



# Clarence Hollow Crier

NEWSLETTER OF THE CLARENCE HOLLOW ASSOCIATION

To Promote, Improve, and Maintain the Quality of Life, Prosperity of Business, and Historic Charm of Clarence Hollow

## Membership Meeting

Thursday, December 17, 2009

8:00 to 9:00 a.m.

Clarence Youth Bureau  
10510 Main Street

Election of Directors  
The Year in Review



## Chairmen to Report Year's Achievements

Accomplishments of the Clarence Hollow Association during the year will be highlighted at the annual membership meeting on Thursday, December 17, by committee and project chairpersons.

Among the achievements to be summarized are Clarence Hollow Farmers' Market, fund-raising events, Business After Hours networking events, scarecrow contest, beautification efforts and awards, group advertising, revitalization, welcome baskets, brochure distribution, and many more.

Newer members and those seeking to become more active are urged to attend.

## Members Will Elect Directors Dec. 17

Members will elect six directors at the annual meeting of the Clarence Hollow Association on Thursday, December 17, from 8 to 9 a.m. at the Clarence Youth Bureau, 10510 Main Street. Two current directors are seeking a second three-year term; four others will be new to the board.

Current board members on the ballot are John Leamer, vice president, and Elaine Wolfe, corporate secretary. The other candidates are: Alan Baldo, Steve Baldo Chevrolet; Michael Bolas, Campbell, Bolas & Associates; Bruce Fowler, The Family Chocolate Shoppe; and Deborah Kaczmariski, M&T Bank.

This year there are more vacancies than there are candidates, due to three resignations during the year. The bylaws specify the number of directors as 12 minimum and 18 maximum. There were 15 on the board at the beginning of this year. There will be 14 after the December 17 election.

Retiring directors are Ian McPherson, who has moved to Florida, and Carol Conwall, who has a new early-morning job. Resigning during the year were Edna Scherf, Mark Casell, and Cathy Buscaglia. Association officers will be elected by the new board at its first meeting on January 7, 2010.

## Candidates for Director

### Alan C. Baldo

Alan Baldo has been general manager of Steve Baldo Chevrolet Clarence for the past eight years.

His service in the auto industry since 1985 also includes managing a Pontiac agency. Al is a member of the Niagara Frontier Auto Dealers Association and has resided in Orchard Park for 35 years. As a member of the Clarence Hollow Association, Al has supported its fund-raising auctions, Business After Hours networking events, and Clarence Hollow Farmers' Market.

### Michael A. Bolas

Michael is an accomplished business professional with extensive organizational leadership experience and possessing strong communication, presentation, and relationship building skills. As a licensed Attorney he serves as a legal advisor and project manager to business organizations and governing boards (both not-for-profit and for-profit). He is also a Certified Public Accountant with extensive experience in financial accounting & tax matters.

As a partner at Campbell & Bolas in 1990, Mike handled the incorporation of the Clarence Hollow Merchants Association, three years after it was founded in January 1987. Mike left Clarence Hollow for several years, rejoining Richard Campbell in 2006 where he is a partner in Campbell, Bolas & Associates. He and his wife Kathy reside in Clarence.

### Bruce Fowler

Born and raised in WNY, Bruce is a graduate of Amherst Central High School, University of Buffalo, and Columbia University (MBA). He was employed by Moore Business Forms for 20 years with positions in marketing, corporate planning and then as gener-

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#### **Mission Statement**

*The Clarence Hollow Association is a not-for-profit volunteer organization working to promote, improve, and maintain the quality of life, prosperity of business, and historic charm of Clarence Hollow.*

#### **Officers and Directors**

##### **President & Editor**

Don Boyd, *Resident Member*

##### **Vice President**

John Leamer, *Resident Member*

##### **Treasurer**

Flora Leamer, *Resident Member*

##### **Secretary**

Elaine Wolfe, *Resident Member*

##### **Directors**

Tom Brady, *Brady Insurance Agency*

Carol Conwall *Resident Member*

Bill Henderson, *Architect*

Tony Kutter, *Kutter's Cheese*

Ian McPherson, *Resident Member*

Gary Mong, *Bank of Akron*

David Passalugo, *Bee Group Newspapers*

Simone Rowan, *Clarence Community & Schools FCU*

## Candidates continued from page 1

al manager of a mid size (\$37 m) office products business. He has been an instructor in Marketing and Business Organization at Niagara Community College. Bruce is currently owner/operator of The Family Chocolate Shoppe where he works with his wife Sandy and their two children Lisa and Brent. Currently he is a board member of the Clarence Chamber of Commerce and a 23 year member and past president of the Buffalo Executives Association. Bruce and his wife, along with his dog, Maggie, live in Clarence.

### **Deborah L. Kaczmariski**

Deborah Kaczmariski is assistant branch manager and banking officer for M&T Bank, Clarence Branch. During her 20 years with the bank she has held many positions. Deborah owned and with her husband operated Accent General Contracting for 18 years. She has been active in the Clarence Community for many years but especially the Clarence Hollow Association, frequently handling registration and reception at Business After Hours events. Deborah has served for the last two years on the association's Holiday Party committee.

### **John H. Leamer**

John Leamer is a Certified Career Management Practitioner and facilitates programs of Team Building, Organizational Effectiveness, Customer Service and Stress Management. He has a bachelor's degree in history and economics from West Virginia Wesleyan College plus advanced financial training in banking. John is a board member of the Erie County Agricultural Society, Inc. (Erie County Fair); treasurer and past president, Eastern Hills Sunrise Rotary Club, past president of the Clarence Chamber of Commerce; member of Leadership Buffalo, Class 2001; and three-term president of the American Institute of Banking. Most recently John became Treasurer of Remember Flight 3407, Inc.

John was elected to the board of directors of the Clarence Hollow Association in 2007 and has been its vice president for the past two years. In that capacity he works diligently on new member recruitment, advertising, CHA promotions and events. Additionally he is the treasurer of the Farmers' Market and secretary of Clarence Day in the Park both are d/b/a of the Clarence Hollow Association.

### **Elaine Wolfe**

Elaine Wolfe joined the CHA in 2005 along with her husband, Peter, as resident members. She served on the Renaissance and Revitalization Committee, co-chaired the drive to "Save the Magoffin House" with David Brace, and coordinated the production of the "Historic Clarence" book as a economic development tool and to commemorate the Town of Clarence Bicentennial.

In 2007, Elaine was elected to the CHA Board and became the chair of the R&R committee. Subsequent projects for that committee have included the "What's Happened to the Hollow" forum in April 2009, the Bike Path Initiative this past summer, The Scarecrow and Legend Game events and The Partners for a Livable WNY Walk of the Hollow this fall.

She is a marketing and communications professional of over 40 years' experience with a specialty in print media including annual reports, ads, and advertising collateral material, college publications, and sales promotion programs.

# Smart Growth PowerPoint Program For January 28

For our January Clarence Hollow Association meeting we have invited George Grasser, president and chief executive officer of Partners for a Livable Western New York, to present his Powerpoint program regarding Smart Growth. The meeting will be held January 28 at 8 a.m. in the Clarence Youth Bureau building, 10510 Main Street across from Asa Ransom House. The public is invited.

Grasser is a retired real estate attorney who has had a statewide practice in the creation of condominium and homeowners association developments. He is the developer of the Gardens at Oxbow, Western New York's first new traditional neighborhood or "new urbanist" development. Grasser is also a consultant to attorneys, developers and municipalities on real estate and zoning matters, and is responsible for the Partners' newsletters and advocacy participation in land use issues in Western New York.

On October 10, 2009, Grasser and seven other members of the Partners for a Livable Western New York, including a trustee from the Village of Hamburg, a planner for neighborhood development, the executive director of the Wellness Institute of Buffalo, an architect and preservationist, visited Clarence Hollow and led a Walk Through and evaluation session. They presented their ideas and recommendations on how to improve the Hollow. This group, founded in 1999 with the mission "to bring about more livable communities," has walked 20 other Western New York communities and offered their evaluations.

## Welcome New Members



**Brian Parisi Copier Systems**, 8316 Main Street, Williamsville 14221, Brian Parisi, president, 568-8800, bparisi@parisicopiers.com. Recruited by John and Flora Leamer.

**Evans Bank, N.A.**, 8411 Main Street, Williamsville 14221, Keith J. Parwulski, vice president & regional manager, 639-2000, kparwul@evansbank.com.

**Merrill Lynch**, 6245 Sheridan Drive, Williamsville 14221, Linda MacLeod, financial advisor, 635-4390, linda\_macleod@ml.com. Recruited by John and Flora Leamer.

**Tip Topp of WNY Delivery**, PO Box 467, Clarence Center 14032, Douglass Topp, president, 741-4104, dtopp@tiptoppofwny.com. Recruited by John and Flora Leamer.

## Networking Event Dates Announced

Simone Rowan, chair of the Clarence Hollow Association Networking Events Committee, has announced dates and locations for the next four events.



The next Business After Hours event will take place on Monday, January 25, 5:30-7 p.m. at M&T Bank, 10614 Main Street. Additional events scheduled are:

February 22, Monday, 5:30 - 7 p.m. -- Business After Hours, Cozy Fireplaces, 10626 Main Street.

March 15, Monday, 5:30-7 p.m. -- Open for Business After Hours. If you're interested in hosting, call Simone at 630-0888.

April 12, Monday, 5:30-7 p.m. -- Business After Hours, Merrill Lynch, 6245 Sheridan Drive.

Business After Hours events are designed to inform members of member businesses and afford an opportunity to exchange business information. There is no charge for members and refreshments are served courtesy of the host.

## Committee Seeks Items For Welcome Baskets

Again, a committee of Clarence Hollow Association members is in the process of assembling welcome baskets to be presented to new businesses moving into the Hollow area. Member businesses are encouraged to advertise themselves by donating a small promotional item, product sample, or coupon.

Items may be dropped off at Gallagher Printing, 9185 Main Street. Quantities of 10 are suggested.

For more information, contact Flora Leamer at 984-5235.

The Clarence Hollow Association thanks these corporate sponsors whose financial support provides expanded services to members.

### Gold Sponsors

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Clarence Bowling Academy  
Hale Northeastern Expo Svcs.  
Kelkenberg Homes  
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Western New York Event Centre

### Silver Sponsors

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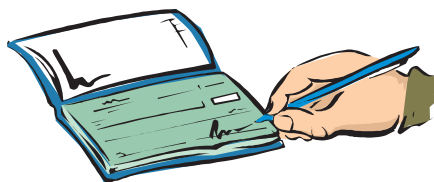
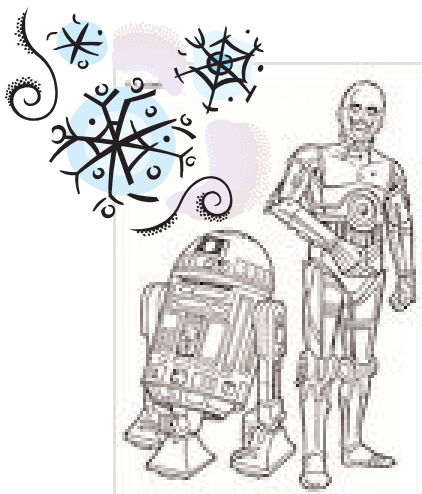
## Association to Sponsor Star Wars Reenactors

The Clarence Hollow Association will again support and participate in Clarence Winterfest, scheduled for Sunday, February 7, 2010, in the Clarence Town Park.

Family indoor and outdoor events are highlighted by the Clarence Lions Club's chili and chowder cook-off.

The association will again sponsor an indoor presentation by Star Wars reenactors.

The Clarence Hollow Association needs volunteers to staff its information booth in the club house, in two-hour shifts between 12 noon and 4 p.m. and for set-up and take-down. Call Flora Leamer at 984-5235 or [flora\\_leamer@yahoo.com](mailto:flora_leamer@yahoo.com). Plan to attend Winterfest with family and friends.



## Pay Dues by December 15 For Listing in Brochure

Business members of the Clarence Hollow Association have received in the mail a combination 2010 dues invoice and brochure verification form pre-printed to show the member's current mailing address and two-line listing in the annual "Discover Historic Clarence Hollow" brochure. Members are asked to check both for accuracy and note changes as required.

The same 8-1/2x11 sheet is also an invoice for dues, regular or sponsor, and an order form for a brochure ad. Renewal dues for 2010 will be \$95 if paid before December 15 which guarantees inclusion in the 2010 brochure. Renewal dues are \$125 if paid after December 15 to cover the extra cost of inclusion in the brochure after copy goes to the printer, if possible to add.

If we have not received your dues for 2010, another copy of the Invoice/Verification form is enclosed not filled in. You may complete this copy and mail it with your check if you can't locate your filled-in copy received last month.



## Third Tree Ornament Depicts Spoor's Hotel

The third Christmas tree ornament in the series sponsored by the Clarence Hollow Association is available for purchase it has been announced by Gary Mong, director in charge.

The ornament depicts Spoor's Hotel, built in 1812, and still standing at 10769 Main Street at Salt Road. Again, the ornament was designed by Clarence artist Annette Trabucco.

The ornaments sell for \$10 and are on sale at Bank of Akron, M&T Bank, and Asa Ransom House. Only 100 are produced.

A small number of the first and second ornaments in the series are for sale at the Asa Ransom House. They feature the Asa Ransom House and the log cabin at the Clarence Historical Society Museum.

## Think House Signs for Holiday Gifts

The Clarence Hollow Association is recommending its unique house-number signs as holiday gifts as it attempts to sell out the limited supply. Two of the original three designs are still available.

The Clarence Area sign represents the five hamlets of Clarence by depicting a building from each. The Clarence Center sign outlines the buildings on the four corners of Clarence Center and Goodrich Roads. Clarence Hollow signs are no longer available.

Your house number will be applied to your sign using a reflective material. Both versions are available one-sided to affix to your house for \$35 or two-sided to hang on a pole for \$55. Supplies are nearly exhausted.

To order, indicate which style you are ordering and send payment to Clarence Hollow Association, 10803 Main Street, Clarence, NY 14031. Any questions, call Flora Leamer at 984-5235 or email [clarenehollowassociation@gmail.com](mailto:clarenehollowassociation@gmail.com)

