

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS NEWS

Our Annual Meeting in March was cancelled at the very start of the COVID pandemic, so we held our election of officers via an online poll in April and a Zoom teleconference in May. There were no changes in the Society's Executive Committee and the full list of Directors is shown in a box below, right.

Last Fall we regretfully accepted the retirement of Tim Moriarty from our Board. Tim served on our Board for 10 years in addition to his responsibilities at the Medina Savings and Loan, which had just opened its new Maple Ridge office when Tim started in 1996. In his position as President and CEO he opened a satellite office in Albion and greatly increased the bank's products and services. In 2018 the Savings and Loan merged with Generations Bank and Tim joined their Board of Directors. In addition to our Medina Sandstone Society, Tim was involved in many community activities including a term as President of the Orleans County Chamber of Commerce as well as service to the Medina Lions Club, YMCA, Little League Baseball and Junior Achievement.

We'll miss Tim's contributions to our Society and we wish him all the best in his retirement!



*The Medina Sandstone Society, Inc., organized under the not-for-profit laws of New York State, calls focus on the village's notable industrial past and especially the affection of the world's builders for our native sandstone. We use that image to build local pride, to support hometown initiatives, to embrace historic preservation and to help the Medina area in modern times to reach its full potential.*

## WEBSITE & FACEBOOK

At the end of last year our website was updated to enhance security and to facilitate routine maintenance of the site. We hope you'll occasionally check [www.SandstoneSociety.org](http://www.SandstoneSociety.org) for posts describing recent activities and for more detailed information on our Society, the Sandstone Trust, John Ryan high school program and scholarship, our Sandstone Hall of Fame as well as a Gift Shop where you can purchase our books or make a donation. A recent addition in the Hall of Fame section are maps showing the location of sandstone buildings in all of Orleans County, in the Medina area, Lockport, Buffalo and even in Erie, PA.

Facebook has also been used more extensively during the past year to communicate interesting stories and highlight our activities. We have had about a dozen posts that exceeded 1,000 views and our post on the "Oldest Sandstone Home in Medina" received 5,000 views! You can find us at [www.facebook.com/SandstoneSociety](http://www.facebook.com/SandstoneSociety).

### Medina Sandstone Society, Inc. P.O. Box 25 • Medina, NY 14103 [www.sandstonesociety.org](http://www.sandstonesociety.org)

#### DIRECTORS

**2018 - 2020**  
David Miller, President  
Barbara Waters  
Donald Colquhoun  
Gabrielle Barone  
Rob Klino

**2019 - 2021**  
Craig Lacy, Treasurer  
David Schubel  
Mary Zangerle

**2020 - 2022**  
James Hancock,  
Vice President  
Margaret Schreck,  
Secretary  
Susan Holland  
Scott Robinson  
Kellie Schrader-Hurrell

**Founder and  
Director Emeritus**  
Robert E. Waters

**Honorary Director**  
Todd Bensley

**Past Directors**  
William Hungerford  
Maureen Blackburn  
Carl Petronio  
Charles Slack  
Frank Igoe  
John Slack

Jeffrey Evoy  
Jacob Hebdon  
Steve Bunch  
Tom Snyder  
William Menz  
Lynne Menz  
Tim Moriarty

### How Can You Support the Medina Sandstone Society?

- Select the Medina Sandstone Society as your charity of choice when you shop <http://smile.Amazon.com>
- \$20 support as a "Stone Cutter"
- Special gifts to Sandstone Trust
- A bequest in your will helps Medina
- Our books make great reading and gifts. Available at The Book Shoppe in Medina or on our website, [www.sandstonesociety.org](http://www.sandstonesociety.org)



SUMMER 2020

# The QUARRY CHRONICLE

The annual report from the Medina Sandstone Society  
to its "Stone Cutter Supporters"



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our Medina Sandstone Society started out 2020 anticipating that it would be a very special year. High on our list was our intention to celebrate the 10th anniversary of our Medina Sandstone Trust Grant program with a variety of special activities spaced throughout the year. Of course we know now that this year was special for a very different reason! COVID-19 changed everyone's life dramatically and even now, more than 4 months after the pandemic response began, our activities are still hampered by restrictions on travel (e.g. Hall of Fame road trips) and the need for social distancing.

This annual newsletter and its associated Stone Cutter support drive and Sandstone Trust fundraising usually goes out at the end of May. We delayed publication by two months in the expectation that the pandemic would be over or, at least, we would have a clear picture of the future. Unfortunately the crisis has not yet abated, but we are working hard to continue our programs, albeit in considerably different ways than in previous years. This newsletter reports mostly on the previous year's accomplishments, but we've put in

brief updates explaining how we're dealing with this year's challenges.

We look forward to the future as the Medina area recovers from this year's setbacks. We are grateful for our local healthcare community, our social support organizations, our downtown merchants and other business people who have been closed for months. Our community has worked together to minimize the impact of this pandemic and we'll come out of this even stronger than before!

As for the 10th anniversary of our Sandstone Trust grant program, we are moving those events into next year. We hope that this year you'll continue to support the growth of our Medina Sandstone Trust to the extent that you are able and we especially look forward to celebrating this anniversary with you next year!

We thank all of our Stone Cutter supporters for your unwavering support for our community and the Medina Sandstone Society!

Sincerely,  
*David Miller* - President

## JOHN RYAN SOCIETY

It is with great honor that the Medina Sandstone Society in cooperation with the Medina High School History department under the direction of teacher Todd Bensley proudly presented the fourth annual John Ryan Sandstone Scholarship to **Alissa Blount**.

Alissa is a 2019 Graduate of Medina Senior High School and is now studying nursing at Daemen College

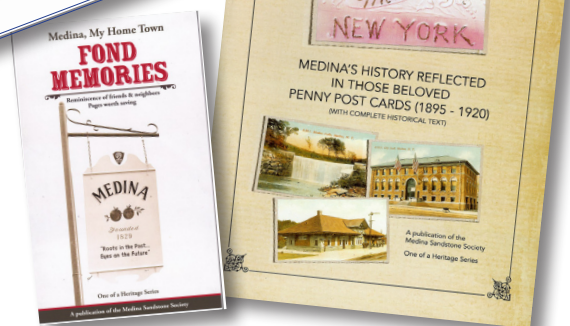
The \$1000 scholarship was awarded to Alissa for writing the winning essay about the village of Medina, themed "Roots in the Past, Eyes on the Future." Alissa's essay entitled "A Rockin' Little Village" made a great impression on the committee comprised of Medina Sandstone members – Jim Hancock, Kellie Hurrell, Rob Klino and Mary Zangerle. She conducted personal interviews with members of the business community and came to realize through her research and was able to convey the essay theme was more than just a theme for a scholarship contest.

The John Ryan School of Historical Excellence was founded

in 2015. The name of the school springs from the legend of John Ryan who opened the first commercial Medina sandstone quarry in Medina in 1837. Graduating seniors of the John Ryan School are awarded the title of "John Ryan Scholar" which is stamped on their Medina High School diploma and will have their names permanently displayed on an honorary wall at Medina High School.



# MEDINA PRIDE





## SANDSTONE HALL OF FAME

The Medina Sandstone Society inducted four new members into the Medina Sandstone Hall of Fame on October 17, 2019 during a ceremony at Medina City Hall. These structures were selected after almost 400 miles of roadtrips for the selection committee – our longest thus far. **Inductees in the Class of 2019 are:**

- **Zion Episcopal Church in Palmyra, NY**
- **St. Peter's Episcopal in Geneva, NY**
- **St. Peter's RC Church in Rome, NY**
- **Watson-Curtze Mansion in Erie, PA**

Each structure was judged to be an outstanding example of the use of Medina Sandstone in the design and construction of a superior structure. The Hall of Fame inductees have been beautifully maintained or restored and stands today as a lasting example of the beauty and longevity of sandstone quarried in Orleans County over a century ago.



**Call for 2020 Hall of Fame Nominations** If you would like to nominate a structure for the 2020 Sandstone Hall of Fame, contact Jim Hancock at 585-798-2118 or submit the form at: [www.sandstonesociety.org/hof-nomination](http://www.sandstonesociety.org/hof-nomination). We are especially interested in buildings outside Orleans County.

## APPRECIATION DAY

Promoting community pride in the Medina-Shelby-Ridgeway area has always been part of our MSS mission. It was clear from the beginning of the COVID-019 pandemic that our community was going to depend greatly on the skills and courage of our local healthcare workers and our Board wanted to send a message of support to those people. So an Appreciation Day was held on April 23 and on that day pizzas were provided for all healthcare workers in Medina. This included staff at Medina Memorial Hospital, Applegate, Orchard Manor Nursing Home and the Willows. Avanti's delivered pizzas to Orchard Manor and the Willows, while Mark's Pizzeria made deliveries to the hospital and Applegate. A second pizza delivery was made to facilities to accommodate

those on the night shift. The total donation of 30 sheet pizzas fed a combined 200 staff members at the four facilities.

In a separate effort, we solicited donations through our website and Facebook which were matched by the MSS Board. In this way we were able to give \$500 to the Ministry of Concern to support their work in providing the basic necessities to families who could otherwise not afford these essentials.

These organizations and many others have been sorely tested in this health emergency, but our healthcare workers and social support groups have done everything we could have expected and more. As we said in our letter that accompanied the pizzas **"You are truly our heroes every day, but especially today, tomorrow, and for the weeks to come. We are truly grateful for all that you do! Stay safe, we need you!"**



This marks the sixth year for the Sandstone Hall of Fame which now comprises a total of 29 structures located throughout New York and Pennsylvania. These inductees were selected from the 65 nominations submitted for consideration by the HOF selection committee.

A special note of gratitude to Takeform Architectural Graphics for the design and creation of our Hall of Fame plaques. This year marks the third major change in the HOF display. The first upgrade was in 2018 when the photos were changed from a monotone sepia color to full color. In 2019 Takeform changed the mounting method to allow placement of individual plaques for more arrangement flexibility. Without this change we would have run out of space on the display wall, but now we have the ability to handle several more years. The Hall of Fame is open to the public during normal office hours in the Medina City Hall.

## 2019 Memorials & Honors

### In memory of Robert E. Waters

Ronald Balcerzak  
Alan and Susan Cobb  
Tom Eggert  
Bill and Pat Eick  
Roland Howell  
David and Gail Miller  
Robert and Maureen Sanderson  
Barbara Waters  
Julie Waters

### In memory of Bill Menz

Ronald and Kathy Iorio  
Betty Menz  
Oak Orchard Neighborhood Assoc.

### In memory of Shirley Balcerzak Weston

Gabrielle Barone

### In memory of Margaret Delahanty

Patricia Bellucci

### In memory of Charles Benson

Jean Benson

### In memory of Joe Russo

Cooper Funeral Home

### In memory of Richard Monacelli

Barbara Filipiak

### In memory of Merle D. Fredericks

Nicki Fredericks

### In memory of Norman R. Goheen, Jr.

Debra and Janie Goheen

### In memory of Clinton Wise

Aaron Hill

### In memory of Donald F. Kennedy

Patricia Kennedy

### In memory of Virginia Messoro

Robby Klino

### In memory of Gar R. Larson

Karen Larson

### In memory of Lorne McMurray

Nancy McMurray

### In memory of Filbert & Nancy Monacelli

Philbert Monacelli

### In memory of Harry Monacelli, Brockville Stonecutter

Elizabeth Passarell

### In memory of Marge Moriarty

Timothy Moriarty

### In memory of Carl F. & Rose Petronio

Carl V. Petronio

### In memory of Dr. Fulton and Marie Rogers

Fulton Rogers, Jr.

### In memory of Lawrence H. Sanderson

Karen Schultz

### In memory of Jean and Edward Slack

Patricia Slack Sethney

### In memory of Dean and Ruth Sanderson

John and Valerie Slack

### In memory of Rhonda Rutherford

Richard and Shirley Tracey

### In honor of Amanda Woodruff's 16th Birthday

Eileen McElwain

### "Support Your Community" Fund Drive

Jean Benson David Miller

Ronald Furness Robby Klino

Margaret Schreck Gabrielle Barone

## 2019 MEDINA SANDSTONE TRUST COMMUNITY GRANTS

The Grant Committee of Mike Zelazny, Chairman, and members Cindy Robinson, Kelly Kiebala and Cal Tuohey met on November 25, 2019. This year there were eight grants:

- Arc of Genesee Orleans to rebuild the nature trail at Camp Rainbow with crushed stone to make it wheelchair accessible.
- Boxwood Cemetery Commission to rehab the tombstone of the first Medina resident buried there.
- The Medina Historical Society for speaker fees and publicity for future programming.
- Orleans County YMCA to help with the cost of their Before and After School Enrichment Program.
- Orleans Recovery Hope Begins Here, Inc. for a pop-up shelter, table and chairs for community education, awareness and Narcan training.
- Orleans County Adult Learning Services (OCALS) to partially fund a new community outreach program.
- P.Raising Kids Child Care Center to help create a kitchen at a new location or renovate the kitchen at the present location.
- St. John's Episcopal Church to assist in the restoration of a window sill and frame that is located near a stained-glass window.

## 2019 Donations

Maureen Anderson

Erin Anheier

Dale and Jane Bacon

Gabrielle Barone

Todd and Nicole Bensley

Kathy Blackburn

Shirley Bright-Neeper

David and Nelda Callard

Donald and Karen Colquhoun

Jim and Carol Comfort

Jeanne Crane

Richard Crowley

David Drake

Jack and Becky Fike

Barbara Filipiak

Cathleen Fox

Frontier Stone LLC

Ronald and Roberta Furness

Robert Gilsinan

Paul and Sally Grout

Edith Grzywacz

Jim and Barbara Hancock

Linda Hansler

Nancy Harrod

Paul and Pat Hartigan

Richard Heye

Robert Holtz

Roger Hungerford

William Hungerford

Christine Hunt

Gerald C Johnson

Craig and Sarah Lacy

Thomas Mack

Thomas and Sandra Madejski

Peter Martin and Margaret

Paroski

Dona Masters

Michael Miano

David and Gail Miller

Gail P. Miller

Louise Misiti

Michael Mulvey

NAPA Auto Parts

Eileen Pettit

Delores Pratt

Linda and Joe Rak

Mary Robinson

Janet Rook

David and Margaret Schreck

Jon and Marguerite Sherman

James Slack

John and Valerie Slack

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Georgia Thomas

Malcolm and Carolyn Thomas

Leslie Thompson

Kay VanNostrand

Robert Vosteen

Edwin and Margaret Washak

Barbara Waters

James Watson

Jean Wetherbee

Toby Williams

Michael and Mary Zelazny

Joanne Zimmerman