

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2015

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Harry L.D. Weldon
Town of Dryden, Tompkins County, NY

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Appointed: July 8, 2009; officially Sworn-in: July 31, 2009 --- (former: Dryden Village Historian: Nov. 21, 1983 thru March 17, 1992)

FINANCES: Stipend (\$450.00 for year) - Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 2015; received near end of year – a change from prior years when received mid-year! **
Other Financial Benefits - Operating Budget 2015 - Amount, if any – unknown (Any expenses incurred taken out-of-my-pocket).
Purchase provided (via Town Clerk's Office) of 2 ink-jet printer cartridges for personal printer used in office space at the Town Hall.
** In 2016: Have been advised not to be expected until the END of year!

Weekly office hours (generally):

- 165 --- One mid-week morning (9:15'ish a.m. to 12:30'ish p.m.) averaging 3-4 hours per week.
 - 10 --- Occasional at beginning (or end) of week - anywhere from 1-3 hours
 - 125 --- 2 to 3 (more or less) hours per week at home (email replies, etc.).
 - 875 --- Plus, 15 to 20 hours per week (research, etc.) at other places (e.g. local Historical Society).
- 1,175 TOTAL** hours (more or less) – equates 1175 hrs./\$450 = 38.3 Cents per hour (give or take).

RESEARCH and PUBLICATIONS:

- ❖ A weekly column "Anecdotes and Brevities" published 49 out of 52 weeks (missed three deadlines) in the "Finger Lakes Community Newspapers" (a consortium of eleven weekly community newspapers). Columns are always about some historical event or incident in local or central New York history).
- ❖ Occasional Articles in Dryden Town Historical Society's quarterly newsletters.

CURRENT "work-in-progress" PROJECTS:

- Continual research family lineage name of Southworth name in connection to Dryden's Southworth Homestead.
- Completed a draft copy of a book of "Historic Postcards (150) of Dryden Township, NY;" Probability it will be published and printed out-of-my-pocket, if ever or at all.
- ON HOLD:
 - Preparation of a copy (in PDF format) for draft of meaningful listing of historical roadside markers in the Town of Dryden in anticipation of distribution (of PDF file) to three local municipalities in the Town for their in-house printing
 - Preparing for publication: "Photographic History of the Dryden, NY Township (a.k.a. Town of Dryden, NY), with a recognized national printer and publisher.

PRESENTATIONS:

- After luncheon program speaker (once) for the Dryden, NY Senior Citizens.
- After luncheon program speaker (twice) at the Harford, NY Senior Citizens Center.
- Program presenter (once) for the Ladies Hobby Club, Dryden, NY.
- A "Tour Guide/Docent" at the Dryden Town Historical Society/Southworth Homestead Museum.

ATTENDANCE (and/or Participant):

- Regular weekly office hours at the Dryden Town Hall.
- At most (missed one) public meetings of the Dryden Town Historical Society (Secretary/Trustee-three year term).
- At the Southworth Homestead's October Fall Fest.
- Chair (and member) of Dryden Town Historical Society's: 1) Collection and 2) Genealogy Committee.
- At most (missed two of twelve) monthly meetings of DTHS Board of Trustees (Secretary/Trustee).

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

1. Charter (1981) Trustee/member of Dryden Town Historical Society.
2. Senior member of Newark Valley, NY Historical Society.
3. Member Williamsburg, VA Foundation.
4. A member of Tompkins County Municipal Historians Association (non-attendance in 2015).
5. Non-member of APHNYS (Association of Public Historians of New York State).

CONCLUSION:

The single most **major accomplishment** in 2015 was to maintain weekly routine and Historian office hours at the Town Hall.

Goals and plans for 2016:

- To continue the current routine!
- Make more readily available the history of the Town to the general public through public presentations and publications.
- To attend, if any, worthwhile meetings of the APHNYS, *if* travel funds and fees are provided.