

# MHS NEWSLETTER

What's happening in MC | Celebrating 200th Anniversary of the Erie Canal | 2025 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.  
**Macedon Center Meetinghouse/** former  
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 Charity 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

## WORK LIVE PLAY - Tourism & Economic Development

*These 3 elements are the master plan to a growing community. Tourism is one of the keys to attract visitors, that may decide to work and live in the community.*

### The Journey of Webb and Hannah Harwood

In 1789, Webb and Hannah Harwood embarked on a journey from Adams, Massachusetts, in search of a better life. They traversed challenging terrain and eventually settled in the western portion of Palmyra. Their decision to leave their previous home was driven by the promise of rich soil, ideal for farming, which provided ample work opportunities. Their ancestors, friends, and neighbors soon followed, drawn by the same prospects of a fruitful life.

### The Formation of Macedon

In 1823, as part of an effort to balance the towns within Wayne County (then part of Ontario County), the town of Macedon was formed from a portion of Palmyra. The fertile land and the growing community made it an attractive place for settlers.

### Community Development and Education

As more families settled in Macedon, schools and academies were established, providing education and recreational opportunities for the children. This development fostered a sense of community and supported the notion of living, working, and playing in the same area, which was essential for economic growth.

### Amenities in Macedon

Today, the town of Macedon boasts a wide range of amenities that enhance the quality of life for its residents. These include:

- Dedicated town of Macedon Police force
- 24/7 Emergency Medical Service
- Mutual aid on every call with 2 local volunteer fire depts.
- Five parks: Gravino, Bullis, Bickford, Aqueduct, and Canal Park
- A variety of dining options, including restaurants, diners, fast-food, breweries, wineries
- Novelty shops, motels, gas stations, Lowes, Goodwill, Walmart and strip malls including Auto Shops, Gymnastics, Jewelry, Hair Salons, Dog Groomers, Vets, and more

### Cultural Experiences

Macedon offers numerous cultural experiences, such as:

- Proximity to downtown Rochester and Syracuse
- Corn Maze at Long Acre Farm
- Golf courses
- Historic Markers
- Historic Homes
- A museum of Macedon's History
- The Erie Canal, which will celebrate its 200th Anniversary in 2025

### Historical Significance

Rounding out the cultural experiences are two historic buildings located in Macedon Center, both founded by the Quakers. The historic Macedon Academy, built in 1853, is particularly noteworthy. Interestingly, classes initially began in 1841 in a tavern near the current academy's location. It holds the history of Macedon. You will find a museum and a research area. Tourists enjoy seeing the gadgets of days gone by.

*Continued on page 2*



## The Theory of Work, Play, and Live - continued



### MHS OFFICERS

#### President

Sandy Pagano  
585-455-3798

#### Vice President

David W. Taber

#### Treasurer

Carmen A. Pagano

#### Secretary

Linda Braun

#### Trustees

Kathy Murphy  
Dave Gardner  
Judy Longyear  
Grace Mullard

#### Building & Maintenance

Kathy Murphy  
Dave Gardner  
John Mullard

#### Archivist - Archeologist

Stephanie Petty

#### Co - Curators

Grace Mullard &  
Tari Orsburn

#### Co -IT Coordinators

Noah & Jeff Orsburn

#### Special Events

#### Coordinators

Linda Braun  
Sandy Pagano

#### Grant Writer

Linda Braun

#### Newsletter Content

Sandy Pagano  
Linda Braun

The amenities and opportunities available in Macedon embody the theory of "Work, Play, Live," which is essential for community and economic development. People are initially drawn to Macedon for work, but they soon realize the abundance of amenities and choose to live here. The presence of schools and recreational facilities ensures that the concept of play is seamlessly integrated into the daily lives of residents. The integration of a cultural experience is highlighted at the Historic Macedon Academy with its rich abundance of historical artifacts for the community and tourists to enjoy.

In conclusion, Macedon's rich history, coupled with its modern amenities, makes it an ideal place to live, work, and play. The town continues to thrive, offering a balanced and fulfilling lifestyle for its residents.

Side Note: I pull a lot of my inspiration from a podcast "Destination on the Left" hosted by Travel Alliance Partnership. I am pleased to be a partner with TAP. The podcasts are significantly helpful in the tourism business. You may not think of MHS as a tourism hot spot. We all need to expand our vision beyond our own community. There are no borders in History. Our museums and Historical Societies are one of the elements that attribute to economic development for our communities.

*Sandy Pagano, President MHS*



*A sample of the displays at the Historic Macedon Academy - the museum side on the east wing of the building.*

*Call for a personal tour 315-538-0051*



Marv Miner & Flora Straight

### Passing of our Friend, Marv Miner

We are saddened by the passing of Marv Miner  
*"It has pleased Almighty God to bring to Himself our brother Marvin Miner. Marvin peacefully passed to eternal life with his Lord and Savior"*

Pastor Robert C. Weidmayer of St. Johns Lutheran Church

Marvin (Marv) Miner passed away peacefully on February 12, 2025 at 91 years of age. Born on April 13, 1933, Marv spent most of his life as a resident of Macedon. He attended the Science Hill district school through 6th grade. He then attended the Macedon High School for 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade. He was in the first graduating class of Palmyra-Macedon CSD in 1952.

Marv served his country in Korea before returning home. He worked at the Macedon Post Office for a while. Then he bought the old Doyle Store on Main Street and renamed it Miner's Variety store. Following that, he returned to the Macedon Post Office. Marv served for 20 years in the Macedon Fire Department. He also volunteered for the Macedon Ambulance for 15-18 years. We thank him for his service.

Our hearts and prayers go out to the Miner Family and his very close friend Flora Straight. A graveside service will be held in the spring.

## Macedon Center Meetinghouse reserving Dates for 2025



Looking for a venue to hold your parties, graduation, craft show, baby or bridal showers, 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 parking. Call 315-538-0051 leave a message or email [curatormhs@gmail.com](mailto:curatormhs@gmail.com) Check out MHS website under Facility use forms. [Macedonhistoricalsociety.org](http://Macedonhistoricalsociety.org)



*Make your events memorable at the MCMH*

*Call today while your date is still available.*



### MONTHLY MACEDON HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETINGS 2025

**2nd Tuesday of the Month 5:30pm**

**Monthly Board of Directors**

*(all members are welcome)*

**Stakeholders/Membership Meetings**

**& Community Chat 6:30pm on**

May 13, August 12, November 11,

**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***



**Watch for more classes for Kids and Adults at the Historic Macedon Academy featuring the talents of IDA CAVINESS**

Pictures are worth a bazillion words. Adults and kids enjoyed the talent of Ida at the first Adult Cooking Class and a week long "Student Day Camp" over the February Break. Students cooked, made crafts, and some theatre mixed in.



*Watch for new class dates on Macedon NY History Facebook page*

The true history of the Historic Macedon Academy is for teaching. The Macedon Historical Society is so pleased that Ida has chosen the academy to hold her classes for adults and students.

## Heritage Builders

**2024-2025**



**J.D.Chapman**  
AGENCY, INC.

Serving all your insurance needs since 1958



*Crossmolina Band*

**Pal-Mac  
Plumbing  
Heating &  
Air  
Conditioning**



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.

## 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**

**Board of Directors Meetings**

(all members are welcome)

**Membership Meetings**

**& Community Chat**

May 13, August 12,

November 11, 2025

## Membership

All Members are encouraged to contribute with 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 capitol improvement 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.

**Phone Number  
for MHS at the  
Academy**

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

**MHS is an ALL  
VOLUNTEER 501c3  
Organization**

## Looking Back - Macedon and the Erie Canal

**What's in a name?** On older maps you'll see the names Macedon Locks, Lockville and Macedonville directly linking our community of Macedon to the Erie Canal. This year will be the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Erie Canal. Like these names, Macedon has gone through many changes these past 200 years. Officially founded in 1823, Macedon preceded the official opening of the Erie Canal by three years.



Transportation was essential to the growth of any community. Now we frequently see trucks of all types traveling Route 31 and trains north of the canal heading east and west through town. Routes 350, 8 and 28 headed north and south serving the same purposes.



*At the end of the  
Butterfly Trail the 3  
canals come together*

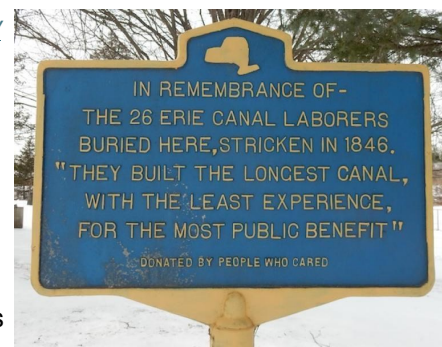
The Erie Canal, at times known as "Clinton's Ditch" or "Clinton's Folly," named after Governor Dewitt Clinton quickly brought local businesses a new way to transport and receive goods. It also became a convenient way to travel. The cost of transporting goods decreased from a high of \$125/ton of cargo between Buffalo and New York City to \$4 per ton in 1835. Traffic became so busy that an enlargement was begun soon after it had opened. Macedon benefitted from this enlargement.

Building the canal was not easy. Most of the work was done by hand. *"The project provided practical schooling for a new generation of American engineers and builders, and led to the founding of the nation's first civil engineering school, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in Troy, New York, in 1824.*

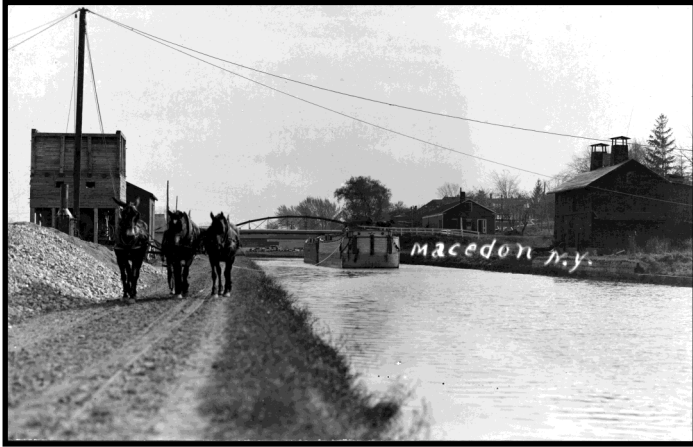
*Erie Canal engineers devised new equipment to uproot trees and stumps and developed a cement that could set and harden underwater."* <https://www.history.com/topics/landmarks/erie-canal> *The men that helped to build the canal, some Irish immigrants, took eight years to finish the project. Several of these workers didn't survive and are buried at the Wayneport Rd. Cemetery.*

The original canal was 4' deep and 40' wide. Boats and barges were pulled by mules/horses on towpaths. The second Erie Canal, begun in 1836, was referred to as the *Enlarged Canal*. *It was enlarged from four feet to seven feet deep and from 40 to 70 feet wide.* <https://considerthesourcenry.org/using-primary-sources/erie-canal-time-machine>

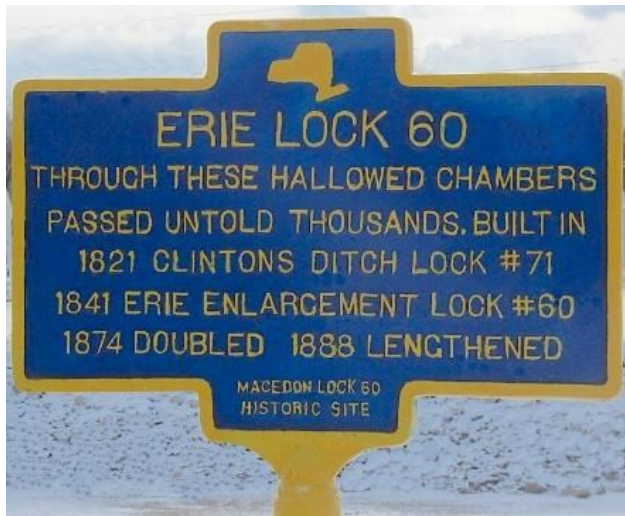
Completed in 1864 the "Enlarged Canal" was intended to improve and straighten the canal, to allow for increased traffic. One of the improvements was the



creation of double locks. The canal was very busy and it became necessary to create areas where the locks could allow people to travel both east and west at the same time. Macedon became home to two sets of double locks 60 and 61. Lock 60 is located along Quaker Road between O'Neil and Walworth Roads. The remains of this lock are maintained as a historic site and presents an excellent opportunity to study the construction of a lock built from stone. It can be accessed from the trail head on the north side of the O'Neil Rd bridge. <https://waynehistorians.org/Places/site.php?site=973>



A man leads mules along the towpath in Macedon section of the Erie Canal



This historic marker notes the importance of Erie Canal Lock 60 in Macedon. It was a double lock that allowed movement in both east and west directions.



The Barge Canal: The first shovel- full of dirt was dug in 1905, and improvements were completed on May 15, 1918. Approximately 340 miles in length, the canal is 12 feet deep and 120 feet wide. By this time, steam shovels were in use. This improved the speed in which the construction could be completed. The canal is officially called the New York State Canal System. It includes the original Erie Canal along with the Champlain, Oswego and Cayuga-Seneca canals.



Lock 30 in Macedon at the Canal Park off Route 350



Circa late 1800's people gather to fish near Lock 60

Locks 60 and 61 were built as part of the Enlarged Canal system.

## MACEDON HISTORICAL SOCIETY's Tentative Calendar 2025

**March 15th 3:00pm Rococo Project Meetinghouse** *see below*

**March** Nettie Bullis Birthday Celebration TBA

**Saturday, April 19th** 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.

**Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday - April 24, 25, 26, 27, 2025** WWAG Spring Art Show and Sale at the Macedon Center Meetinghouse Thursday, Preview Night 6:00pm - 8:00pm, Friday & Saturday 10:00am - 6:00pm, Sunday 10:00am - 4:00pm

**Sunday, April 27th** - Open House Macedon Academy/Museum 2:00 - 4:00pm Program **TBA**

**Tuesday, May 13th**, 5:30pm Historic Macedon Academy—Stakeholders/Board members meeting—Community Chat at 6:30pm

**Saturday, May 17th** - Historic Pursuits with Christopher Blomgren sponsored by the Friends of the Macedon Public Library partnered with 1816 Farmington Quaker Meetinghouse Museum and Farmington Historical Society

**Monday, May 27th**- Memorial Day Observance Macedon

**Saturday, June 7th—10:00am**—David Bloom Graveyard Guy - Field Training session at the Quaker Cemetery east side of the Macedon Center Meetinghouse - pick up a brush and learn how to care and repair headstones (Rain date June 28th)partnered with 1816 Farmington Quaker Meetinghouse Museum and Farmington Historical Society

**Friday-Sunday June 20, 21, 22**—MHS Garage Sale Fundraiser Friday & Saturday 9:00am—4:00pm, Sunday 9:00 - 1:00pm at the Meetinghouse Lawn

**Sunday, June 29th 2:00pm** Preston Pierce presentation on the Parcel Post System - mailing children wasn't the only thing strangely mailed.

**Sunday, July 27th** 1:00pm—4:00pm Ice Cream Social and Craft Fair—Meetinghouse Lawn

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

**Tuesday, August 12th**—Stakeholders/Board Members meeting 5:30pm—Community Chat 6:30pm

**Saturday, August 16th** - Lock 30 Heritage Festival Noon til Dusk

**Sunday, September 28th** - TBA

**Sunday, October**

**Sunday, November 2nd** 2:00—4:00pm Authors Forum "A novel idea"

**Tuesday, November 11th**—5:30pm Stakeholders/Board Members Meeting 6:30pm Community Chat

**Sunday, December 7th**—Holiday Appreciation Open House

Marj Perez presentation on prominent black families in the Macedon & Farmington area. Program is partnered with 1816 Farmington Quaker Meetinghouse Museum and Farmington Historical Society

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

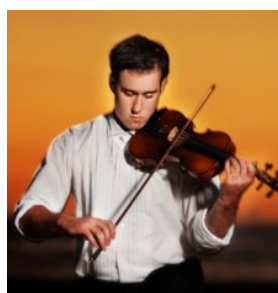
### The Brighton Symphony Orchestra's 'Rococo Project - March 15th

Brighton Symphony Orchestra's Rococo Project is leaving its usually place in the late 18th century to do some time traveling to Macedon Center Meetinghouse. Their concert will be on Saturday March 15th at 3:00pm at the Macedon Center Meetinghouse. The concert program of charming salon music from ca. 1900, the "Belle Epoque".

*Admission is  
Free, donations  
gratefully  
accepted.  
Parking is  
available on the  
premises*



Jon Allentoff  
Violin & Viola



Aaron Bailey  
Violin



Elizabeth Kinney  
Cello



Paul Knoke  
Harp

## What's happening in Macedon Center

### Eastside Scottish Dancers

Eastside Scottish Dancers - dancing classes each Tuesday from 7:00 - 9:00 at the Macedon Center Meetinghouse 1208 Macedon Center Rd, Macedon NY 14502 (for GPS)

RSCDS certified Scot Graham-Raad leads beginner classes

Singles and couples welcome

Kick up your heels and have fun

Requested donation \$5.00 per dancer per evening to cover the cost of the hall.

For more Information contact [Psb@rochester.rr.com](mailto:Psb@rochester.rr.com)

If the weather is bad, please email [psb@rochester.rr.com](mailto:psb@rochester.rr.com) to keep informed if classes have been cancelled due to weather. HVAC & Plenty of parking.



### THANK YOU for the IN KIND SERVICE:

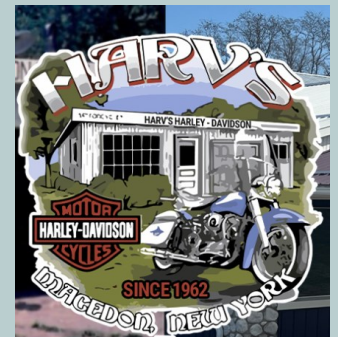
John & Grace Mullard  
Dave Gardner  
Carm & Sandy Pagano  
Linda Braun  
Gananda Rotary Members  
Alpco Employees

The above gave their time and talents through out November, December, January & February to fix, clean and repair as necessary.

These local businesses, sponsored the

Holiday Appreciation Open House on December 1, 2024

**MURPHY**  
FUNERAL & CREMATION CHAPELS  
*Finger Lakes*  
**CREMATION**  
*Locally Owned*



**ALPCO**  
RECYCLING

**A Christmas Carol**

A thank you to the Friends of the Macedon Public Library for sponsoring this event in December 2024

These programs wouldn't be possible without the support of the community

*Thank you*

## Western Wayne Art Group Celebrating 50 years!!!



## The 50th Spring Art Show & Sale

Join the Western Wayne Art Group as they celebrate 50 years hosting the Spring Art Show & Sale. This is a judged show in the following categories: Oil/ & Acrylic, Drawing, Fiber, 3 Dimensional, Watercolor, Photography, Miscellaneous Media & Wayne County Subject.

Our judge this year is Scott Gilala-Broxholm, local illustrator, author & artist. Come see fabulous local art and find out which members won ribbons.

#### DATES & TIMES

THUR APR 24 6-8 PM

FRI & SAT APR 25 & 26 10 AM-6 PM

SUN APR 27 10 AM-4 PM

#### LOCATION

MACEDON MEETING HOUSE  
1208 MACEDON CENTER RD  
MACEDON, NY

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

The Western Wayne Art Group (WWAG) is excited to hold their "MILESTONE 50th" Spring Art Show & Sale April 24th - 27th at the Macedon Center Meeting House at 1208 Macedon Center Rd. In Macedon Center this year. The facility is an excellent place to hold WWAG's 50th this year. The Spring Art Show and Sale is a judged show. WWAG members who have qualified submit up to 15 of their new artworks in the following categories, Oil & Acrylic; Watercolor; Drawing; Photography; Three Dimensional; Miscellaneous Media; Fiber; & Wayne County Subject. The judge this year is local illustrator, author and artist, Scott Gibala-Broxholm. Scott will award a 1st place ribbon in each category and 8 Judges Choice ribbons. Additionally there will be awards from special guest judges.



WWAG was formed a few decades ago with education about the arts as one of their goals to assist member to grow in the creativity and

the public's understanding of the arts in all its forms. This show is a great place for all to learn more. The Western Wayne Art Group is made up of artists & art enthusiasts that meet monthly. We learn from visiting demonstrators, participate in workshops, spend time getting to know each other better as fellow artists, and have an opportunity to show our work. We are proud proponents of the vibrant arts community that is alive and well in Wayne County. Visitors are always welcome at our meetings. We generally meet the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM located at the Walworth Town Hall 3600 Lorraine Dr. Questions? Please contact President John Domm at [jdwag@protonmail.com](mailto:jdwag@protonmail.com) or Vice President Demaris Verzulli at [dverzulli@rochester.rr.com](mailto:dverzulli@rochester.rr.com).

## Save the dates - Line Dancing with Terri Anderson is back at the Historic Macedon Academy

Starting Thursday Nights June 15th - July 10th (6 weeks)



### **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

### **LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS**

KIDS ZONE CRAFTERS  
FOOD VENDORS MUSIC

ORGANIZATIONS BEER & WINE

Contact Linda Braun  
historian@macedontown.net



### ***Please consider a donation for 2025***

A donation starting off the new year will enable MHS to carry on their vision statement of preserving the history, sustaining two buildings and provide excellent programs for the community.

Donate to PayPal Giving Fund

**Macedon Historical Society** [DONATION \(click\)](#)

\$ 25  
USD

\$ 50  
USD

\$ 75  
USD

Other

Share my name and email with this  
charity.



PayPal covers all the transaction  
fees. You're donating to PayPal  
Giving Fund, a 501c3 charity.

*Be sure to check the "Share my name and  
email." This will enable MHS to thank  
you properly.*

The Macedon Historical Society (MHS) has been diligently working to preserve the rich history and heritage of the Macedon Community. Our mission includes not only saving historical artifacts but also maintaining the two buildings that are integral to our operations. To continue this vital work, we need your help.

Securing grants for our projects often requires matching funds. Recently, MHS applied for a grant of \$25,000 but received only \$12,500. This shortfall underscores the necessity of additional financial support from the community. While our events assist with fundraising efforts, they alone cannot bridge the gap.

We encourage everyone to visit our events page and participate in our various activities designed to raise funds. However, we must emphasize that these events are not sufficient to meet our financial needs.

The Macedon Historical Society calls upon the community for support. Your contributions will enable us to sustain our historical buildings and continue our efforts to safeguard the history and heritage of the Macedon Community. Every donation, no matter the size, makes a significant difference.

Together, we can ensure that the legacy of our community is preserved for future generations. Please consider donating to the Macedon Historical Society today. Thank you for your continued support.

#### **Proposed Projects Historic Macedon Academy**

- |                                       |        |             |
|---------------------------------------|--------|-------------|
| ◆ Stabilizing the Floor               | \$16K  | 2025 Summer |
| ◆ HVAC system for the 1st floor       | \$24K  | 2025 Summer |
| ◆ Renovating the Kitchen              | \$20K  | 2025 Fall   |
| ◆ Exterior Painting/or siding         | \$30K  | 2026        |
| ◆ Auditorium Floor/Sanding/Refinished | \$7000 |             |

#### **Proposed Projects Macedon Center Meetinghouse**

- |                                |        |      |
|--------------------------------|--------|------|
| ◆ Parking Lot paved & extended | \$45K  | 2026 |
| ◆ Parking lot Lights           | \$3000 | 2026 |

*MHS has worked hard in preserving the buildings. 2018 (Academy Painted) 2022 (Meetinghouse Painted). 2023 (Meetinghouse Foundation restored) 2023 (ADA Bathroom in the Academy and Meetinghouse) 2023 (Fire Escape Auditorium) 2024 (Auditorium HVAC) 2024 Electricity upgraded in both buildings*