

MHS NEWSLETTER

Bickford Huffman Explosion | Membership Highlight | 2024 EVENTS | [DONATE](#)

Macedon Historical Society (MHS)

MHS is a 501c3 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 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 donations to:
MHS, PO Box 303,
Macedon, NY 14502

HAPPY 101st BIRTHDAY NETTIE!

It is time to celebrate the birthday of one of our most generous residents. Jeanette Aurelia "Nettie" Bullis was born on March 23, 1893. On **Saturday, March 23rd from 2-4 an open house and reception will be held at the Bullis home.** This historic cobblestone landmark is located at 1727 Canandaigua Rd.

The patriarch Charles Bullis was born in Manchester, Vermont in 1786. He married his wife Eleanor in 1812. In 1839 they moved to New York and settled in Macedon. From 1841 to 1979, four generations of the Bullis family lived in their cobblestone home which is listed on the National Register. They had two children Abraham (physician) and Emma.

Nettie was the granddaughter of Dr. Abraham Bullis. His fourth son, Nettie's father, also named Abraham was born in 1854. Nettie's father attended the Macedon Academy and went on to earn degrees in Mathematics and Civil Engineering from Cornell University. He was personally responsible for surveying much of southwestern Wayne County, NY. Nettie had a brother named Charles, who lived in the family home all his life.

Nettie was valedictorian of her high school class in 1911. At the time, Macedon High School was located on Lapham St. Following graduation, she attended Cornell University for one semester. Her career took her to Rochester.

A single woman, Nettie Bullis began her career as a bookkeeper at Gleason Works in Rochester, NY. She was the first female treasurer of Gleason Works. When Nettie retired in 1965 after 47 years, she was a Corporate Secretary and Assistant to the president James Gleason.

His wife, Janis Gleason later wrote this of Nettie: "Nettie Bullis was the essence of loyalty and integrity. A consummate professional, she could always be relied on to produce meticulous, thorough, and well-reasoned work."

Nettie was a frugal woman who invested well. Upon her death in 1979, her estate was valued at 12.3 million dollars. She donated 48 acres to the town of Macedon for a space now known as Bullis Park. It was her generosity that brought the



Bullis Book Collection and the personal papers and photos of the family to the Macedon Public Library. There are about 7,900 artifacts in the collection. In addition to the library, Miss Bullis' generosity has included the Wayne County Endowment, Bullis Fund, Nettie Bullis and Abram Bullis Scholarship Fund, Dr. Abraham R. Bullis Medical Scholarship, and the Wayne County Community Endowment: Emergency Relief Fund. All of these funds are managed by the Rochester Area Community Foundation.

Macedon is indebted to this very generous individual who has made her mark not only on Macedon and our region but the country as well. We encourage you to join us for her birthday party on March 23rd. For more information check out our Facebook Page – Macedon NY History.

Written by Linda Braun, Macedon Town Historian and MHS Secretary



1816 Farmington Quaker Meetinghouse Presentation



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

Special Events

Coordinators

Linda Braun
Sandy Pagano

Grant Writer

Linda Braun

Newsletter Content

Sandy Pagano
Linda Braun

PHONE

at the Academy
315-538-0051
Leave a message



In February, 2024, David Bruinix gave a presentation on the 1816 Farmington Quaker Meetinghouse Museum restoration process. Today, the site is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the National Park Service's Underground Railroad Network to Freedom, and the National Collaborative of Women's History Sites. For more information log into their website <https://farmingtonmeetinghouse.org>. The Macedon Historical Society looks forward to partnering with 1816 FQMM for more projects in 2024. Tours are available to see the presentation panels of the 1816 FQMM progress at the Macedon Center Meetinghouse. Call 315-538-0051 for a tour.



This picture was donated by Barb & David Herlan. The picture is of the students sitting on the lawn of the Macedon High School located on School Street (Currently Lapham St. 2024) between 1914 and 1916. Some of the names of the students are: Dorothy Hance (Barb's mother), Doris Minerva Packard, Frances Elizabeth Packard, Mary Elizabeth Packard, Ruth Hoag, Cecilia Hoag, Phylis Packard, Jeanette Blaker, Amelia Hall, Mildred Lenora Harbou, Mary Spafford. Do you recognize any of the names? Are you decedents of any of these family names? The Academy has many documents and artifacts. Quarterly MHS has a community chat series where people of the community share their Macedon stories. If they aren't shared and documented they are lost. MHS would like to preserve these stories for generations.

Meet at the Macedon Center Meetinghouse



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. Call 315-538-

0051 leave a message or email curatormhs@gmail.com Check out MHS website under Facility use forms. Macedonhistoricalsociety.org



Crossmolina Concert

Heritage Builders

2023-2024



To become a
HERITAGE BUILDER
sponsors

donate over \$1000
financially or with
in-kind service during
MHS's fiscal year.

MHS appreciates all
types of donations.

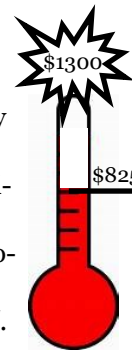
MHS is asking for your Support for 2 Campaigns



20' x 30' American Flag

In 2023 at the Memorial Observance a gust of wind tore the 20 x 30 foot American Flag that has become an icon in Macedon Center. It was not the original American Flag that has flown at the Academy for many years, here have been a few replacements. . The Macedon Historical Society would like to continue this tradition of flying the flag during National Holidays. If you would like to donate link onto the macedonhistoricalsociety.org website and click the donation button.

Your generosity will be appreciated.



For the past few years, Macedon Historical Society has been in the need for an HVAC system

for the Auditorium in the Historic Macedon Academy. The cost is about \$20,000 to heat and cool the 2nd floor. The Auditorium currently doesn't have any heat. The Auditorium is limited to spring and summer usage because of this situation. For the Academy to become more accessible through out the year, the Auditorium needs to be heated and cooled. This not

only makes it more comfortable for guests/audiences, but also to maintain the climate control to preserve all the artifacts and documents that are housed in the Academy.

Last year MHS hosted a beautiful play about John Bullis, written by Rand Darrow. It was well received. Rehearsals for the play couldn't start until the weather warmed up.

The goal is accessibility all year long.



HVAC SYSTEM for the
Academy

Thank you to the following who have donated towards these two campaigns:

Bruce & Vera Chapman
Ken & Kathy Halloran
Eileen & Glenn Call
Jim Byron
Gina Lord
Marjorie Stell

Adam Hirsh
Candace & Stanley Aldrich
Richard Braun
Ellen Benjamin
Linda Braun
Ashley Braun

Kristi & Joseph Snyder
Janet & Tom Bills
Brian Agness
Carm & Sandy Pagano
RACF (\$2500) Bullis Fund

To make a donation please mail a check to: MHS PO Box 303, Macedon, NY 14502 and mark in the description the intent or log onto macedonhistoricalsociety.org Donation - make sure you mark the box to share your information with MHS (only), a receipt & thank you will be sent.

DONATION or click the link. Your consideration will be felt by generations to come.

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

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
and click the donation button, or drop down menu to membership.

Phone Number for MHS at the Academy

315-538-0051
leave a message

Meet our Members - Marile Waterstraat

John and I bought our land on Wilkinson Road in 1986, and had our house built in the summer and fall of 1989. We had been looking for a piece of property with water, because we wanted a pond and room to be able to train our dogs. It seemed like we had investigated every house and lot on the east side of Rochester when a friend said she had seen a for sale sign. We investigated. It was an empty corn field, part of the original J. G. Wilkinson farm, but it had a creek with spot that looked as if it could be dredged to make a pond and lots of room for retriever training.

We have Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers and by 1989 we had five dogs and were planning on breeding. We dug the pond the second year we had the land, and when we built the house, we also built a kennel where our dogs would stay while we were at work.

We have been very fortunate with our dogs and our breeding. Our dogs and puppies were hunted, earned championships, did well in obedience, rally, agility, field tests, and are just all around good pets. We've always bred for structure, good temperament, and health. I was very involved in the national club for many years, as well as local retriever clubs.

I am a retired school librarian, retiring from Fairport after 33 years as the Northside School librarian. I grew up in Fairport and unlike many of my classmates, did not get too far from home. Since I retired I have been able to invest my time in the Friends of the Macedon Public Library, serving as the treasurer for many years. I also enjoy supporting the Macedon Historical Society and its programs. *By Marile Waterstraat*



A special thank you to Peter Jackson, who maintained the Macedon Historical Society website for a few years now. He was very professional and formulated the newsletters, historical information and updated events to fit into the website. His services will be missed.



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

Bickford Huffman “A Peculiar Explosion”

Macedon News Gatherer July 15th, 1893

A Peculiar Explosion.

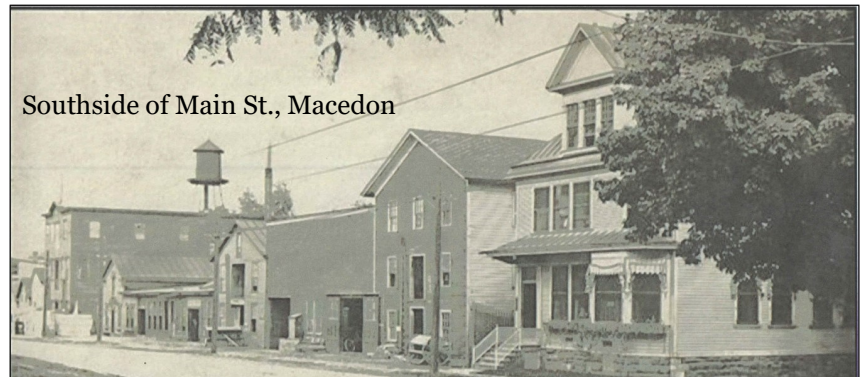
Something exploded inside the cupola at Bickford & Huffman Co's foundry, Tuesday, at 3 o'clock. The wind had been on but a few minutes before the explosion came, which tore the seams apart in the strong steel structure and threw pieces of scrap iron some distance. Fortunately no one was injured though all were badly frightened. The sound was quite dull, but shook the windows in remote parts of the village.

THE CAUSE

According to the best authority the explosion was caused by the expansion of air in a locomotive piston head that was among the scrap iron. These piston heads are about two and one half feet in diameter and eight inches thick, are cast hollow by means of a core, the core being removed through a two inch hole which is plugged with brass, making the head steam tight. Several of these were among the scrap iron and refused to break upon being hit with the maul. Not knowing the extent of the air chamber it was decided to melt one whole.

THE EFFECT.

Immediately after the explosion the cupola was damped, the fire quenched and work begun towards repairs. The piston head was found with one side blown off it. It looked like a big job to repair the cupola, as a man could nearly crawl through the seams strained, never-the-less, Wednesday morning it was together, lined and ready for business, but one heat having been missed.



Southside of Main St., Macedon

Best known as a maker of agricultural machinery, especially seed drills. The business was established by Lyman Bickford and Henry Huffman in 1842. In 1903 they merged with others to form the American Seeding Machine Co. The business covered most of the southside of Main St.



A display of the panels and end caps of the Bickford Huffman Grain Drill are on display at the Historic Macedon Academy. Thank you to Dave Campbell of Marion for donating one of the end caps. Now MHS has the pair. For more information regarding the Bickford Huffman story check out the macedonhistoricalsociety.org

MACEDON HISTORICAL SOCIETY's Calendar 2024

Saturday, March 23rd from 2:00pm- 4:00pm Nettie Bullis Birthday Celebration 1727 Canandaigua Rd., (Next to Bullis Park) Come and help honor Nettie Bullis for her generosity to the Macedon Community. Birthday Cake will be cut at 3:00pm. Open to the public refreshments and tours available

Saturday, April 20th 10:00am- 1:00pm—in conjunction with Earth Day, a day to freshen up the Historic Macedon Academy and the Macedon Center Meetinghouse. All volunteers are welcome. Dusting, sweeping, raking and general cleaning. You may pick up a paint brush too.

Sunday, April 28th 2:00pm at the Macedon Center Meetinghouse - Dick and Jane presentation by Cindy Russell. The books you enjoyed while growing up to learn how to read in classrooms.

Tuesday, May 14th, 5:30pm Historic Macedon Academy—Stakeholders/Board members meeting—Community Chat at 6:30pm TBA

Monday, May 27th- Memorial Day Observance Macedon Town Hall at Noon - Parade starts at 12:30 to the Erie Street Cemetery

Friday—Sunday June 7, 8, 9—9:00am—4:00pm Friday & Saturday 9:00am—1:00pm on Sunday MHS Fundraiser Garage Sale at the Meetinghouse Lawn

Saturday, June 15th—2:00pm—Quaker Day's Celebration TBA

Sunday, June 30th 2:00pm—4:00pm Open House and Concert at the Historic Macedon Academy

Sunday, July 28th 1:00pm—4:00pm Ice Cream Social and Craft Fair—Meetinghouse Lawn

Saturday, August 3rd—Genesee Country Village & Museum—MHS Booth 10:00am—4:00pm

Tuesday, August 13th—Stakeholders/Board Members meeting 5:30pm—Community Chat 6:30pm

Saturday, August 31st- Lock 30 Heritage Festival Noon til Dusk

Sunday, September 29th - Jane Milem, WC Historian—researching the Website for your family and towns

Sunday, October 20th- 2:00pm—4:00pm Authors Forum "A novel idea" Hosted by MHS and the Gananda Rotary at the Macedon Center Meetinghouse

Tuesday, November 12th—5:30pm Stakeholders/Board Members Meeting 6:30pm Community Chat

Sunday, December 1st—Holiday Appreciation Open House— 2:00pm Holiday Concert 3:00pm Santa & Mrs Claus 4:00 Tree lighting Ceremony Macedon Center Meetinghouse

Sunday, December 8th 1:00pm at the Macedon Center Meetinghouse—Kim Tenreiro "Christmas Carol"

For more information on these events call 315-538-0051 leave a message or check out MHS's website: macedonhistoricalsociety.org

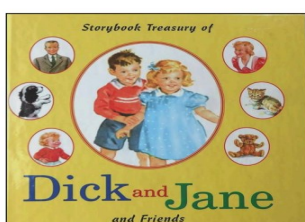
New Events will be added throughout the year—Keep in touch with FB Macedon NY History



Nettie Bullis 101 Birthday Celebration

Saturday, March 23rd 2:00pm—4:00pm at the Bullis Home, 1727 Canandaigua Rd., next to Bullis Park. Tours of the Bullis House, Cake cutting at 3:00pm.

Open to the public, free admission



DICK and JANE presentation April 28, 2024, 2:00pm at the Macedon Center Meetinghouse. A presentation by retired teacher, Cindy Russell. She will share the story about these interesting books, 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. This event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be available.

Macedon Academy 1841—1891

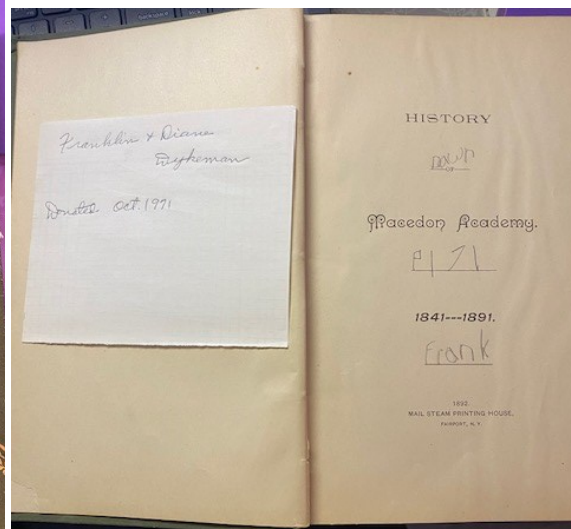
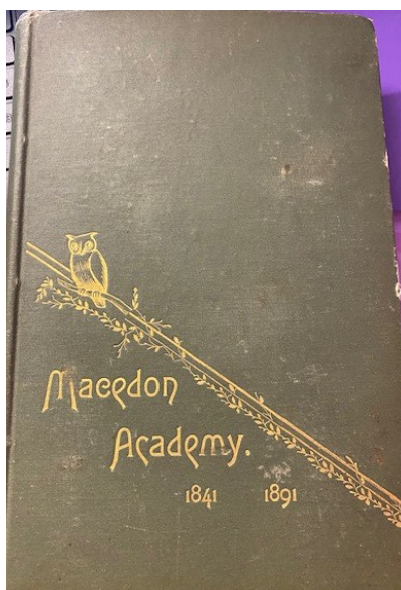
The News Gatherer, 5 December 1891

History of Macedon Academy

A choice volume. Record of fifty years, 1841-1891. Founders, officers, teachers, students. 2000 names or more, edited by a committee of the Alumni. 75 cents in paper, \$1. in cloth. 10 cents postage.

500 copies must be sold to secure the publication. A liberal addition to that number will permit several fine illustrations. Edition limited to the number subscribed for. Buy it if you ever taught or studied in Macedon Academy. Buy it for a memorial of the honored dead. Do not delay the work of the committee. They desire to know by January 1, 1892 whether they can put the book to press or not. Please mail an order immediately after reading this notice for one or two copies, (taking care of your friends) to

MINA C. PACKARD,
Macedon Centre,
Chairman of Com. N. Y.



This book was donated to MHS in October, 1971 by Franklin & Diane Dykeman

The Historic Macedon Academy has several journals and books in the research Library for you to view. Are your relatives listed in any of the journals, yearbooks or documents? Do you have documents that you would like to have preserved for future generations?

The Macedon Historical Society receives 21,113.00 to improve the accessibility to the Historic Macedon Center Meetinghouse



THE
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

"I am pleased that MHS was honored with this grant from RACF/Bullis Fund. The Bullis Family is deeply rooted in Macedon and we honor their family in many ways. The funds will make the Meetinghouse a social gathering for the community with accessibility for all to enjoy lectures, presentations, plays, performances and concerts." commented by MHS President Sandy Pagano.

This grant will support the goal of accessibility to the Macedon Center Meetinghouse by providing an ADA bathroom, upgrade electricity, new hot water heater and lighting within the Meetinghouse.

In 2023, MHS hosted a Bullis Play about John Bullis with ties in Macedon, NY and Texas. The play was well received with over 500 community members attending the shows.

The Bullis Fund was created from the estate of Jeanette 'Nettie' Bullis, an astute businesswoman whose family settled in Macedon in the late 1830s. Grants from income generated by the endowment fund are recommended by a committee of Wayne County representatives to reflect Miss Bullis' interest in improving the quality of life of residents of Wayne County, especially in the Town of Macedon or within the area served by the Palmyra-Macedon Central School District.

For additional information on the Bullis Fund, contact Sara Bukowiec at sbukowiec@racf.org or 585.341.4371

Macedon Academy Alma Mater

*"May the wreath you have won never
wither, nor the star of your glory
dim.*

*Published in the 1841-1891 Academy
History*

Remember to
check on "Share
my name" so
MHS can match
it to the pay-
ment.

To confirm your
donation/or
membership email
curatormhs@gmail.com



SCAN ME

Macedon Historical Society
P O Box 303
1185 Macedon Center Rd.
Macedon, NY 14502

315-538-0051
macedonhistoricalsociety.org
FB: Macedon NY History



Macedon Historical Society

PRESERVING THE HISTORY OF MACEDON, NY



SAVE THE DATE August 31, 2024



KIDS ZONE CRAFTERS

FOOD VENDORS MUSIC

ORGANIZATIONS BEER & WINE

Always looking for Volunteers

Contact Linda Braun
historian@macedontown.net



MONTHLY MACEDON HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETINGS

2nd Tuesday of the Month 5:30pm

Monthly Board of Directors

(all members are welcome)

Stakeholders/Membership Meetings

& Community Chat 6:30pm on

May 14, August 13, November 12, 2024

April through November

Historic Macedon Academy

1185 Macedon Ctr. Rd., Macedon

February & March

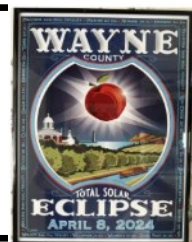
Macedon Center Meetinghouse

1208 Macedon Center Rd., Macedon

All are welcome—Refreshments available

*Where will you be when the Total Eclipse
happens on April 8th, 2024. The path is
draped across Wayne County and Monroe.
Lots of Schools will be closed*

Wayne County Historical Society is offering a poster of the total eclipse that will occur on April 8, 2024. If you would like a copy, please contact the Wayne County Historical Society. They also have the image as a magnet. <https://www.waynehistory.org>



Notable events hosted by Walworth Historical Society

Monday, March 18th, 7:00pm at The Lodge in Ginegaw Park, Bob Mogray will present Old & New Photos of Walworth.

Monday, April 15th 7:00pm - Notable Women of Wayne County by Rosa Fox will present a program about significant women from across Wayne County at the Lodge in Ginegaw Park.

**A hearty thank
you to Lyons
National Bank
for the printing
donation for this
newsletter**

We're LNB, a community-minded bank, where our focus is on our customers and the neighborhoods in which they live and work. To us, banking is a face-to-face, local, and personal experience. It's your tellers knowing your name—and how your kids' game went. It's bend-over-backwards service and the rates, offers, and products to match.

For over 175 years, this is how we've done business. Today, we take pride in serving communities throughout Wayne, Onondaga, Ontario, Seneca, Monroe, Yates, and Cayuga Counties. Because at LNB, banking means helping our neighbors do the most with their money. That's our hometown advantage.

LNB MACEDON OFFICE

Michele Waeghe

Branch Manager

359 NYS Route 31, Macedon, NY 14502

315.986.9681 • BankwithLNB.com



LNB

Banking.

It's all about people.

Member FDIC