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In Touch with Locke

NEWS FROM OUR TOWN

FALL 2007

Get your dog license

The town of Locke will be conducting a dog census during the coming year to be sure all dogs are licensed.

All dogs must be licensed by Jan. 1, 2008.

If you have a question about buying a license, please contact Town Clerk Natalie Hingston at 497-9338.

The town will be hiring an individual to conduct the census. Anyone interested should contact Jean James at 497-3135.

Vogel wins board seat, others re-elected

The Nov. 6 elections brought one new board member and the return of several incumbents to positions in the town of Locke.

Anita Sharpsteen Vogel was elected to a four-year term as town board member, and Jack Corcoran will return for a full four-year term on the board.

Town Supervisor Jean James and Town Clerk Natalie Hingston, who both ran un-opposed, were also re-elected.

Vogel, who lives on Goodrich Hill Road, is the youngest of 10 children of Rodney & Kathleen "Kye" Sharpsteen, who owned Rodney's Service Station on the corner of routes 90 and 38 for over 40 years (the



Vogel

current D&D's). She returned to Locke in 1998 with her husband and two sons after living in North Carolina, and now that her two boys are in college, she decided it was time to get more involved in the community and to run for the town board.

With more than 25 years of business and management experience, Vogel is currently a research aide/administrative assistant at the College of Agriculture and Life Science at Cornell.

She says she is look-

ing forward to learning more about how the town works. She hopes to focus on continuing to seek grants that will help enhance the town, as well as programs for youth of middle school age and older.

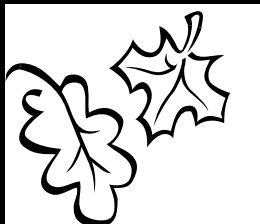
The town thanks Charlie Mott for his many years of service. During his tenure, Charlie took charge of the oversight of the town hall, making sure the building was well-maintained and necessary repairs were made. His dedication is greatly appreciated. We know that Charlie will continue to be involved in town events and be an active participant in the Planning, Appeals and Town boards.

WATER NEWS

Attention Locke water customers!
Any customer of the Locke Water District is responsible for water leaks

that take place in the line from the curb to the meter.

Please contact the highway department at 497-1560 to report leaks and discuss requirements for fixing leaks.



Locke Seniors head to Letchworth

The Locke Seniors spent a beautiful fall day Oct. 10 at Letchworth State Park, including a lunch at the Glen Iris Inn.

The group plans one trip a year and many members also take advantage of other senior trips offered through the Moravia and Southern Cayuga Clubs, said Betsy Hargett, one of the chairpeople of the seniors group. Their regular monthly meetings are at noon on the third Tuesday of the month, where they enjoy a dish-to-pass meal at the town hall. All seniors are welcome!

Two Locke residents earn Eagle Scout rank

Two Locke residents were among four young men honored recently for earning the Eagle Scout rank from Scout Troop 55, Moravia.

Kasey A. Pearsall, of 1515 Masten Road and Jace R. Prine of 5156 Erron Hill Road were the Locke students honored. Joseph H. Campanella and William L. Gaston of Moravia were also honored.

Prine's Eagle Scout project involved the clean-up of Monaghan Cemetery on Tollgate Hill Road in Locke. The

cemetery had been neglected for years. Prine cleared away brush, cut up and hauled out fallen trees and directed other Scouts and workers in setting up head stones that had fallen and replacing a chain link fence around a family plot.

Pearsall's project included redoing the flower bed at the site of President Millard Fillmore's Birthplace on Fillmore road in the Town of Summerhill. He supervised the planting of flowers and

landscaping timbers and he also replaced the tattered American flag and put flagstone around the base of the flagpole.

Gaston also worked at the Fillmore birthplace, placing a plaque honoring Robert Scarry at the site, along with a map of the Fillmore Historical Trail, a silhouette of Fillmore and a picture of the log cabin where he lived.

Campanella prepared and planted flowers and shrubbery at the Powers Library in Moravia.

L.O.C.K.E. Group offers holiday fun

We had a good turnout for the annual Halloween parade, with prizes for the best costume in each of six categories and games and refreshments for all.

On Nov. 6, we held an election night spaghetti supper to raise funds for the firemen's kitchen at the fairgrounds. Thanks to all who helped to move the fire trucks out, clean the fire bays, set up tables and chairs, serve the meal and clean up after-

wards.

A special thanks to all of those who furnished food and donations. We now have \$6,169 toward the kitchen.

Christmas is just around the corner. We met at the fire house on Nov. 18 to redo the wreaths and candy canes and make the big live wreath for the front of the fire house.

Santa arrived on Nov. 30 at 6 p.m. with the lighting of the Christmas

tree at the new gazebo on Main Street, then back to the fire house for refreshments, a photo with Santa and a present.

At our January meeting, we will start painting Easter eggs. We meet at 7:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. All are welcome. Come and help make Locke a better place to live and join in the fun!

-- Ardith Coulson, secretary

Locke resident returns home after 50 years

This spring, Ken Devine, Roger Phillips, Betsy Hargett and myself enjoyed a "growing up in Locke" reminiscing trip with Claude Rumsey.

Claude was born 87 years ago in the house on the corner of Route 90 and Stony Hill Road (the former John Abbott farm and present home of Russell and Marcia Clark).

Claude had one older sister and one younger sister. His mother died giving birth to the youngest when Claude was 4 years old. His dad was a farm hand and unable to care for them, so they lived at the Cayuga County Children's Home in Auburn for six years.

His youngest sister was adopted. Claude went to live with his aunt and uncle when he was 10. They lived at the former Harry Abbott farm (the present Bob Alcorn home).

Claude's dad worked at the Albert Franz farm (former Ken and Ruth Devine home, present Steve and Judy Burnett residence). Claude spent a lot of time there, so Ken and Claude compared stories of the Franz's.

Claude went to school at what was called the Dunksville schoolhouse on Route 38, where Barb Seamans lives now, until 8th grade. Then he was bussed to Moravia High School and joined 24 other students in his class.

A few that he remembers



are Bernard Hartnett (became a doctor), Evelyn Curtis Ryan (was a bank teller and farmer's wife), Marian Rathbun Ackerman (socializes with her now), Alberta Kinney Ward (Locke postmistress for many years), Jimmy Johnson (was Groton postmaster) and Nick O'Dell (was a soldier killed in Italy).

As we traveled up Booth Hill Rd. Claude told of working hard at Louis Hammon's sugar bush and drinking lots of switchel to cool off.

He remembered Ernest Booth and Elmer Smootz on that road and Albert Smootz (former Frank O'Connell farm, present Ken and Stacy Pendell home) back on Route 38.

Going up Stony Hill Rd., he told of Mame and Andy Barhite (present Don Foster home) whose dog would go up on the hill after the cows all by himself when told to bring them home.

Nylotis Harrison's house was where the Bennetts lived, who had four children and lots of ducks.

Going up Old State

Road, Claude told of William Briggs, Joe McAllaster and the Ketchums. He did a lot of trapping in that area, with Ernest Hulse.

As we travel into Locke, Claude mentions the Ross Cruthers farm on Cruthers Rd. (former Sid Brown farm, present Wanda & Harvey Cohen home). Others he remembers are Helen Brown Pai (being sweet on her), Helen Bates having a home for the elderly, Blanche Parker, the Post Office in the back of Stryker's IGA Store, Heisner Drug Store, Lynch's Hardware (Mr. Lynch was the nicest man to all) and going to Dr. Arthur Powers, who was Stuart Powers' grandfather, located at the present Darleen Clark residence.

He thought a lot of the Methodist minister, Phillip Torrence.

Flora Dunks and Lee Rumsey (worked for years at Gerald Todd farm on Rte. 90) are Claude's cousins. Jesse Jacobs was Claude's grandfather.

Claude's father moved to Chemung and ran a 60-cow dairy for an older lady. He remembers going there and helping hand milk all of them. That lady could out milk them both.

After graduating from Moravia High School, Claude went to Cornell to become an agriculture teacher. He was influenced, as others were, by Moravia ag teacher Harold Noakes. Financially he was

only able to go for three years. He went in the Air Force in 1940, worked in weather observation, traveled all over the world, got married, had two successful sons and retired in 1969 after 29 years of service. Claude lived in Waverly, N.Y. and worked for a credit collection agency until his wife passed away.

Having left Locke in 1937, he decided to return in 1994. Claude's life has been rewarding and worldly, influencing many with his outgoing, friendly and knowledgeable personality. That enjoyable day we met an exceptional new friend that shared his Locke life with us.

-- Your Locke Historian, Esther Thornton

* Flower garden *
* thanks! *
* We thank the volunteers who so *
* generously give of *
* their time to take *
* care of the town *
* flower beds. *
* A big thanks also *
* to the Moravia *
* High School Future *
* Farmers of America *
* (FFA) club, *
* who grow the flowers *
* for us! *

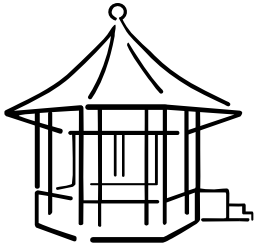
Town of Locke News

Newsletter editor: Kathy Hovis

For story ideas or suggestions, call 497-9184 or

e-mail khovis@sccinternet.com

Our gazebo, Main St. flags



If you haven't been up Main Street recently, take a drive and enjoy the new gazebo and brick walkway. They're beautiful! Eventually, the area will be also be landscaped.

Our Main Street was also

spruced up this summer with American flags, purchased with funds the town received from the state through the Community Development Block Grant program. Thanks to the highway department for its work with both of these projects.

To share ideas for ways to use the gazebo, call Jean James at 497-3135 or any other town board member.

News from the Fire Department

Locke Fire department members will elect new officers soon, and formally induct them at the department's annual banquet, scheduled for Jan. 5 at the fire hall.

Also, new Lots of Loot raffle tickets are now being printed. The raffle will again be held at the end of September, and tickets will go on sale soon!

Keep these town numbers handy!

(As of January 1, 2008)

TOWN BOARD

Jean James, supervisor	497-3135
Julie Parker, deputy supervisor	497-3953
Jack Corcoran	497-3734
Pat Dillon	497-3774
Anita Vogel	497-9181

PLANNING BOARD

Ralph Crandall, chairman	497-1343
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Members: Ralph Montgomery, Fred Kocen, Brenda McLean, Sue Crandall

BOARD OF APPEALS

Wayne Clark, chairman	497-2858
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Members: Jody Ketchell, Sandy Ketola, Fay Hacker, Ken Devine

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT

Members: Judy Burnett, Michael Hingston, Jim Naylor

ASSESSOR

Fitts Appraisal Company	1-800-548-8842
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TOWN OFFICIALS

Andrew Fusco, town attorney	253-5555
Natalie Hingston, clerk & water collector	497-9338

703 Route 38; Hours: Monday 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Wednesday 3-7 p.m. &

Friday, 9 a.m. to 2p.m..

Philip Franklin, Justice — 497-0893

Doug Staley code enforcer— 1-800-852-1741.

Hours: Monday mornings, but call for appointment. Other times by appointment.

Dog control: Country Acres pet services, (607) 749-2734
Paul Burhans.

Pete Compton, highway superintendent & water district maintenance 497-1560

Julie Parker, fair housing officer 497-3953

Esther Thornton, historian 497-0537

COMMUNITY MEETINGS CALENDAR

(monthly unless otherwise noted)

Town Board: Second Thursday, 7 p.m., Town Hall

Planning Board: First Tuesday, 7 p.m., Town Hall

Locke Seniors: Third Tuesday, noon, Town Hall. Bring a dish to pass and table service.

L.O.C.K.E. Group: Second Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall

Board of Appeals: Third Thursday, 7 p.m.

Locke Community Development: Meets as needed, Contact Ken Devine at 497-0492 for more information.

