

Annual Report for 2014 of County Historian

Once again it been my distinct pleasure as our County Historian and County Records Management Officer for 2014.

During the year of 2014, I presented 75 film and digital slide programs around the County and region to a wide variety of organizations. I have scanned many hundreds of my older film slides converting them to digital programs and files. Many of these copies have been sent to our local Town Historians or local historical societies for their files. I also answered 195 e-mails, voice mails and USPS mail requests for local historical information and local genealogical information as well.

An informal group of our town historians, called the Historians Roundtable, continues to meet on a monthly basis at various locations around the county. Occasionally we have an outside speaker or program dealing with a subject of local interest. An average of 12-15 town historians and museum representatives attend each meeting.

In the fall of 2012, we closed the County Museum after some 40 years of service. Eventually most everything of value was removed and placed in temporary storage. In the fall of 2014, our Public Works Department opened bids to salvage anything of value in the building. Mr. James Braunscheidel of Wellsville was the winning bidder and his company spent about three weeks removing most anything they wanted. It is the desire of the County to have the building razed in early 2015.

The records management aspect of my job went well this year as fewer records than in years past, are being placed in storage. Several major records-generating departments are now having old records professionally shredded instead of placing them in long-term storage. This is a most welcomed change.

Respectfully submitted, Craig R. Braack, County Historian and R. M. O.