Symphony Orchestra's 'Rococo Project'

The Macedon Historical Society has the privilege of announcing the Brighton Symphony Orchestra's Rococo Project is leaving its usual place in the late 18th century to do some time traveling to the Macedon Center Meetinghouse. Their concert will be on Saturday, November 18th at 3:00pm at 1208 Macedon Center Rd., Macedon, NY 14502. The concert will be a program of charming salon music from ca. 1900, the "Belle Epoque". Please join us for a program for strings and harp at the Macedon Center Meetinghouse. Admission is FREE, donations gratefully accepted. Parking is available on the premises or at the Macedon Methodist Church.



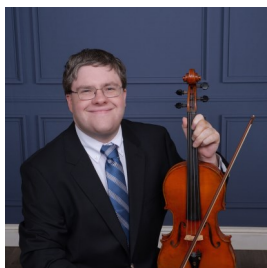
Paul Knoke - Harp



Aaron Bailey - Violin



Elizabeth Kinney - Cello



Jon Allentoff  
Violin & Viola

SAVE THE DATE  
**Brighton Symphony Orchestra's Rococo Project**  
Saturday, November 18th, 2023 3:00PM  
Macedon Center Meetinghouse  
1208 Macedon Center Rd.,  
Macedon, NY



From our humble beginnings in a science classroom in Sodus Central High School, to the 40,000+ members we now serve, Reliant Credit Union is—and always has been—committed to living our values. Members can rely on us to help solve financial problems, conveniently manage their money, and plan for all stages of life.

## SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES



When you see something at an independent (mom & pop) store that costs a little more, try to remember that Amazon & eBay do not by ads in the local football or musical program. Wal-Mart or Target or most box stores do not donate towards raffles. But you know who does, Small business owners DO.

Small Business owners offer better customer service because they do it face to face.

**SUPPORT your LOCAL SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS**

*The backbone of this country.*



### MHS OFFICERS

**President**

Sandy Pagano  
585-455-3798

**Vice President**

David W. Taber

**Treasurer**

Carmen A. Pagano

**Secretary**

Linda Braun

**Building & Maintenance**

Kathy Murphy  
Dave Gardner  
John Mullard

**Archivist - Archeologist**

Stephanie Petty

**Curator**

Grace Mullard

**Membership Chair**

Sandy Pagano

**Website**

Peter Jackson

**Special Events**

**Coordinators**

Linda Braun  
Sandy Pagano

**Grant Writer**

Linda Braun

**Newsletter Content**

Sandy Pagano  
Linda Braun  
Partners

**NEW PHONE #**

at the Academy 315-538-0051  
Leave a message

**Be sure to check out your local Historical Society's for that unique gift. Most museums have small gift items available. Some Museums have Gift Shops.**

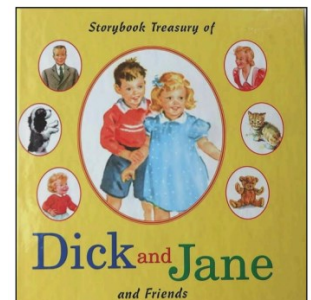


Still time to purchase your Commemorative Macedon Bicentennial Mug \$10, 2 year Wayne County Commemorative Bicentennial Calendar \$15 \$10 and Voices of Wayne County \$27 with over 400 pages of stories from your friends and neighbors throughout Wayne County (taxes included) click on the PURCHASE button. It will take you to MHS website, click on donations and fill in "OTHER"

with the amount. Your Items will be available for pick up at a convenient location. To confirm your order email curatormhs@gmail.com or send an email and arrangements can be made. Great Gifts and souvenirs.

### Check out our neighbor Walworth Historical Society

Monday, November 20, 2023 12:00 at Ginegaw Park, Walworth. Enjoy Homemade soups and a presentation by retired teacher, Cindy Russell. She will share the story about these interesting books, after Lunch (approximately 1:00pm) Dick, Jane, their family, friends and pets were part of growing up for over 85 million people who learned to read from the 1930's through 1960's. It is Free and open to the public. [www.walworthhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.walworthhistoricalsociety.org)





## Meet at the Macedon Center Meetinghouse Need a place to hold your special event?



### MHS is reserving dates for 2024

Looking for a venue to hold your parties, graduation, craft show, a place to hold lessons, meet and greet? Look no further. The Macedon Center Meetinghouse

is your ticket to a fun time. Large main floor, Kitchen access, heated, A/C and ample parking Contact 315-538-0051 leave a message or email [curtormhs@gmail.com](mailto:curtormhs@gmail.com) Check out MHS website under Facility use form: [macedonhistoricalsociety.org/available-to-rent/](http://macedonhistoricalsociety.org/available-to-rent/)



### Up coming Events:

**Saturday, November 18th, 2023 3:00pm** at the Macedon Center Meetinghouse - Brighton Symphony Orchestra (see front page)

**Sunday, December 3rd, 2023 2:00—4:00pm**  
Holiday Appreciation Open House at Macedon Center Meetinghouse with Music, Holiday sing along, food, friendship and tours. Free Admission, Entertainment by Crossmolina. Sing along, refreshments and friendships.



The Academy is closed during the Winter months (NO Heat in the Auditorium) Tours are available by calling 315-538-0051 or email [macedonacademy@gmail.com](mailto:macedonacademy@gmail.com)

## The Annual AUTHORS FORUM Huge Success

Partnering with Gananda Rotary through their literacy program, Authors from around the community

came out to share their stories. Pictured are: Top Row - Christopher Blomgren, Amber Linson, Chuck Martin, Rand Darrow, Sally Valentine Steinmiller, Dorothy Callahan, Hosts, Sandy Pagano (MHS) and Patti Holdraker (Gananda Rotary) Bottom Row -



Francis Tepper, Marjory Allen Perez, Carol Elaine Deys and Macedon Town Historian Linda Braun. And yes there were tears shed, through laughter and sentiments.

Heritage Builders

2023-2024



The space is reserved for YOUR COMPANY

## Members Highlight - Randy Kennard



We are a by-product of our history, how we were shaped by moments. History is important to know and record. My mother treasured antiques and the stories around them. I became both appreciative of these old items, but only as long as they pose a purpose. While at the same time I appreciate the convenience of newer things. My appreciation of the antiques kept in my home when there is a story that enriches their value. I store my sewing fabrics in the

100-year-old steamer trunk that my grandmother and her family used when traveling from Germany to this country. Every time I look at the trunk, or remove items from it I celebrate her memory and how she touched my life. More special is that her family lived in Macedon Center and her parents are buried in the Macedon Center Cemetery.

Anytime I can see the contributions of the past and how they get us to our present time, these contributions need to be cherished and remembered. The efforts to save the buildings and the local history of Macedon Center are commendable. And, the task is a lion's amount of effort. In someway, I want to assist the process where it can fit into my life.

In my retired years, I, Randy Kennard, am enjoying different ways to create art. I have always enjoyed color and texture and how it can create a story and emotion. Seventeen years ago, I stated working with glass. Creating with fusion glass has evolved from jewelry to larger items, such as pictures and figurines. To learn more about how to make the glass pop, I have taken art classes of any medium, oil, watercolor, pastel, and sketching. I have really discovered techniques that can be applied across all mediums. In fact, right now at the Palmyra Library's 3rd floor gallery I have a show where for each glass item, there is a corresponding painting. I invite you to check it out. One hope I have for the future is to offer glass workshops in the meetinghouse in 2024. Perhaps you are interested in creating with glass and want to join me.



Lighting the Way  
Oil on Canvas & Fusion Glass



### Our Mission Statement

To promote and encourage historical research and preservation regarding the community of Macedon NY and to disseminate that information.

### Membership

#### Update Meeting

2nd Tuesday of the Month 6:00pm  
**Monthly Board of Directors and Stakeholders Meetings**  
*(all members are welcome)*  
**Membership Meetings & Community Chat**  
**February 13, May 14, August 13, November 12, 2024**

### Membership

All Members are encouraged to partake in contributing suggestions, insight, guidance etc. in support of the continued efforts of MHS. Membership dues:

Individuals	\$25
Family	\$30

Dues and donations are used to maintain the buildings. MHS applies for grants for projects, such as painting the buildings, shoring up foundations, ADA Bathrooms, etc.

If you'd like to donate or become a member you can mail a check to: Macedon Historical Society PO Box 303, Macedon, NY 14502

Or use the donation/membership buttons on our website .

[macedonhistoricalsociety.org](http://macedonhistoricalsociety.org) and click the donation button, or drop down menu to membership.

**New Phone Number for MHS at the Academy**  
**315-538-0051**  
**leave a message**



**KEEP UP TO DATE with the Macedon Historical Society**  
**[macedonhistoricalsociety.org](http://macedonhistoricalsociety.org) or**  
**Facebook: [Macedon NY History](https://www.facebook.com/MacedonNYHistory)**



## Mary Kay Ricks - "Escape on the Pearl"

**MACEDON** — The Macedon Historical Society, in partnership with the 1816 Farmington Quaker Meetinghouse Museum, AKWAABA, and the Frederick Douglas Initiative, held an interesting lecture Oct. 7 that was attended by about 50 people.

Mary Kay Ricks, an author and lawyer from Washington, D.C., shared a presentation on an amazing family that had ties to our area. Ricks is the author of "Escape on The Pearl: The Heroic Bid for Freedom on The Underground Railroad." She shared the history of Mary and Emily Edmonson, who fled slavery in Washington, D.C., and, with the help of local abolitionists, eventually found their way to Macedon. They lived with local Quakers and attended a Quaker school before returning to teach in a District of Columbia school for Black children.

The following is borrowed, with permission from Mary Kay Belant, president of the 1816 FQMH Museum:

"On April 15, 1848, abolitionists executed a plan to free over 70 people enslaved by families in Washington, D.C. The freedom seekers were to travel aboard The Pearl, sail down the Potomac River and up Chesapeake Bay, landing in the free state of New Jersey. Forced by weather conditions to anchor overnight, the ship and people were caught by agents of 'owners.' The recaptured freedom seekers were then sold to slave marketers in the Deep South, setting a fearful example for others in D.C.

"Mary and Emily Edmonson, sisters aged about 15 and 13, two of 14 children of a free father and enslaved mother, were sold to slave agents in New Orleans. After about six months awaiting a possible fate of sale into sexual slavery, they were freed by funds raised by their father, Paul Edmonson, with help from northern churches and abolitionist agent, William Chaplin. They moved immediately to the Farmington-Macedon community in central New York.

There, they lived with Quakers William R. Smith and Eliza Smith. Nearby, Cassandra Green Hamblin, Hannah C. Smith, Phebe Hathaway, Maria E. Wilbur, and Anna P. Adams set up a Quaker school, locally known as the 'Bird's Nest School,' attended by Mary and Emily. Harriet Beecher Stowe, whose famed novel, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," was inspired by the Pearl incident, helped support their education.



"William R. Smith and other Farmington-Macedon Quakers continued to organize and cooperate with local and regional abolitionist and Underground Railroad networks. They provided material and logistical support for escaping freedom seekers, securing funds for purchasing freedom and for legal expenses, including bail. Quaker values and training fostered a sense of mission, purpose, and obligation to continuous work to abolish slavery."

The Macedon Historical Society hosted this event utilizing the auditorium of the historic Macedon Academy in Macedon Center,

streaming live to a television and speaker on the first floor.

**Submitted by Town Historian, Linda Braun**



Sandy Pagano (MHS)  
Mary Kay Ricks and  
Charles Lenhart  
(1816FQMHM)



William Smith Home, Macedon NY

# MACEDON EVENTS FOR 2023

Happy Birthday Macedon- on January 28, 2023 a celebration of Macedon officially becoming a town on January 29th, 1823. Congresswomen Claudia Tenney, Senator Pam Helming and Assemblyman Brian Manktelow presented proclamations to the town for this significant date in Macedon’s History. Wayne County also is celebrating its bicentennial.



**May, 2023** was the performance of the BULLIS PLAY, by Rand Darrow. It was a huge success. The Academy Auditorium shined for the performance. Over 450 people witnessed the production hosted by the Macedon Historical Society. During the production, Jacob Ovenshire found Salame Lapham’s “Last Will and Testament” in the archives. There is so much in the Academy’s Museum.



**May 29th, 2023 Memorial Day** was held in Macedon Center - American Legion Post 494 presented the Colors, Pal-Mac Marching Band performed, Shelby Yaeger sang the National Anthem and Pastor Bob gave the invocation to all that paid the ultimate sacrifice.

**July 30, 2023** Macedon Historical Society hosted an Ice Cream Social  
**August 14th, 2023 was the Torch Relay**, part of WC Bicentennial Celebration - Runners covered all 15 Towns and they passed through Macedon Center on the first day, where MHS had refreshments available.

**September 2nd, 2023** was the Macedon Heritage Festival coinciding with the World’s Fife and Drum Friendship Tour. It was a fabulous Event.



**October 2023** was a busy month with: Mary Kay Ricks - *Escape on the Pearl*, Stand Up Comedy Show with Greg VanAlstine and the Author’s Forum.

There’s more to come in **NOVEMBER & DECEMBER** [macedonhistoricalsociety.org](http://macedonhistoricalsociety.org)



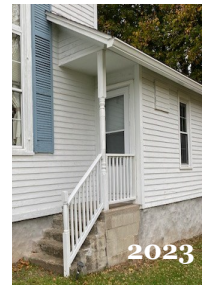
D. Willson, S. Nisbitt, B. Babcock, P. Willson, K. Leonard, L. Braun, G. Bavis, S. Pagano, G. Mullard  
Photo credit to Jane Milem, WC Historian

**October 25th, 2023 -** Dedication of the Macedon Town marker, made possible by the WC Board of Supervisors initiative to provide markers for each of the 15 towns in Wayne County. Towpath Volunteer Fife and Drum performed for the occasion at the new Trolley Stop Pocket Park on Main Street.





# MEETINGHOUSE has come a long Way - THEN n NOW



### CARD of THANKS

John Mullard for the repairs of the back steps and putting in the AC. To Linda Depuy for her tireless painting of the MC Meetinghouse foyer, heat registers and the back steps to the kitchen and much more.

To ALPCO RECYCLING for their endless donations and time in repairing the foundation.

We are so grateful to our volunteers that are like little elves that surprise MHS with their generosity of their talents and time. Thank you.

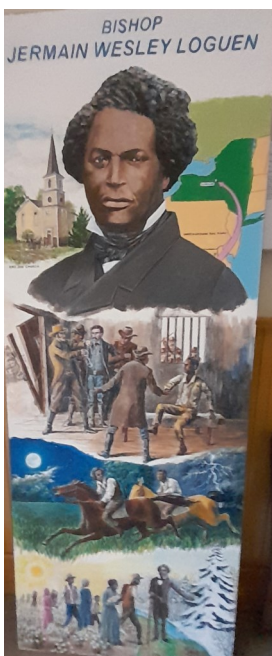
Never to late to teach them about giving of ones self with in-kind service. Repairing a hole in the heating ducts. (doesn't hurt that they could fit up there)

*There is still more to do, to sustain this building. Consider making a donation or donate your time and talents. [macedonacademy@gmail.com](mailto:macedonacademy@gmail.com) to sign up*

## RAND DARROW'S Historic Displays will be featured at the Academy

Rand Darrow presented his portraits of nine African Americans who fought as Buffalo Soldiers in the Civil War, and the Hell Fighters of WW1. These extremely interesting and detailed portraits are painted on panels.

Rand explained how each person was affected by racial prejudice and how they reacted, at a presentation early this month. Currently the beautifully illustrated panels are at the meetinghouse. They will be moved over the summer to, to the Exhibit room at the Academy. Tours are available.





## Glass Workshop Schedules - 2024

Classes are held at 1208 Macedon Ctr Rd. (Rte 31F)  
Macedon Center

Give a Glass workshop as a Holiday gift to others!!  
Create a group party creating with glass!!

To Register: 860-422-5488  
Glasspalettecreations@gmail.com

\*\*\* *students can attend just one of these  
for a reduced price.*

	Dates	Cost	Description
<p><b>Wednesday evenings</b> <b>6:30pm - 8:30pm</b></p>	<p><b>January 17th &amp; January 24th</b> ***</p>	<p><b>\$85</b></p>	<p><b>Jewelry:</b> Create your own pendants, rings and earrings in the first class (5 pieces included in listed price) Second class assemble your pieces into necklaces, earrings etc. Beads, chains, other glass pieces are available to incorporate. (Instruction &amp; material cost)</p>
<p><b>Saturday mornings</b> <b>10:00am - 12:00pm</b></p>	<p><b>February 17th &amp; February 24th</b></p>	<p><b>\$95</b></p>	<p><b>Pictures:</b> Create floral pictures on a frameable glass base. Instructions will guide you to make both garden and vase glass pictures. (Instruction &amp; material cost)</p>
<p><b>Wednesday evenings</b> <b>6:30pm - 8:30pm</b></p>	<p><b>March 13th &amp; March 20th</b></p>	<p><b>\$95</b></p>	<p><b>Pictures:</b> Landscape or abstract glass items using freezer formed objects. These can be frameable items (Instruction &amp; material cost)</p>
<p><b>Monday mid-morning</b> <b>11:00am - 1:00pm</b></p>	<p><b>April 15th &amp; April 22nd</b> ***</p>	<p><b>\$85</b></p>	<p><b>Bugs: 3-</b> Three dimensional bugs and assembly techniques (Instruction &amp; material cost)</p>

*A portion of the proceeds of these classes will be donated to the Macedon Historical Society*

As we come to the close of 2023 please consider making a donation to the Macedon Historical Society. MHS is growing. More programs to enrich our community are being added. Are there programs you would like to see at the Meetinghouse or Academy? Move nights? - Holiday Craft show, Panel discussions on special topics, suffragists, Erie Canal, more Community Chat programs or concerts. Please let MHS members know. Macedon Center can be the destination spot for cultural exchange.



## Condolences to the Denniston Family

### James N. Denniston

February 7, 1938 ~ October 14, 2023 (age 85)



James was born in Clifton Springs on February 7, 1938, the eldest of eight siblings, to the late Edward and Helen Ostrander Denniston. Jim is survived by his beloved wife of 65 years Kathleen Pembroke Denniston; his sons John (Maureen) Denniston and Patrick (Joan) Denniston, daughters Joan (Bob) Herendeen, Marj (Steve) Frederick, Barb (Kevin) Heald and Judy (Patrick) Powell and 16 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren; his brother George (Kathy) Denniston and sisters Louise Patterson, Sue Modzel and Lenny (Andy) Bills; brothers-in-law Charlie Sweeney, Larry Smith, George Barry and Paul



(Carol) Pembroke, as well as many extended family members and special friends. James was predeceased by his granddaughter Dannielle Myra Heald, sisters Carol Barry, Ginny Sweeney and Peggy Smith, brothers-in-law Les Patterson, Bob Chapman and Ron Modzel, sister-in-law Chloe (Robert) Schmidt. For more information on Jim's life check out [Yost Funeral Home in Palmyra](#)

## Henning Family adds to the collections at the Macedon Academy Museum



This is a view finder from the Henning Family, Emma & William Henning, which are Roger & Ken Hennings' grandparents. This may or may not be from the Holmes version. History indicates, in 1861 [Oliver Wendell Holmes](#) created and deliberately did not patent a handheld, streamlined, much more economical viewer than had been available before. The stereoscope, which dates from the 1850s, consisted of two prismatic lenses and a wooden stand to hold the stereo card. This type of stereoscope remained in production for a century and there are still companies making them in limited production currently. *Historical information from Wikipedia*



The Henning family also donated several Children's toys. A black baby doll two toy horses. The larger horse was pulled around with great delight. They remembered the blanket that covered the horse. The larger horse has a corn silk tail. The vintage Black Doll made of cloth ca. 1880's.

*Every generation leaves behind a legacy. What that legacy will be is determined by the people of that generation. What legacy do you want to leave behind.*  
*John Lewis*

Memberships New or Renewing can easily be done by scanning the icon below, this goes directly to the PayPal donation page.

Individual Members are \$25  
Family Memberships \$30

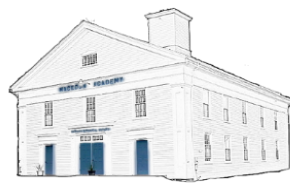
Donations are appreciated.



SCAN ME

Remember to check on "Share my name" so MHS can match it to the payment. To confirm your donation/or

membership email  
curatormhs@gmail.com



## Macedon Historical Society

PRESERVING THE HISTORY OF MACEDON, NY

1



Are you ready to #ROCTheDay  
November 28? Show the Macedon Historical Society how much you love what we do!

ROC THE DAY WITH MHS

Search for:  
Macedon Historical Society NY

## Meetings and Open House Schedule for 2024

2nd Tuesday of the Month 6:00pm

**Monthly Board of Directors  
and Stakeholders Meetings**

*(all members are welcome)*

**Membership Meetings  
& Community Chat**

**February 13, May 14, August 13,  
November 12, 2024**

*April through November*

**Historic Macedon Academy**

**1185 Macedon Ctr. Rd., Macedon**

*February & March*

**Macedon Center Meetinghouse**

**1208 Macedon Center Rd., Macedon**

No meetings in December or January

*Last Sunday of the month from April - September watch for a list of concerts, presentations, Art Shows, Craft Fairs, Ice Cream Socials and more.*



Macedon Historical Society  
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Macedon, NY 14502

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FB: Macedon NY History

