

**June 2017 Historian Report for July 2017 Board Meetings**  
**Marybelle Beigh, Westfield Town & Village Historian**

**Historian Activities During June 2017:**

- Attended Town Board meeting June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017; provided May Historian Report
- Attended Village Board meeting June 19, 2017; provided May Historian Report
- Continued researching names, photos, bios of Village Mayors & Presidents for “rogue’s gallery” project. Have located the names of all Village “heads” between 1899 and present – a total of 37 names. Some Presidents served 2 or 3 terms not successively. Mayors who served multiple terms all were contiguous. 30 photos have been located mostly from times of terms of office. Of 32 Mayors or Presidents who have passed away, 24 obits have been located. In addition to the photo gallery, a booklet is planned containing photos and a short biographical sketch. Research continuing for Presidents to 1833, when Village incorporated.
- Research about the WWII POW Camp buildings that were in Westfield on Nichols Avenue has located several photos of the buildings and a few articles about the camp activities in 1944 and 1945. It was a seasonal camp to provide workers for agricultural harvest, and produce processing factories. Still trying to locate info about the disposition of the buildings and when the camp dismantled.
- BeeLines articles researched, written, and published with related photos in the Westfield Republican, and on the Westfield Historian Facebook page for June:
  1. Intro to a series about the history, mysteries, myths, and stories along the shores of Lake Erie and the Big and Little Chautauqua Creeks, with a request for reader input – photos, stories, requests, etc. Photos of the original Barcelona Lighthouse and Keeper’s Cottage (circa 1890), and of Hog’s Back on Big Chautauqua Creek (circa 1900)
  2. Dreams and Legends about Lost Gold along Chautauqua Creek. Map circa 1739 by Explorer De Lery showing French encampment at mouth of Chautauqua Creek.
  3. History of Portage Road and French & Indian War, Part 1. A different De Lery map circa 1739, showing the region of waterways and portages explored by the French to try to hold off the British in North America.
  4. History of Portage Road and French & Indian War, Part 2 re Celeron’s expedition in 1749, and French building of Portage Road 1753. Photocopy of drawing/painting depicting Celeron Landing at Barcelona, Chaut. Creek
- Attended Chautauqua County Historian’s meeting at Fredonia Opera House, June 14<sup>th</sup>, 6 PM; tour of the historic facilities; information and discussion of various individual historian projects as well as focus for county history projects.
- Attended two Historic Preservation Society meetings – June 15<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> at Patterson Library at 6 PM. Assisting HPS with inventory of historic structures project, and advisory role. Brian Sherman is president.
- Serving as a Wednesday PM volunteer at visitor booth at the Lighthouse.

**Thanks to Jeff Jaynes for repairing my historian office computer on English Street!**