SEPTEMBER PROGRAM
Tuesday 9/26 @ 7:30

Theodore W. Case -
The Father of Talking movies

Toni and Luke Colella, authors of *Now We’re Talking—The Story of Theodore W. Case and Sound-on-Film*, will be joining us on Tuesday, September 26 at 7:30 pm. Learn how Case’s early fascination with light and sound led to inventions which (continued on page 4)

House Tour Fundraiser Success!

A big thanks to Ron Beavers and Karen Lewis who opened their newly-renovated home this summer for guided tours. Karen joined our Board of Directors this year and, along with her husband, came up with this fabulous idea to raise some money for the Museum. They exceeded their fundraising goal and gave Skaneateles a wonderful treat!
A trip to Somerset, England

Many early settlers found their way to Skaneateles from Somerset, England in the 1800’s. There were several reasons for the initial immigration; the growth of the teasel industry came a bit later.

Julie DiBagio and 4 friends traveled to Somerset in the Spring of 2017. Julie will follow her ancestry quest to Somerset with photos and stories of this beautiful historical area that became a part of the early growth of Skaneateles.

Please join us on Tuesday, October 24 at 7:30 pm at The Museum at The Creamery to learn why this area was so attractive to people from Somerset, and what contributions they and their descendants have made here.
A Message from our Museum Director:

I am very excited to join everyone in this passion project we call The Skaneateles Historical Society, Museum at the Creamery. For 25 years volunteers have been working together to materialize what we know the museum to be today.

Allow me to introduce myself, my name is Alexandra Farrell but everyone calls me by my nickname - Sasha. This summer, I was hired on as the new Museum Director. I live in Syracuse and greatly enjoy the beautiful country drive that leads me to our wonderful lake side community. My husband, Stephen, and my doggy, Jack, keep me company when I’m at home and not at work or volunteering. Previous to this position, I was the Audience Development Director for the Redhouse Arts Center in downtown Syracuse. My love of museums, the non profit world, and the intersection between history and society have all led me here. I look forward to meeting all of YOU!

This upcoming year we are celebrating our 25th Anniversary and are looking forward to celebrating with everyone during a series of events related to this momentous occasion. The first, coming up soon, is our Member event which will be held on October 8th, right here at the museum. (Keep an eye out for your invitation in mail!)

Our passionate team of volunteers and supporters are critical to our success and I want to take a moment to say thank you for all that you do. Our team recently completed a Museum Assessment Program and are working on a long term strategic plan. We need everyone’s input so please think about joining us at our next open board meeting October 10th at 4pm. We always have new goodies in our collection and gift shop! We are half way to our fundraising goal for the year and we are about to get a new paint job!

There are so many reasons to come by and say hello. To another 25 years! ~Sasha

AMAZON SMILE PROGRAM

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We have 26 people who have selected us as their donor benefit; Help us reach 100 by the end of the year!
What’s New At the Creamery? A Searchable Newspaper Database

Thanks to the very generous donation from Jorge and Beth Batlle, we have a new dedicated database that contains digitized images of all the local Skaneateles papers from the 1800s to the present. The original rolls of microfilmed papers were loaned by the library to be digitized by a local company. A database was then created, and a search engine developed, so the database is searchable by the year of the microfilm rolls. The computer monitor is 12” x 20” so it’s easier to see an entire newspaper page. Prior to this database, the Fulton History Newspaper Database, available online, could be searched by subject or name, but not by year. This digitized format is much easier to search than having to look through rolls of microfilm which are often scratched and hard to read. We have been having fun researching within the database and we hope you too will come in and explore the possibilities.

A BIG THANK YOU TO JORGE AND BETH BATLLE!

… continued from page one

revolutionized the news and motion picture industries and how his legacy was undermined in the 1929-1930 frenzy of film history. Submitted by Bill Stinson, Program Chair

It's about as far away from Hollywood as you can get, both geographically and philosophically, but Tinseltown owes a great debt to Auburn NY, nonetheless. It was here, in the unlikeliest of places, that Theodore W. Case invented the process of putting sound on film, and forever changed the Moviegoing Experience(...). The story of Theodore Case is obscure to all but the most avid film buffs. From his days at Yale, Case had a fascination with light and sound waves. Using his sharply inquisitive mind, and working out of a backyard greenhouse that he converted into a laboratory, Case unlocked the mystery of synchronizing sound and motion into one remarkable process. Sadly, his logical inventor's mind never imagined the devious lengths movie moguls would go to in order to deprive him of the process and the credit for this monumental discovery. To this day, many people still believe that the Fox Corporation invented the process of sound on film, indeed winning a special Academy Award for their "discovery".

Thanks to Luke and Toni, there is now solid, documented, accurate printed information to set the record straight and give Theodore W. Case his due. Although the text is written from an intermediate readers level, the book will delight anyone with a genuine interest in movies, inventions or underdogs. It is well worth the read and a must-have addition to any movie lover's library!

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

Written By: Karen Noonan, President Theatre Historical Society of America

Tuesday 9/26 @ 7:30
Welcome New Board Members!

Karen Lewis
Karen met Skaneateles in 1959 when her father bought a cottage on the Lake. It has been her constant while traveling through life: college and graduate school; Singapore, Ireland, and New Zealand; academic libraries; then federal government service for 26 years.

Always a cultural history buff mostly focused on handicrafts, she has pursued such interests as embroidery, knitting, weaving, spinning, bobbin lace, open hearth cooking, and handbell ringing. She found her husband a hobby – Civil War railroads and, of course, this involved her endeavors as well in the forms of sewing period dresses, ball room dancing, and period needlework.

Getting close to retirement, her lifelong wish was to live in a mid-19th century home. Luckily her husband found her one (only to see half of it torn down and then rebuilt). Thus, she persuaded her southern-born family to move north and live close to her treasured lake.

Scott Hauver
Scott (yes, he’s Coach Hauver’s son) grew up in Mandana and graduated from Skaneateles High School. He then went on to study Journalism and History at the University of Georgia.

After 20 years living in Atlanta, Scott returned to the area in 2015 and started volunteering for the Creamery in 2016 as a docent (fancy word for tour guide). His favorite part of the museum is the steamboat display and has recently taken an interest in the stories involving the economy of buying and selling Revolutionary War lots.

He is currently employed as a program manager for ITT Corp in Seneca Falls. His hobbies include weightlifting, getting fishing lines caught in trees and rocks, and losing golf balls.
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MUSEUM DIRECTOR:Alexandra (Sasha) Farrell

Don’t forget to “Like” us on Facebook for regular updates!
A Bittersweet GoodBye and a Very Warm Welcome...

WISHING LAURIE WINSHIP
ALL THE BEST

As we welcome Alexandra (Sasha) Farrell as the Historical Society’s new Director we want to recognize all that Laurie Winship has done for us over the last 13 years as our Director.

We have been extraordinarily fortunate to have such a dedicated and talented person as our only paid staff person. That’s because she took the well being of the organization to heart. Her accomplishments are too numerous to list completely, but they include: establishing professional standards for maintaining our archives and artifacts, keeping a dedicated group of volunteers organized and motivated, and administering a museum complex that the community can be extremely proud of.

Laurie did all that with grace and a sense of humor, always with a smile, and constantly offering to help with any challenge. She will be remembered for her love of books and tea, her colorful socks, her willingness to listen and her diligence.

Please join us in wishing Laurie and, her husband, Kihm all the best in retirement. We look forward to their continued contributions to the community and to the Society.