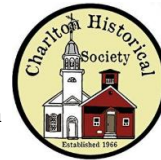




# Charlton Historical Society

2009 Maple Ave. Charlton, NY 12019  
Phone: 518-399-4126 Email: Charltonhist@gmail.com  
<https://www.charltonnyhs.org>



Winter 2025 Newsletter- Volume 34 #5

Prepared by President- Jill Hofmann



## RECENT DONATIONS

- John Henry Conde Picture from Tammy at Family Treasures Found.



- Cast Iron Stove donated by John and Carrie Shea. This now sits in the same spot the original pot bellied stove was to heat the schoolhouse.



- 1826 Blanket Chest that belonged to his grandparents donated by Don Schermerhorn.



## MAINTENANCE



- Portable Podium**-Ken has made the portable Podium that we can use at some of our functions. Alice will be staining it.
- Fire Hazard Found**- Kim from National Grid came to update our meter and saved the day.

She removed a lot of Bee/Wasp hives and nests from the meter box and Jill repaired the broken glass from the cover, so it doesn't happen again. Thanks Kim!

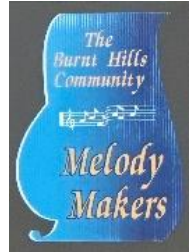


## PAST EVENTS

### November 4<sup>th</sup> @ 5-8pm-BHBL Rotary Pie Festival

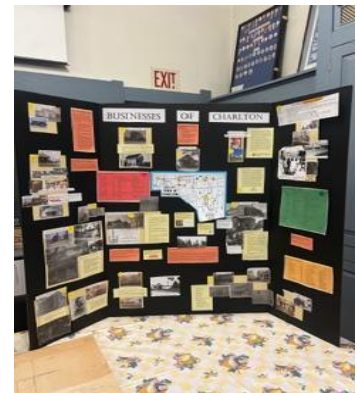


- Alice and Jill had a CHS table at the Pie Festival on Election Day at O'Rourke Middle School. It was a special event where many groups had tables and each talked about what they do in the community. We even saw Galway resident Mary Kuykendall who recognized our display because she was paid to create the board for it. It was my first time hearing the Burnt Hills Community Melody Makers and they were amazing!



### November 5<sup>th</sup> Program @7pm Charlton Residents Business Owners

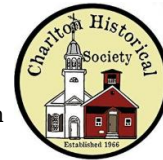
- We had a great time discovering our Charlton businesses past and present. We are creating a current list. Please let us know if you own a business in Charlton to add to the list. See pictures below of the program event.





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## UPCOMING 2026 CHS PROGRAMS

**January 4<sup>th</sup> 2026 @ 2pm- The Henry Knox Cannon Trail Monuments Program with David Peck.**

- Come check out David Peck's visit to all 60 Henry Knox Cannon Trail monuments from Ticonderoga to Boston in a PowerPoint program.



**February 8<sup>th</sup> 2026 @ 2pm- The Charlton Constables Presenters: Tom & Gary Parks and Safety from Charlton Fire Dept 1.**



## DECORATING FOR THE HOLIDAYS

CHS Vice President Carrie Shea spent some time at the Museum and Schoolhouse decorating for the holidays. Be sure to check out the beautiful job including her handmade wreath on the Museum door.



## PAST EVENTS CONTINUED...

**December 1<sup>st</sup> 2025 Program @6pm CHS Annual Holiday Party at the Charlton Tavern**

If you didn't attend, you missed out on a fun night! Be sure to sign up for next year.

- We had a night of good food, the silent auction raffle, singing carols, and a new game called **"Guess Who's Fun Fact"**. It was a blast getting to know everyone in a new way and wonderful to save for the Charlton archives. Thank you to Sue York organizing the event and to all who donated to the raffle.



### Fun Fact Who Am I? – answer on pg. 5

"I broke my leg last November and when I got to the hospital the receptionist asked what I was doing when I broke my leg. I said, "Working the polls". She replied, "You're a dancer?"



## BUTTON DEDICATIONS 12/1/2025:

- Jill presented the Charlton 2005 Founders Day Dairy Farm button and dedication certificate to Dave and Connie Wood and the Eildon Tweed Farm. Dave responded in one word: Perseverance.
- I also gave the Charlton 1993 Founders Day Charlton Tavern Button to the Charlton Tavern at the event.



They are both truly a cherished part of Charlton, NY.



## VOLUNTEER

We are always accepting volunteers to help!

Email us at [charltonhist@gmail.com](mailto:charltonhist@gmail.com)

Also, like us on Facebook and Instagram so you can stay informed of volunteer opportunities.





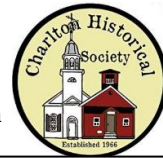


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## CELEBRATING 40 YEARS IN WEST CHARLTON

Charlton, NY is 32.96 square miles. It may be considered small in size, but is vast in agricultural resources and has been fortunate to retain its rural beauty. Agriculture continues as the town's main industry.

Join us in celebrating the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Anderson Acres farming in our community. The farm became operational by Jay and Judy Anderson in 1985. Today, they still own and operate the farm with their son's Dan and Joe Anderson with their families. The farm is located in West Charlton, at 52 Western Avenue (one of the houses listed in the Charlton House Letters, house and barns built between 1832 to 1882). They also have the famous blue and white tent farm stand in the summer months at 2399 State Highway 67. <https://www.facebook.com/andersonacresny/>



ANDERSON ACRES  
Tunis Sheep & Angus Cattle

This farm proudly offers pasture raised, grain finished, all natural Certified Angus beef, hay, cut flowers, a large variety of seasonal produce picked fresh daily from gardens including sweet corn, tomatoes, herbs, melons, squash and more. Anderson's third generation has had a focus on raising, breeding, and showing Tunis sheep. See picture to the right of Colin and his sister Eva at the Louisville 2025 North American International Livestock Exposition. It's wonderful to see how far Colin has gone since starting a 4-H sheep project 10 years ago. The family is proud to be **"Growing since 1985 and providing what we grow to our community."**



FROM OUR FAMILY FARM  
TO  
YOUR FAMILY'S TABLE.



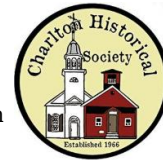


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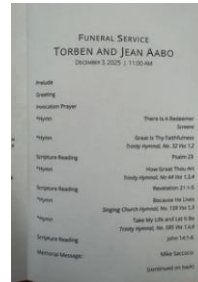
<https://www.charltonnyhs.org>



## Remembering Torben and Jean Aabo



8/28/1940-11/25/2025



7/4/1947-11/25/2025



Torben Aabo, age 85 and Jean Aabo, age 78, of Charlton, NY, went home to be with the Lord on Tuesday, November 25, 2025 after a tragic accident.

Having gone to their celebration of life on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, I learned that Jean was born on July 4, 1947, to Kathryn and Paul Falotico in Westwood, NJ. Torben was the love of her life and they were married for 56 years. They raised their two children, Christina and David. Jean loved many things including their Charlton Sweetman Farm, animals, dogs, 4-H activities, family trips, traveling, grandchildren, volunteering, her church and Jesus. Jean was warm and had spirit of adventure.

Torben was born in Hanerup, Denmark on August 28, 1940, to Karl Sander and Nina (Iversen) Aabo. He accomplished so many things including second lieutenant in the Royal Danish Air Force, marrying the love of his life, and immigrating to America to follow the American dream. He was an electrical engineer and starting a consulting engineering company. He authored and coauthored more than 25 technical papers and articles and operated Power Cable Consultants until 2021.

He loved Charlton and was active in the Saratoga County 4-H, the Charlton Historical Society-President and grounds and maintenance, securing preservation of the One Room Schoolhouse in Charlton, setting up the committee to restore Taylor Hall- the first Town Hall in Charlton, president of the Charlton Seniors, and being member of the Ballston Center Church. All of this and he was humble.

See Torben (President of the Charlton Historical Society) to the left in an article in the Schenectady Gazette. He is standing in front of the One Room Schoolhouse in Charlton and the article explains his intention of renovating the building into a community hall to be used for meetings, exhibits and art shows.

The Aabos have been members of the CHS for many decades and Torben did a lot of the renovation work on the schoolhouse. He also worked on the Charlton House Letters. They will be missed!

## Remembering Members who have Passed

Robert F. "Bob" Martin, age 79, passed away peacefully on Thursday, November 20, 2025, at home surrounded by his loving family. Bob was born on July 15, 1946, in Ballston Spa, NY and was the son of the late Robert A. and Marion (Conde) Martin. From the age of sixteen, Bob served as a firefighter and was a member of the Charlton Fire Department. He was also a board member of **Charlton Historical Society** and President of Pine Grove Cemetery for many years.



Robert C. Youmans of **Charlton** passed away on September 21, 2025 at the age of 89. A member of the CHS for many years.



BettyLou Wessell passed away November 25, 2025, in her home with her loving family by her side. BettyLou was born in Bridport, VT to Lee & Blanche Harris. After losing her mother to breast cancer when she was just 8 years old, she moved to Rotterdam Junction to live with her Great Aunt, Bertha Madison, who helped her father raise her, until she lost him at age 15. She married Leonard Wessell Sr. They moved to Charlton in 1956 where they built their family home. BettyLou loved the **Charlton** area and the community she found there, always saying it reminded her of Vermont. She was a passionate and dedicated nurse and continued nursing all her adult life until she was 85 years old. The most important thing in her life was her family.



William James O'Connor passed away on August 13, 2025 at his home in Rexford. He was born in Queens, NY on April 4, 1947 to William and Edna (Glasco) O'Connor.

A proud Veteran, he served as a 2LT in the U.S. Army in Germany from 1969-1971. Bill enjoyed anything to do with the outdoors including hunting, kayaking, camping, and gardening. Indoors he enjoyed reading, cooking and animals. His wife, Maureen continues to be a member of **CHS** and helps by hosting the museum during the season.

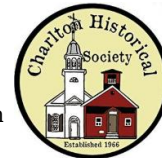






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## OUR NEXT AREA OF FOCUS

- **Digital Preservation Continues-** Jill is up to 82 (3-ring binders) and turned all the negative films to digital. Bill is currently sorting the old documents to be scanned.
- **Button Dedications Continue-** We are still handing out certificates and individually framed CHS Founders Day buttons to local groups and individuals.
- **Update the Charlton House Letters-** About 40 years ago, CHS created a document that had pictures and history of the historic buildings/houses in Charlton. I am busy retaking those pictures to update the document.
- **A Slogan that represents the Charlton Historical Society.**
- **Scanning our Yearbooks to Ancestry.com**

## THANK YOU!

Thank you to all of you who have sent in your 2026 membership dues promptly and to those who added donations to your check.

If you haven't had a chance to send it in yet, no problem- here is the link to the form on our website.

<https://www.charltonnyhs.org/CHS%20Membership%20Form2023.pdf>

### Contact Information:

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Street or PO Box \_\_\_\_\_  
Town, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership:

Individual dues (\$15) \_\_\_\_\_  
Family dues (\$20) \_\_\_\_\_  
Business (\$25) \_\_\_\_\_  
Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Total amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_



**Newsletter delivery preference:** ☐ Email (except November)  
☐ Mail printed

### Checks Payable to: The Charlton Historical Society

Mail your check and this form to:

Susan York  
18 Cortland Drive  
Charlton, NY 12019-2644



## THE CHARLTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY TRUSTEES TEAM



<b>Alice Crotty</b>	Past President, Programs	518-399-4153
<b>Jill Hofmann</b>	President, Digital Preservation, Co-Curator	518-378-6865
<b>Pat Parker</b>	Trustee	518-882-9099
<b>Nancy Bellamy</b>	Corresponding Secretary	518-399-8508
<b>Susan York</b>	Treasurer	518-399-3797
<b>Bob Fenton</b>	Investment Funds	518-882-6009
<b>Ken Crotty</b>	Maintenance, Website	518-764-5210
<b>Don Davis</b>	CHS Historian	518-557-8679
<b>Chuck Latham</b>	Genealogy, History Buff	518-384-0130
<b>TJ Lyons</b>	5K Race Director, Maintenance	518-948-0626
<b>Carrie Shea</b>	Vice President, Social Media, Farmers Market Director	518-791-3172
<b>Jason Nemec</b>	Digital Design, Craftsman	518-256-1816
<b>Bill Wehrle</b>	Co-Curator	518-399-7695



1st Row: Susan York, Alice Crotty, Jill Hofmann, Carrie Shea

2nd Row: Nancy Bellamy

3rd Row: Ken Crotty, Chuck Latham, Bob Fenton, Jason Nemec

Absent from picture- Pat Parker, Don Davis, TJ Lyons, Bill Wehrle

**(Fun Fact answer- Nancy Bellamy)-so funny!**

Pg.5