



# Winter 2017 Newsletter

Volume XXVII#4

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Become a new member, or renew your membership with WCHS—see form on back page.	

## Announcing WCHS Upcoming Programs

Below are programs planned to date for 2018. Our programming is open to the public, and we especially encourage our members to attend. Updated information and program additions are noted on the WCHS Facebook page.

The programs we run, the services we provide, and the library itself all take support from you our membership. Please, encourage other history minded people to join WCHS so we are able to continue our current programs and start new programs to keep Washington County history alive.

### **March 13 - 7 p.m.**

Teri Gay will present a program on Women's Suffrage and the Easton Political Equality Club at the Fort Miller Reformed Church in Fort Miller. This event will be co-sponsored by the Fort Edward Historical Association. There will be suffrage exhibits from the Easton Library, and the Old Fort House.

### **April 15 - 2 p.m.**

Robert Mulligan will present a program at the Freight Depot at Hubbard Hall in Cambridge. on Rice Bull who was a member of the 123<sup>rd</sup> New York Regiment.

### **September 25 - 7 p.m.**

Steve Butz will present "Shay's Settlement Project: A Story of Revolt and Archaeology" at the Slate Valley Museum in Granville. This event is co-sponsored by the Slate Valley Museum.

### **October 27 - 10 a.m. WCHS Annual Membership Meeting**

The WCHS Annual Meeting will start at 10 a.m. and coffee and pastries will be served. Our business meeting will begin at 10:30 a.m. at Proudfit Hall in Salem. Luncheon is tentatively planned to be catered by Brooklyn Marie's Restaurant. The program will feature Al Cormier portraying General John Williams and a tour of the Old Burying Ground (Revolutionary Cemetery) where the stones have been recently cleaned by the Salem Rotary Club. Mary and Michael Skelly will conduct a cannon demonstration.

**Washington County  
Historical Society  
Mission Statement**

*The Washington County  
Historical Society is an  
educational organization  
dedicated to engaging diverse  
audiences in the study and  
application of the collective  
heritage of Washington County,  
New York, and its environs.*

- Rev. October 2005

WCHS has a constantly growing collection of information, original documents, and other items of interest about Washington County and its inhabitants, past and present. We encourage you to stop by and take a look!

If you would like to find out more about volunteering to help with the Heritage Research Library, please contact the Historical Society and let us know.



**Heritage  
Research  
Library Hours:**

Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Fridays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Newsletter Editor:  
Kelly Mead

**How To Contact Us:**



Phone: (518) 747-9108  
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**Greetings From Your President**

Season's Greetings,

Alas, we have come to the end of another year. At year's end, my term as President of WCHS is expiring. It is now time for someone else to take the reins and move the organization forward. Debi Craig will be taking over as President for a second time and with all her energy she will continue to move the Society forward. I would encourage you to renew your membership in the upcoming year and please, recruit new members to continue the progress made in recent years.

Over the past two years, WCHS has updated the website, offered architectural and historical tours of the county, brought back the Cronkhite Lecture Series, published a historical calendar, started a membership picnic, developed new Society brochure and expanded our presence at the Washington County Fair. Those are new programs and reinstated programs from the past years, as well as our continuing research work in the Heritage Library. We continue our quarterly Newsletter. The annual Journal continues publishing county and regional histories. In the past year we have reinstated the Washington County Historical Society Preservation Committee. The committee members started working on the developing award categories and inspection procedures to start awarding and celebrating historical architecture and research within the county.

As with most volunteer organizations, it is hard to find members willing to help out. Please consider donating your time. I would like to personally thank our most faithful volunteers. In the past few years being involved in many organizations, I have found the volunteering experience very rewarding. The Society needs new members with new ideas, as well as energy to expand and further the Society.

See our website for a link to the collection or come by the Library to browse the collection. Do historical or genealogical research in our Library. Consider volunteering in our Library, at the Fair, at one of our programs, serve on a committee, and especially encourage others to join and volunteer in WCHS.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as President of the Washington County Historical Society. It has been a rewarding and enlightening experience.

Sincerely,

Patrick Niles

Washington County Historical Society President

In the 1990s, Paul Jones of Eagle Bridge gave a recipe to Sally Brillon for Grandma Moses Gingerbread; this same recipe is printed below to share again.

Mr. Jones was a well known area historian and antiquarian book dealer. He lectured extensively on area history. He gave the dedication the day the Washington County Historical Society placed a historic marker at the Grandma Moses House.

With this time of year with the holiday season upon us, we are happy to share the recipe below with our members. It is reported to be an over 150 years old recipe....enjoy!

### **Grandma Moses Gingerbread**

1 cup sugar  
2 tbsp. molasses  
2 tbsp. butter  
2 tbsp. lard  
1 tsp soda  
1/2 tsp ginger  
1/2 tsp. cloves  
1 cup rich sour milk  
Pinch salt  
1 egg  
2 cups of flour



Beat all together. Bake 45 “minutes”.



Lot 109: Grandma Moses  
*Sugaring Off*, Sotheby's  
American Art, October 6, 2017.

### **Grandma Moses Painting Sells At Sotheby's**

The sale of a Grandma Moses painting was the top lot of the sale at the Sotheby's auction in New York City on October 6, 2017 . The sale was written up in the December issue of the Maine Antique Digest.

The Moses painting was *Sugaring Off* and it sold for a whopping price of \$348,500, was for \$100,000/\$150,000. It was sold to a private American collector who was bidding online.

The 22” x 26 1/4” oil and tempura on maonite last sold at Sotheby's New York on December 1, 1994 for \$48,875. The painting came from an important private collection and was on the front cover of the auction catalog.

## **Battle And Brews Tour Recap**



*L.-R. Pat Niles, James Parillo and John Mead*

On Saturday, October 14, 2017 the Washington County Historical Society led the second annual Battles and Brews tour. Thirty people went on a day-long excursion through Washington and Warren Counties visiting over ten historic sites significant to the French and Indian war. WCHS Board President coordinated the day, along with board members James Parillo and John Mead.

The tour began at 9 a.m. with a look at the remains of Fort Miller, built in 1755. The bus followed as closely as possible the original 1755 military road that was constructed by Sir William Johnson. Along the way historic sites were pointed out such as Fort Misery, Fort Mosquito, and Fort Amherst—all posts long since forgotten in history, yet extremely important

to the story of the colonial wars in America. This stop included a walking tour of Lake George Battlefield Park with the president of the Lake George Battlefield Alliance.

The participants were treated to a box lunch and sampling of local craft brews from Argyle Brewery, Battle Hill Brewing, Adirondack Brewery, and Davidson Brothers. After lunch Fort William Henry graciously opened their doors and interpreter Steve Collier gave a fascinating presentation on the history of the Fort.



*Participants enjoyed a day full of history aboard the bus.*

It was time for a rest so the bus stopped for a break at Cooper's Cave Ale Company and enjoyed craft beer and a lecture by brewer Ed Bethel. Bethel is a long time reenactor and discussed his reenactment group, Speakman's Company of Rangers, which fought in the French and Indian war. The final stop was a look at Coopers Cave which was made famous by James Fenimore Cooper in his novel, The Last of the Mohicans.

It was a long day, but so well worth it. Thank you to everyone who attended and helped to make this a wonderful day. We can't wait until next year's tour featuring the Civil War History of Washington County!



*Looking at the famous Cooper's Cave.*



*Participants visited Fort William Henry along the route.*



*Stopping along the way at Cooper's Cave Ale Company.*



*King Hendrick and William Johnson statue in Lake George Battlefield Park.*



*Fort William Henry tour guide, Steve Collier*

## **Notes from the Heritage Research Library**

### **Notes from the Library**

After Apple-Picking

By Robert Frost

My long two-pointed ladder's sticking through a tree  
Toward heaven still,  
And there's a barrel that I didn't fill  
Beside it, and there may be two or three  
Apples I didn't pick upon some bough.  
But I am done with apple-picking now.  
Essence of winter sleep is on the night,  
The scent of apples: I am drowsing off.

Today we are having stone dust layered in our driveway, so parking will be more elegant and certainly far less damaging to cars and snow blowers. Thank you for contributing to the Washington County Historical Society and thank you to the Board.

### **Article Synopsis**

We are rarely featured in *The New York Genealogical and Bibliographic Record*, but in the most recent issue there is the first part of a two-part article, titled "Daniel McIntyre, United Empire Loyalist, of the Town of Argyle, Albany County, New York, and Grimsby Township, Lincoln County, Upper Canada," by John Blythe Dobson and James Isaak.

McIntyre's first name was actually Donald and was anglicized to Daniel. He was born around 1736 in Scotland and died in 1825 in Canada. He was in Simon Fraser's regiment, fighting in North America from 1757 to 1763. For his service he was awarded land in Washington County where he lived until 1771. He was not part of the Argyle Patent settlers. At the end of the Revolution he lost his lands, but did not go to Canada until 1793/94. In 1795 he petitioned Governor Simcoe for land in Upper Canada, in the following statement:

That your petitioner has faithfully served His Majesty in the French War, in the 78<sup>th</sup> Regt. of foot; Your petitioner lived in Jersey [New Jersey], in the American War, was vigorously persecuted by the rebels; his property confiscated and himself and family reduced to poverty. . . . That in the conclusion of the French war your Petitioner received a grant of 200 acres, & settled in the Township of Rupert on White Creek from which he was driven by the Americans during the late Revolution.

On June 11, 1771, Robert Cochrane, under the aegis of Ethan Allen, and a small band accosted McIntyre and others and claimed their lands under the Hampshire grant, causing McIntyre to move to Fitch's Point, New Perth, now Salem. In 1777 when Burgoyne was nearby, McIntyre joined his Army and was present at the defeat.

Eventually, McIntyre received about 800 acres in Upper Canada.

It is fascinating to see the greater land controversy between New Hampshire and New York and the hostilities caused by Ethan Allen play out in McIntyre's life. The full article can be found in *The New York Genealogical and Bibliographic Record*, Vol. 148 (2017) 191.

Thank you to all who support the Washington County Historical Society and the Heritage Research Library in any way.

- Submitted by Barbara D. Anderson, BA, MA, MLS, Librarian, Heritage Research Library

### **WCHS Annual Membership Meeting held in Whitehall, NY**

The 77th Annual Membership meeting was held in Whitehall on Saturday, October 28, 2017. A business meeting was held to update members of our Society's recent endeavors and the 2018 operating budget and nominations slate were approved.

Participants enjoyed a tour of the Skenesborough Museum and enjoyed their time in Whitehall's historic district. Lunch was provided by Historic Grounds in Whitehall.

At the event, WCHS President's Awards were given, and Claudia Blackler received the Chronkrite Award.



Pictured (L-R): Dale Grinnell, Coral Grinnell, Paul McCarty, Barbara Anderson, Debi Craig, Claudia Blackler (Cronkhite Award recipient), Steve Lapham.

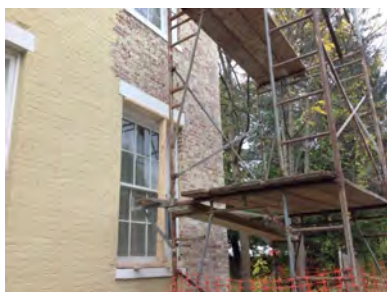


Pictured (L-R): Paul McCarty, Claudia Blackler, Debi Craig.

### **Wing-Northup House Repairs Completed**

The Society was pleased with the brickwork that was repaired on a portion by the Tuttle Construction Company of Greenwich. Jesse Tuttle Sr. and his son Jesse replaced damaged bricks and repointed 150 square feet of the wall. The results are a tight exterior with a new coat of paint. The actual cost was \$7,099.25, (\$880.75 under budget) which pleased us. The project was partially funded with a \$3,000 grant from the Leo Cox Beach Philanthropic Foundation, and funds from the Building Committee budget.

The front porch deck and steps were recently painted by Dan Cook. The other parts of the porch were painted by the Building Committee.



## **Grandma Moses Memories**

The following is an excerpt from articles published in our WCHS Newsletter from the summer of 1989. We are sharing Agnes Peterson's and Paul Jones's submissions as we thought this would be interesting to our readers today.

### ***Remembering Grandma Moses—Anna Mary Robertson Moses (1860-1961)***

Those of us who were fortunate enough to witness Cloris Leachman's vibrant and sensitive portrayal of Grandma Moses in *An American Primitive* at the Palace Theater in Albany this July owe three cheers to the people of Hoosick Falls. Roberta Gyberg spearheaded the grass roots effort that persuaded production organizers to bring the play within driving distance of those in the Grandma Moses country. If one had never had an opportunity to meet Grandma Moses, seeing the play was the next best experience. All the excitement has gotten people talking about their personal memories of Grandma Moses. The Society asked three people who had known Grandma Moses to write brief essays of their reminiscences for the newsletter. We know there are many other members who knew Grandma Moses, and we invite you to send us your memories so they can be included in a future newsletter. Thank you to Paul Jones, Agnes Peterson, and Charlotte A. McGeoch for their following warm memories of Grandma Moses.

#### ***From Agnes Peterson, Huletts Landing, Dresden, NY:***

The first time I visited Grandma Moses was during the summer of 1948 with a mutual friend. At that time, she lived in the old farmhouse which was the home of her son, Hugh and his wife, Dorothy. Though busy every day with her painting, Grandma and Dorothy, too, visited with us and later escorted us about the grounds to admire their lovely flowers. Later, we visited again and arrangements were made for a week of painting with Grandma for me to watch and learn whatever I could to aid my budding interest in oil painting. Before that week actually came about, Hugh Moses had died during the winter of 1949 and it was a sad and upsetting time for Grandma and Dorothy that summer. It was one Sunday in early December when I finally arrived there with my painting kit. Grandma soon had me at work on the other side of her working table in her warm and cozy upstairs bedroom. There was a little black woodstove there for heat and it was the custom for everyone to fetch up a stick or two of wood as they came upstairs to keep the supply replenished. Grandma liked to be warm and that seemed to be the warmest place in the old drafty farmhouse for her to work comfortably.

Dorothy prepared delicious meals for us and we would go downstairs long enough to eat and for while in the evening to watch TV and then off to bed. I slept under Grandma's new electric blanket, in an unheated guest room down the long hall from Grandma's bedroom. There were two steps up to get to the hall and the first thing I did next morning was fall down those steps with the result that I soon had a "crick" in my back. Grandma put me to bed (on her bed) with her heating pad at my back and gave me some of her pain pills after calling her doctor to see if they were all right for me to take. She insisted that I rest instead of trying to paint until I felt better. Thought still stiff and uncomfortable, by Wednesday night I did manage to accompany Grandma and Dorothy to their church Christmas party.

The rest of that week was the most interesting in my painting lesson development and I still have one of the paintings I finished at her house. I remember that one day Grandma was working on a farm scene with a barn and animals and Dorothy came in and commented that one of the mules was too large to fit in the barn. Grandma didn't say a word but later the mule was painted out. When Dorothy came in again and asked what happened to the mule Grandma said "She led him up behind the barn so you can't see him now." Yes, Grandma had a keen sense of humor!



I saw her a few times after my privileged week with her and always she was kind and cordial. She reminded me so much of my own grandmother both in looks and manner.

The new ranch house to which she later moved was in the build-in progress at that time and we could look out the old farmhouse window and see it in the making. The next April it became her home for the remainder of her life.

***From Paul Jones, The Inn, Eagle Bridge, NY:***

Here at our bookstore at The Inn, out-of-town visitors often stop by to ask questions about Grandma Moses. As time passes, her fame seems to grow greater and more and more people visit Eagle Bridge and rural scenes she immortalized in her paintings. These visits afford an opportunity to those of us who knew her to share with others our reminiscences of this remarkable person.

Still vivid in my mind, although it took place almost forty years ago, is the memory of meeting Grandma Moses for the first time. One bright summer day when my wife, my son, and I were at work on repairs to the old White Creek house, a car pulled into the dooryard. I was in the old kitchen where we had taken up the floor in order to make repairs to the supporting understructure. My son rushed in flushed with excitement and cried out: 'It's Grandma Moses!' It's Grandma Moses! Grandma Moses is here!" Grandma was with her daughter Winona and Mrs. Kenneth Bullard of Schuylerville who often took her on automobile trips in the area. All three loved old houses. Mrs. Bullard owned the pre-Revolutionary Marshall House in Schuylerville. Grandma owned and head lived most of her life in the old Van Rensselaer House in White Creek and Winona had grown up there. Moreover, old houses and a bygone lifestyle formed the central theme of many of Grandma's paintings.

They were enthused with our plans to repair and live in the old house on Quaker Hill. They were eager to see the old colonial fireplace with the carving of the Dove of Peace and the interior of the house done in handplaned wide pine boards. To get to the fireplace, it was necessary to step from beam to beam because the floorboards had been removed. These beams were spaced three feet apart, and I can still see Grandma, very agile though slightly stopped and nearing ninety years old with that spring in her step she was known for, fairly skipping across the beams to see that old cooking fireplace. I held my breath but my concern was uncalled for—she was as sure of her footing as she was of her brush strokes. They went on to see the interior of the house and then we sat down in our big room for a pleasant visit. As they were leaving and we were still in animated conversation, all of us, pausing in the dooryard which had been used to pasture cows and horses since the house had been abandoned several years ago my wife spoke to Grandma about the big project we were facing to plow up and sow the dooryard to grass. "Don't do it", Grandma said. "Just fill the holes, tamp it down in wet weather and keep it mowed." She explained that this was natural grassland and that was all we needed to do to have a good lawn. We followed her advice. We had a lawn we were proud of and saved ourselves much needed work.

A lush growth of catnip beside the house caught her eye. "Catnip", she said. "You have catnip!" She rushed over, picked off a sprig, pinched it between her fingers and smelled it. "Good catnip!" We urged her to take all she could use. She would dry it and steep it up to make a tea useful for different ailments. "Herbs are nature's remedies," she told us.

There are many memories of Grandma that crowd my mind spanning the dozen years we knew her including a last visit with her on the eve of her 101st birthday but the above account is one I enjoy relating; a memory I will always cherish.

### **In Memorium — Norman Enhorning Dedicated Volunteer**



The Society mourns the loss of Dr. Norman A. Enhorning who passed away September 23, 2017, peacefully at home.

He was born on September 24, 1936 in Waterbury, Connecticut, the son of Arthur and Doris Enhorning.

He was educated at the University of Connecticut, earning his B.A. in 1958 (Phi Beta Kappa). He earned two degrees from Rutgers University, his M.A. in 1959 and his Ph.D in history in 1970.

His fine teaching career began when he taught history at Wappingers High School from 1959 to 1962. In 1964, he began teaching history at SUNY Adirondack and continued until 2003 when he retired as distinguished professor of history. He was chosen twice as the teacher of the year. His love of teaching and the students brought him out of retirement to teach part time at SUNY Adirondack until 2013.

Norman was active in both the Washington County and Warren County historical societies. He served as president of both societies for a period of four years each.

He joined the Washington County Historical Society at the urging of Franklyn Linehan, his wife's uncle, who was president of the Society. Norman served as either an officer or trustee from 1968 to 1991. He also worked on many committees: Nominations for six years; Investment Officer for seven years, as well as on the Library and Membership committees.

The following are a sampling of some of the lectures given by Norman. In 1975, he presented one of our programs, "A Revisionist Looks at the American Revolution from the Other Side" and in 1978, he spoke about "The British Navy in America in the Colonial Era". In 1987, he spoke on a favorite topic, "Samuel Nelson—Justice of the United States Supreme Court". From 1992 to 1995 he gave a lecture each year honoring the 50th Anniversary of World War II. The lectures were entitled: "World War II in 1942", "1943-A Turning Point of World War II", "1944-Victory In Sight", "1945-The End of World War II". In 2005, Norman wrote an article for the Journal of the Washington County Historical Society; it was entitled: "Washington County During the Great Depression". Norman also wrote two chapters for the recently published History of Warren County.

Norman was responsible for coming up with the idea to create an advisory body to assist the library staff at SUNY Adirondack with the Hill Collection, which was donated by Mrs. Hill in 1978. The Hill Collection is a historical collection of local history books, maps, pamphlets, letters, photographs, scrap-books, etc. They were gathered by William H. Hill (1891-1959) an author, collector of regional history material and a businessman from Fort Edward. The research collection is non circulating and housed in a special climate controlled room at the library. A legacy was left in the will of Elsie Norton Hill, wife of Mr. Hill, for the future needs of the Hill Collection. Norman was a member of the Hill Collection Advisory Committee which is composed of local historians.

Norman is survived by his wife of 50 years, Mary O'Donnell Enhorning and his daughter, Christine Laing and her husband Christopher. The Society extends sympathy to the family and thanks them for sharing Norman with the Society for so many years. We were always proud to have Dr. Enhorning working with the Society, guiding us with his broad knowledge of history. We will miss the scholar in our midst. At his memorial service on September 29, 2017, it was stated that "Dr. Enhorning was the intellectual foundation of Adirondack Community College" and that "he was a gentle giant among humanity" and that "he had empathy for needs of others."

## **WCHS Board of Directors Meeting News**

The Board of Directors representing the Washington County Historical Society, wants to keep our members fully informed. We will include highlights and summaries from recent meetings in each newsletter.

### **Highlights from the September 18, 2017 meeting:**

- The meeting began with a slide presentation by Vance Bateman outlining the proposal of the program and guidelines for the new Historic Preservation Award Program.
- Administrative Assistant, Steve Lapham, reported that we netted \$1,244.43 in book sales, received \$75 in membership, and \$20 in caboose donations at the 2017 Washington County Fair.
- Barbara Anderson reported a wonderful month for the Library, and saw several patrons from all over with stories. They seemed very happy with the facilities and the services we provide.

### **Highlights from the October 16, 2017 meeting:**

- Pat Niles opened the meeting with a slide presentation with photos from the recent Battles and Brews bus tour. The event went well. He also shared photos from the History Fair.
- The Historic Preservation committee's directive was officially approved by the Board. The committee will now move forward with its plans.
- Steve Lapham reported the Annual Appeal is moving along, and book sales at the History Fair went well.
- Barbara Anderson recently obtained a copy of an Atlas of Washington County for our collections from the Chicago Public Library.

### **Highlights from the November 14, 2017 meeting:**

- It was approved to have work done on the back driveway which needed repair.
- Sally Brillon reported the house brick repair was completed by Tuttle Construction Company of Greenwich, New York. A cracked lintel and sills were secured and many bricks replaced. The front of the building was repointed and repainted and a new downspout was installed. We are grateful to Leo Cox Beach Philanthropic Foundation for the grant that aided in this project.
- The Historic Preservation Committee's directive has been added to the WCHS website.

### **2017 Board of Directors**

#### **OFFICERS**

President	Patrick Niles
Vice President	Debi Craig
Treasurer	Dale Grinnell
Secretary	Kelly Mead

#### **TRUSTEES — 2017**

Justin Culligan  
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#### **TRUSTEES—2018**

D. Keith Truesdale  
Kathy Huntington

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James Parillo  
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#### **STANDING COMMITTEES:**

Building—Sally Brillon  
Finance—Kay Tomasi  
Nominations—John Mead  
Publications—William Krattinger

#### **TRUSTEES EMERITI**

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#### **WCHS HISTORIAN**

John A. Mead



167 Broadway Fort Edward NY 12828-1709  
 Telephone (518) 747-9108

**WCHS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

New  Renewal

Winter 2017 Newsletter

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have an off-season address? (e.g. start: January; end: March)

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Away Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Return Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Category	Price
Senior Couple/Senior Individual/ Student	\$25
Family/Individual	\$35
Patron	\$50
Contributing	\$75
Sustaining	\$150
Benefactor	\$500

I would like to include an additional gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for: \_\_\_\_\_ Library Operations \_\_\_\_\_ General Fund

Please contact me about becoming a WCHS volunteer.  Please send me a list of WCHS Publications.

*Please note that the WCHS membership year is January 1 thru December 31. New memberships received after November 1 will be honored for the following year. Annual memberships and donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.*