

RHYTHMS AND RIDES



2010 TRADITIONAL ARTS PROGRAMS BY THE
GENESEE-ORLEANS REGIONAL ARTS COUNCIL

Credits

Kelly Kiebala, Executive Director
Karen Canning, Traditional Arts
Program Director

Robin Upson, Administrative Assistant
Michael Hodgins, Publisher

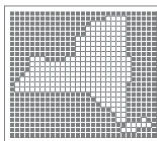
Genesee-Orleans Regional Arts Council
Seymour Place
201 East Main St.
Batavia, NY 14020
Phone: 585-343-9313 or 1-800-774-7372
Fax: 585-345-1608
Email: info@goart.org

Website: www.goart.org

COVER PHOTO:

Jo Wright of Alexander, NY leads the Grand
Entry at the Attica Rodeo, 2007.
Photo by Brody Wheeler.

*Please remember that art and culture
enriches, inspires and educates, and
strengthens our community identity.*



NYSCA
New York State Council on the Arts

© Genesee-Orleans Regional Arts Council

Our folk arts presentations and this publication are
funded, in part, by the Folk Arts Program of the
New York State Council on the Arts.

Genesee-Orleans Regional Arts Council

Board of Directors 2009-2010

Skip Draper, President
Dr. Teri Yasses, Vice President
Kim Nesbitt, Secretary
Kathy Saville, Treasurer

Donna Condello
Donna Ferry
Lorri Goergen
Bob Knipe
Rosalie Maguire
Andrew Meier
Andrea Rebeck
Adam Tabelski
Karen Valle

goArt! Staff

Kelly M. Kiebala, Executive Director
Robin Upson, Administrative Assistant
Karen Canning, Traditional Arts Program Director
Heather Grant, Decentralization
Grant Coordinator
Cynthia Kiebala, Outreach Coordinator
Joe Langen, AmeriCorps Volunteer

Our Vision

The Genesee-Orleans Regional Arts Council will
be the vital community resource for promoting the
value of art and culture as integral to our daily lives.

Our Mission

Art and Culture enriches, inspires and educates,
while strengthening a community's identity.
Therefore, GO ART! initiates a broad range of
opportunities for artists and cultural organizations,
and facilitates cooperative efforts among the
cultural, business, service and educational
communities for the people who live in and visit
Genesee and Orleans Counties.

goArt!

Table Of Contents

Preface.....	3
By Kelly Kiebala	
A Good Ride: Arts & Traditions of the Attica Rodeo	4-7
By Karen Canning	
32nd Annual Picnic in the Park	8-13
Sunday, July 4	
Noon—5:00 p.m.	
Centennial Park, Batavia	
Accordion Fest	14-18
Sunday, September 12	
1:00-5:00 p.m.	
Hickory Ridge Golf and Country Club	
15816 Lynch Rd., Holley	
Regional Traditional Arts Program.....	19
The Needlework and Art of Ellen Strivings	
June 1 – August 14	
Livingston Arts Center, 4 Murray Hill, Mt. Morris	
Leatherwork Demonstration by John Mary	20
Learn About Letchworth Series	
Tuesday, July 27	
7:00 p.m.	
Lower Falls Restaurant, Letchworth State Park	
GO ART! Membership Form	21
Acknowledgments of Support	23-25

go Art!

Preface

*Big shoes I have to fill,
And iambic pentameter is not my drill.*

*But being back as part of this team,
Often makes me feel I'm living a dream.*

*This preface, though, that's something new...
Perhaps I'll have to switch to haiku.*

It's now been almost a full year that I've been back at GO ART!, this time as Executive Director after Linda's retirement last summer. Her presence and vision are sincerely missed, but she continues to play a vital role in our artistic community, as do all of you who participate in and enjoy the cultural offerings that sometimes seem surprisingly prolific in our rural region.

Culture can many times be found in places you wouldn't have guessed, as in this year's feature on the Attica Rodeo. GO ART!'s Traditional Arts Program Director Karen Canning, along with many others whom we thank, has culled the photos and stories from the Rodeo's inception to today, and in so doing, has created a tangible representation for us of the intangible ways that local culture and traditions enrich and enliven our communities.

Growing up in Medina, I learned to ride (and love) horses at what was then the new Forrestel Farm Camp, followed by lessons at Forrestel's, then Kendall John Stables, and I continued into my adult life at various places. Even in my brief foray into the equestrian world, I've learned to recognize the significance that certain parts of our community play in our culture as a whole. To underscore this, the summer exhibit at the GO ART! Main Gallery is a retrospective of Betsy LaMere's work, which celebrates ten years on her farm in Kent and includes many equine photographs.

So as we celebrate 32 years of our local Fourth of July Picnic in the Park event, I'd like to thank all of those who have helped, and those who continue to help, foster the talents and traditions that make our area so special to us all. We are also very grateful to all of GO ART!'s sponsors and volunteers who help make culture thrive in our communities.

Enjoy the day!

Kelly M. Kiebala
Executive Director

goArt!

A Good Ride: Arts and Traditions of the Attica Rodeo

By Karen Canning

It's the first weekend of August, 2006, and a friend (and lifelong resident of western New York) asks me what my plans are.

I reply, "I'm going to the Attica Rodeo."

She gives me a disbelieving look and says, "The what?"

"The rodeo!" I say again. "It's been going on for nearly 50 years."

Shaking her head, she says, "I never knew it was there."

My first thought was that she must be unusually unaware, but then I had to think again. Granted, as a regional folklorist, it's my job to know about annual festivals and other such events; I may assume too much of others. And, this conversation took place in Livingston County, a full 25 miles away. Many of you reading this might come from more "western" lands like Batavia, Medina and Alexander, and already be very familiar with the rodeo. But, as this conversation has been repeated numerous times since then, it has reminded me again of how very local some of our traditions can be—even when they involve thousands of people as the Attica Rodeo does.

I was not only attending the rodeo in 2006, but was graciously allowed by the Attica



Attica Rodeo Poster, 1961. Photo by Claire Aubrey

Rodeo and Show Association to camp out on the grounds with other longtime rodeo organizers and families. The rodeo was about to celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2007, and I and folklorist Claire Aubrey had begun working with the Association to document

their experiences and history in preparation for their celebration.

What we learned over the next two years wasn't only about a weekend event, but also an equine culture and community that is active throughout the year. It includes rodeo organizers, contestants, fans, local families, stock contractors, performers, announcers, clowns, and craftsmen of rodeo-related traditions like leatherwork and blacksmithing. They in turn are connected to a similar national rodeo community, many of whom hold Attica in high regard for both its professionalism and hometown atmosphere. This is due in no small part to the fact that the Attica Rodeo has also become a community event involving sponsors and volunteers from many commercial, charitable, religious and civic organizations.

At the 50th Attica Rodeo in 2007, we installed a rodeo history display; presented arts and skills demonstrations in bareback riding, roping, leatherwork and clowning; and hosted a storytelling session where people shared their rodeo memories. From the enthusiastic response to the programs and the wealth of information gathered, we started thinking that the story of the Attica Rodeo was



Young cowboys getting some advice in the chutes, 2007. Photo by Adam Burnett

one that should be shared over more time and with a wider audience. We also had the wonderful resource of photographer Brody Wheeler, official Attica rodeo photographer since 1990, and his extensive photo archive. The next step seemed logical: an exhibit!

A few more interviews and grant proposals later, we are happy to announce the installation this summer of *A Good Ride: Arts*



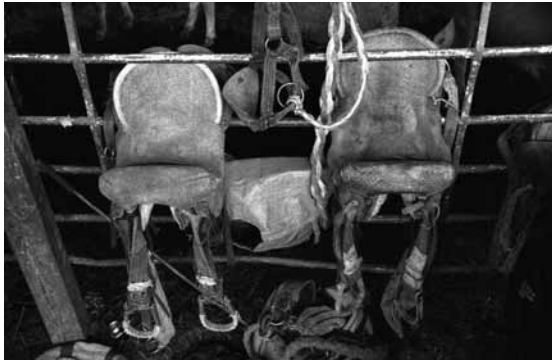
Bareback bronc rider, Attica Rodeo. Photo by Brody Wheeler



Trick rider Loretta Pemberton, originally from Cowlesville, NY. Photo by Brody Wheeler

go Art!

and Traditions of the Attica Rodeo. The exhibit is a collaborative effort between the Arts Council for Wyoming County and the Attica Rodeo and Show Association, and represents some of the most interesting work I've had the opportunity to be involved in. Even though I knew about the rodeo, I was not unlike my friend at the start of this story, in that I had no idea how rich a world there was for me to discover. How did a rodeo start around here? Where do the broncs and bulls come from? Where does a trick rider get her costumes? And why do people come back again and again to the Attica Rodeo?



Saddles for bronc riding, Attica Rodeo 2007. Photo by Brody Wheeler

These are questions that we enjoyed finding some answers to, and hope you will as well. Through the words, images, tools and arts of Attica's cowboys and cowgirls, we invite you to take this opportunity to go beyond the rodeo arena and learn about their unique talents and experiences. And perhaps, like we did, you will find some of your own story in the tradition of rodeo.

A Good Ride: Arts and Traditions of the Attica Rodeo

July 30 – September 24, 2010 ACWC Gallery, 31 South Main St., Perry

**Exhibit Opening: July 30, 2010
6:00-8:30 p.m.**

Meet our local rodeo families, try your hand at some rodeo skills, and enter our cowboy/cowgirl fashion show. Don't forget to dress appropriately!

**Information: 585-237-3517;
www.artswyco.org**

You can also see the "live action" version at the **Attica Rodeo** itself on **August 6, 7 and 8**, 580 Exchange St., Attica. Visit www.atticarodeo.com for more information on show times and ticket prices.

A Good Ride: Arts and Traditions of the Attica Rodeo

Exhibit Preview: Stories of How the Rodeo Began

The Attica Rodeo was started in 1957 by a group of teenage boys, motivated by a love of horses and youthful enthusiasm. With the help of parents and adult mentors, they got the materials and livestock together to put on the first rodeo. Here are some of their remembrances of that time.

Going to a horse auction to get horses for the rodeo:

"Well, it was a Friday, and we skipped school. Drove to Jamestown [Pennsylvania]. And we all had white T-shirts on; don't ask me why. We just sat there. And the horses would come through, and we'd buy 'em—like, fifty dollars, seventy-five dollars, a hundred dollars. "Sold to the boys in the white T-shirts!" was what the auctioneer said. And after we got 'em bought we had a little problem. We only came down in a car; how're we gonna get 'em home? Thank God Les Bowerman was there, and he hauled 'em for us."

-Gene Reding, one of the original members.

Constructing the rodeo arena:

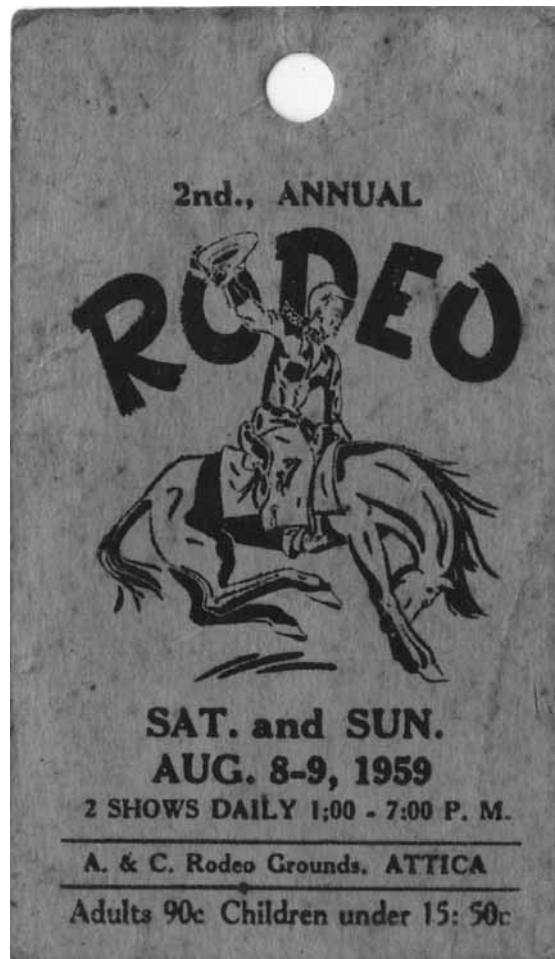
"We dug all the holes by hand, set all the posts, the railroad ties, by hand. Everything was done by hand...I thought we got 90 cents, because if we charged a dollar admission, the federal and state would want their cut of it. So we made it 90 cents so we wouldn't have to pay taxes on it. Everybody sat on the backs of tailgates of pickup trucks, or on chairs on pickup trucks, or bales of hay."

-Everett VanSon, one of the original members.

Riding bulls in the first rodeo:

"I rode in the first rodeo they ever had. I rode both days there, and I didn't make the whistle. That was the first time I ever tried bull riding... Dick Knapp, one of charter members, talked me into it. He was a roper. I asked him, "Why don't you do it?" He said, "What do think I am, crazy?" I didn't want to be the first one out, or the last one out—and I was both."

-Richard Tillotson, contestant in the first rodeo.



Attica & Chaffee Rodeo Ticket, 1959. From Gene Reding

go Art!



32nd Annual PICNIC IN THE PARK Sunday, July 4th, 2010 Noon - 5pm Centennial Park, Batavia



*A day-long celebration of art & music
Free Fun for the Whole Family!!!*

Main Stage

- Noon **Batavia Concert Band**
Sousa-esque marches & big band numbers.
- 1:00pm **Taste of Broadway**
A cabaret-style revue by Encore! Theatre Arts
- 1:30pm **Niagara River Dancers***
Traditional Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) dances with music, stories & history
- 2:45pm **The Dady Brothers***
A unique blend of Celtic and American folk music by western New York's favorite troubadours
- 4:00pm **Tom Monte Trio***
Italian-American dance band music - specializing in Frank Sinatra songs & style

**This program is funded, in part, by the New York State Council on the Arts Folk Arts Program*

Explore Art!

This year's craft will feature Patriotic Pom-poms, Fourth of July twirlers, Fireworks Art and other projects. Enjoy exploring art using recycled materials like plastic coffee can lids and shopping bags to create festive holiday displays. Experiment with paint, water and straws to make explosive designs. Also, sign up for a free door prize drawing!

All Day In the Park

- Arts & Crafts Show & Sale
- Juggling by Brian Kozody
- Horse-drawn Wagon Rides & Petting Zoo by Hartland Carriages
- En Garde: Batavia Fencing Demonstrations
- Face Painting by Tonette
- Food Vendors & Nonprofit Organizations
- Air Gyms by The Gravel Pit
- Wildlife Educators Coalition
- & the Jaycees famous 'dog and burger stand!

Stage II

- 12:00pm **Doug Rougeux's "Juggling, Bubbling & Mime"**
An extremely unique program combining high energy entertainment with artistic achievement
- 1:00pm **The Fraterrigo Family**
A fun-filled family show, complete with sing-a-longs, humor, and participatory songs
- 3:00 pm **Diaspora Drumming's "Echoes of Africa"**
This percussion group performs music from Western Africa to Cuba & Brazil and invites audience participation



Picnic in the Park

Performer Biographies

The **Batavia Concert Band** opens our celebration at noon with their must-have Sousa marches, big band and concert pieces. The Band's musical repertoire is wide-ranging in origin, style and period, and also includes Broadway show tunes, favorites from hit musicals and movies, pop, jazz and even rock numbers arranged for band.

The Concert Band itself consists of 40 - 50 brass, woodwind and percussion players ranging from advanced high school musicians to 60-year veterans. Many have professional performance experience; the rest are advanced amateurs. All love to play. Founded in 1924, the Band has brought musical pleasure to the region every year except during WWII. Join the band for weekly concerts during the summer at 7pm on Wednesday evenings in Centennial Park.

Following the Concert Band, Encore! Theatre Arts Inc. will present "**Taste of Broadway**", a cabaret-style revue. Formed in 2009, Encore! Theatre Arts is a not-for-profit organization that serves the Rochester and Batavia areas by presenting high quality theatre productions to the community. The Board of Directors is made up of veterans of area stages with considerable experience both on stage and as members of production teams. The group presented Disney's *High School Musical* in January 2010, and will perform "Taste of Broadway" several times this summer. Also, auditions will be held in July for the fall production of *Les Miserables School Edition* just in time for the show's 25th anniversary. You can find out more about

Encore! Theatre Arts at their website: www.encoretheatrearts.com.

Main Stage presentations will continue with performers sponsored by our Traditional Arts Program, starting at 1:30 p.m. with **The Niagara River Dancers**. The Niagara River Dancers combine students at the Tuscarora Indian Elementary School, located at the center of the Tuscarora Nation, with members of various Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) tribes from throughout New York State. The Tuscarora Nation is still a sovereign nation and has a traditional government run by clan mothers and a chief. In addition to the usual academic subjects, the Tuscarora language is part of the curriculum. About half of the students stay after school for an extra hour to learn traditional dancing on a weekly basis.



Niagara River Dancers, 2007. Photo by Tom Rivers

The dancers learn and present not only the Haudenosaunee dances, but also learn dances from other Native communities around the country, which leaders learn through attending pow-wows and other regional and

goArt!

national gatherings. Knowing and performing a dance always includes an understanding of its origin and meaning. The dancers wear beautifully beaded outfits; many in the Tuscarora raised beadwork style, which are often made by their parents or other relatives. Traditional musicians accompany the dancers, who include explanations of the dances' patterns, stories and history.

Nina and Orville Greene founded the group of extended family and community members, which has presented traditional Native American dances to varied audiences for more than 25 years. Several of the featured dancers are the Greene's children, including Randy Greene, who now heads the ensemble. He and others bring along their children as well, literally following in their elders' footsteps to continue their family and community dance traditions.

Up next at 2:45 p.m. are **The Dady Brothers** with Irish and Irish American music. **John and Joe Dady** grew up in Rochester, NY, fully involved in the west side Irish American community. They had the chance to listen and learn from Irish masters at weekly music sessions in Rochester, which have been running from the 1970s to the present day. Their love and mastery of Celtic music has led them into other areas of traditional music, as they have shared their music in many diverse venues around the country and abroad for over thirty years.

John and Joe are singers, multi-instrumentalist musicians and composers. They have a solid command of many folk instruments including guitar, pennywhistle, fiddle, banjo, octave mandolin, harmonica, uilleann pipes, bodhran and ukulele. Their wide repertoire ranges from Irish folk ballads to bluegrass, acoustic blues and original contemporary folk music.

Hosts of friends and family all over the globe have long supported their music and John and Joe have been awarded recognition by the Mayor of Rochester, NY (Bill Johnson), as well as Comhaltas Ceoltiori Erin, Rochester City School District, Rochester City Council, Monroe County Special Olympics, and the Maplewood Neighborhood Association. They have joined Comhaltas' efforts to document and record old-time Irish musicians, helping to build a more complete sound and written record of their playing styles and tunes. Just this year, The Rochester St. Patrick's Day Parade honored John and Joe with The Community Leaders of the Year Award.



John and Joe Dady

The Dady's have received impressive reviews in many publications in America, Ireland and Canada, including: *The Rochester Democrat and Chronicle*, *Freetime Magazine*, *The Irish Echo*, *Sing Out*, *Dirty Linen*, *American History Magazine*, *Pickin'*, *The Cork Examiner*, and *Bluegrass Unlimited*. Their music can also be heard on soundtracks for historical documentaries and on radio and television productions in the United States, Canada, Ireland, Slovenia, Italy, and Australia.

A partial list of prestigious performers they've shared a stage with includes Rick Danko (The Band), Ani DiFranco, Jay Ungler

go Art!

and Molly Mason, The Clancy Brothers, Danny O'Flaherty, Kate Wolf, Arlo Guthrie, Paddy Keenan (The Bothy Band), Will Millar (Irish Rovers), Bill Staines, Janet Harbison, Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown, Cathy Ryan, Tommy Makem and Liam Clancy, Eric Bogle, Mike Cross, John Hume (Nobel Peace Prize winner) and Robin and Linda Williams.

As Tommy Makem so eloquently put it, "The Dady Brothers have it all – taste, talent, and dedication. Taste to write and select good material; talent to perform that material excellently, to the delight of their audiences; and dedication to keep their material and performances to the highest standards."

John and Joe have been hosting musical tours to Ireland for 18 years. They also have performed on four Celtic music cruises to the Caribbean, Nova Scotia and Alaska with singer/songwriter Danny O'Flaherty and other Irish stars including Danny Doyle and Andy M. Stewart. They have recorded ten CDs featuring Irish dance tunes and ballads; Erie Canal songs; and original music. Find out more about their music at www.dadybros.com.

The Tom Monte Trio will finish out the afternoon at 4:00 p.m. Accordionist and vocalist Tom Monte is joined by bassist Al Bruno and drummer Tom Sotile to present Italian American dance band music—specializing in Frank Sinatra songs and style. Tom comes from the musical Passamonte family of Mt. Morris, NY. His father, Gus, had a barbershop in town, which was a popular spot for informal music making. Tom remembers, "every Sunday at Grandma's, there was music," with father Gus and uncles Jim, Nick Frank and Tom, who would hold forth with accordion, mandolin, banjo and guitars. Monte

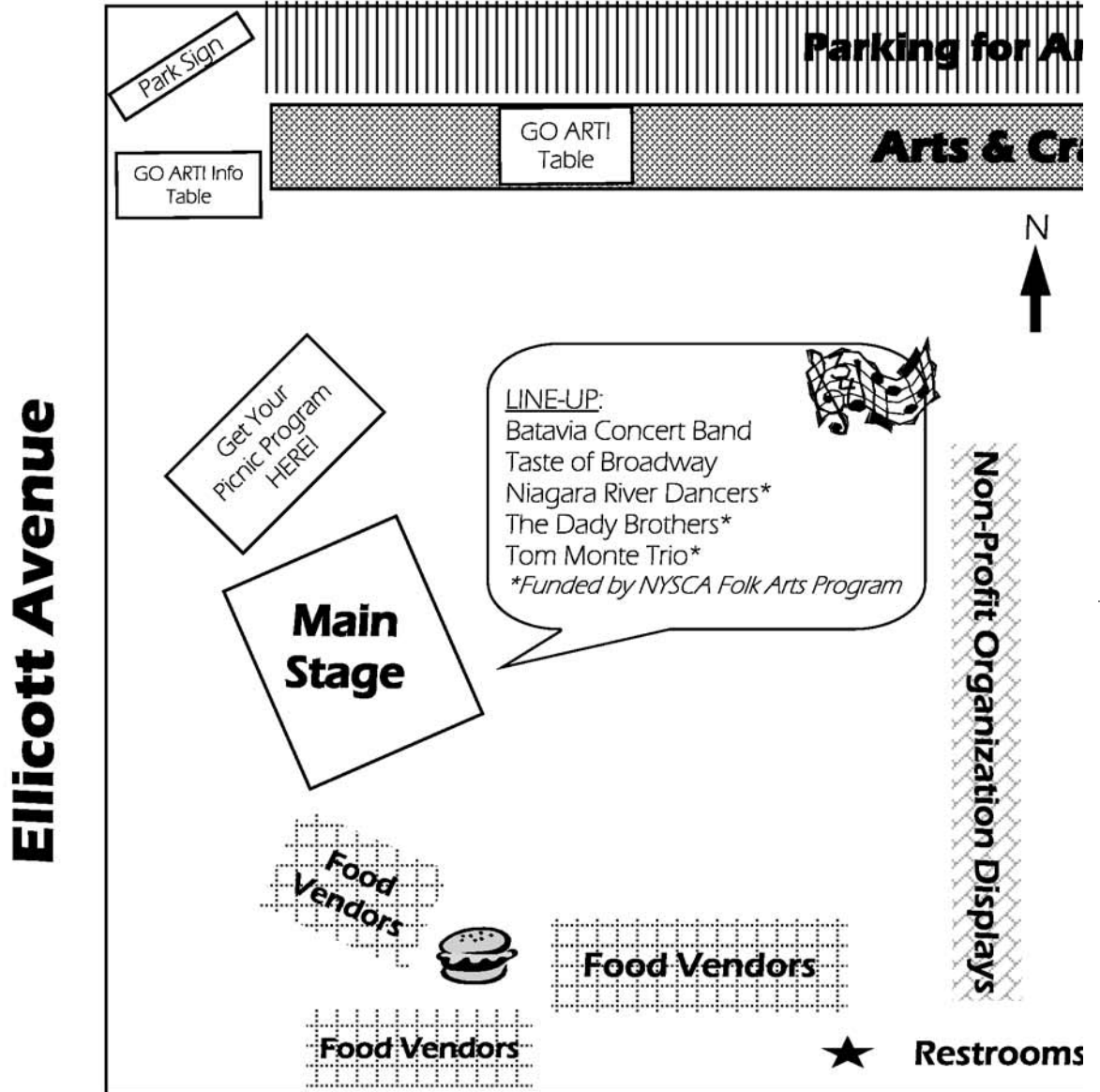
began singing and playing the accordion from the age of 12, focusing more on jazz styles. The family tradition continues with Monte's son, Tom Passamonte of the jazz/blues band Special Blend, and grandchildren Sara and Justin Passamonte in the reggae band, Nevergreen, all based in the Rochester area.

The Trio keeps some older Italian polkas, mazurkas and tarantellas or their playlist for your dancing enjoyment, along with their featured Italian American popular songs, swing and jazz from the 1940s-1960s. Tom's vocals, which recreate the Sinatra sound, add special appeal to the group. The Tom Monte Trio has been performing together for more than 35 years and can be heard regularly at The Lodge at Woodcliff, social dance clubs, and many area festival and concert venues.

go Art!

Centennial Park, Batavia, NY GO ART! Picnic in the Park—July 4, 2010

Richmor



Please note: Map is not to scale - items are in general area and relative to each other.
All programs and placement are subject to change.

go Art!

rd Avenue

Artists & Crafters ONLY

Crafts Show & Sale

★ Restrooms ★

Explore Art!
Create-Your-Own
Fourth of July crafts



**Horse-Drawn
Wagon Rides**



**Petting Zoo
Animals**



Juggling



En Garde: Batavia
Fencing Demonstrations



WEC
WildLife Educators Coalition

State Street

Face
Painting



Doug Rougeux
The Fraterrigo Family
Diaspora Drumming

Stage II

(Covered Stage)



Air
Gym

Mini-
Air Gym

rd Avenue

go Art!

Accordion Fest

Sunday, September 12

1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Hickory Ridge Golf and Country Club

15816 Lynch Rd., Holley

Welcome to today's festival. We are very pleased to present an afternoon of accordion music from diverse cultures, all found in and around western New York. Today's event features accordionists and bands that bring us music from their distinct heritages, including Polish, Italian, Irish, and Eastern European styles. While most of our featured accordionists began with such music, many have also traveled with their instruments into styles like swing, jazz and popular standards—where the accordion is right at home. All have a love for their instrument and bring many years of skilled performance to this concert. Jim Kimball, Professor of Music at SUNY Geneseo, will serve as our host.

We thank you for supporting the Genesee-Orleans Regional Arts Council and our Traditional Arts programs. We hope you enjoy the afternoon and leave with a new song or story and a bit of understanding of these unique musical worlds, and that we'll see you and a friend at our next event. We also welcome new members to the arts council, and invite you to continue supporting our programs and events by joining today.

Karen Canning, Traditional Arts
Program Director

Performer Biographies



Iskra Alex Alexandrov

Iskra Alex Alexandrov was born and raised in Sofia, Bulgaria. As an accordionist there, she received numerous gold medal awards as both an individual performer and with several accordion orchestras. She served as concertmaster for the National Accordion Orchestra of Bulgaria (12 years) and The Palace of the Pioneers Accordion Orchestra (3 years). Alex performed solo and group concerts in Bulgaria, Italy, France, Belgium, Germany, Romania, Poland, Hungary and Yugoslavia, before escaping from Communist Bulgaria in the 1980s. She received political asylum in the United States in 1986. Professionally, she holds advanced degrees in Broadcast Engineering and is the Director of Broadcast Operations for The College at Brockport, State University of New York.

Jerry Darlak and Casey Kliszak perform today on the German or Polish style concertina, a form of accordion that developed mainly in Germany during the mid 19th century.

go Art!

Also known today as a Bandoneon, the instrument is diatonic (playing mainly in one or two keys) and has a large, square design with buttons on each side, divided equally between the two hands. It has retained popularity in parts of the Americas, particularly in Argentinean tango bands, Midwestern American polka bands, and in our own polka traditions here in the greater Buffalo area.



Jerry Darlak

Jerry Darlak of Buffalo, NY is one of our region's most noted polka musicians, specializing on the Polish concertina. Born in Chicago, Jerry started early in the vibrant polka scene in that city, beginning with the

drums at age 7, and adding the concertina at age 11. By age 14, he was playing music three nights a week with his own polka band, the Lucky Stars. As a high school junior, he won the audition in 1962 as the new drummer (and later concertina player) with Marion Lush's "Musical Stars."

Jerry served in the U.S. Army several years later, taking his concertina with him when he was stationed in Germany. He performed with the 7th U.S. Army band throughout Germany and parts of Europe, featuring Polish and German polkas. Within a few years of his return home Jerry became a member of Eddie Blazonczyk's "Versatones," with whom he performed until 1987 as a full time musician. His awards and recognition with the Versatones include two Grammy's for "Polish Celebration" and "My Mary Lou."

Jerry came to the Buffalo area in 1987, where the strong local polka scene soon put him to work. He joined the Bellares, a well respected polka group led by "Big Steve" Krzeminski, and lent his expertise to the annual Polish American Arts Festival in Cheektowaga. Since 1995 Jerry has led his own band, Jerry Darlak and the Touch, a very popular polka orchestra in the Chicago style. The band has recorded six CDs and maintains a busy performing schedule. Jerry has recorded more than 60 albums in his career, and in 1998 was inducted into the International Polka Association Polka Hall of Fame. Information about the Touch and Jerry can be found on their website, www.jerrydarlakandthetouch.com.



Casey Kliszak

Casey Kliszak

always enjoyed music as a child and wanted to be part of a musical group. He credits his uncle, who played accordion and violin, for creating an interest in music. Casey began his music career in 1950 when he started accordion lessons.

In the 1970s, he purchased his first concertina and began playing the instrument with Happy Richie & The Royalties. He has also performed with the Ampol-Tones, Musicalaires and the Dynasounds. He has five full-length recordings to his credit and several single releases. Casey's musical styling has been influenced by early Chicago bands that featured the concertina, primarily Li'l Wally

go Art!

Jagiello's bands and the Ampol-Aires.

He plays the concertina because it is a "stimulating and interesting instrument." His love for polka music has been a trait many of his fans associate with him. "I enjoy playing polka music because of the different styles of polkas you can play—Chicago, Eastern, Slavic and now even polkas with a touch of Cajun flavor."



Pat Gambacurta

Pat Gambacurta started learning accordion at the age of 8, along with her two older sisters. Growing up in the Rochester area, she remembers that her father wanted all the girls to "learn all the Italian pieces—tarantellas, mazurkas, songs." He took them to a family friend, Mr. Trippi, who started them out on the piano accordion. Pat stuck with the instrument after her sisters dropped it in their teens, partly because of its appeal as a "boys' instrument. I was a tomboy anyway; I liked to do everything that boys did, or tried to."

Upon entering the all-girls Nazareth Academy as a young teenager in the 1950s, Pat found there wasn't a ready-made place for the accordion in the school music ensembles. So, she started her own five-piece band, called "Pat and the Petticoats," consisting of drums, guitar, sax, trumpet and accordion. The group played for school dances and events, and began to get noticed by organizations outside of the school. Pat's father, however, did not approve of his daughter playing out in public

for pay, an "Old World" viewpoint that was not uncommon at the time. Also during her high school years, she found another mentor in Ralph Irene, a college student who played accordion and taught her some music theory and how it can be applied to the instrument. Says Pat, "He taught me why and how to modulate and transfer to different keys. He gave me the basis to continue and to love music."

Pat has continued to play on and off over the years, mostly at gatherings of family and friends. Several years ago after her father passed away, Pat renewed her interest to perform in public, taking her mother with her to senior centers, nursing homes, and other community venues. She particularly enjoys playing and singing with other people, and the appreciation of her audiences in hearing and joining in on old favorites.

Jesse Lege is a master Cajun accordionist, who grew up surrounded by music and dancing in southwest Louisiana. Recalling his childhood with eight brothers and sisters, Jesse says, "We grew up in the country, and since we didn't have the option of going to the soda shop or the baseball field, we entertained ourselves." Gatherings with friends and neighbors featured traditional dance music and, of course, home cooked Cajun food. Some of Jesse's early influences, mainly through the radio, were Cajun greats like Améde Ardoin, Lawrence Walker, Améde Breaux, and Austin Pitre. He credits musician and accordion builder, Marc Savoy, as his main mentor.

Jesse has played with numerous bands over the years, including the Cajun Kings, The Orange Playboys, and the Southern Ramblers, his own band which performed in Louisiana

and Texas for several decades. He has won several Cajun French Music Association awards, often referred to as the Cajun Grammys, and in 1998 was inducted into the Cajun Hall of Fame. Jesse's performances include Festival Acadiens, the Newport Folk Festival and the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival, as well as regional and local engagements in the northeast United States.

On staff many times at Augusta Heritage Center in West Virginia, Louisiana Folkroots (Balfa) Camp, and Fiddletunes in Seattle, Washington, Jesse has been passing along the tradition he values as teacher of Cajun accordion. In New England, Jesse plays with several bands and heads Bayou Brew, whose fiddler is Darren Wallace, formerly of Filé. He relishes "the chance to sit in with the score of great Cajun musicians who, being scattered from one side of the world to the other, hardly ever get to connect in such a way."

Jesse is joined by Bayou Brew bassist Evelyn Schneider, and musicians from the Rochester area Cajun music scene: Russ Roberts on accordion, guitarist Betsy Fuller, Paul Mastriani on drums, and Susi Mills.

two weekly radio shows: the "Irish Party House" airing Sunday 11 a.m. - noon on WRUR 88.5 FM, and "Old Fiddler," which airs Sundays from 10-11 a.m. on the same station.

In the early 1970s Ted and other Irish musicians, who were meeting occasionally to swap tunes, decided to choose a regular night each month to meet—and so began Rochester's Irish session on the second Fridays. The group first met at the Harp Club, which was run by the Gaelic Athletic Association, which also sponsored football and hurling teams. Over the years the session has moved several times, and now meets at McGinnity's, 534 West Ridge Rd., Greece, beginning at 8:00 p.m. It has gathered fiddlers, accordionists, whistle players and other instrumentalists and singers from both the Irish community and interested "outsiders," preserving and passing on our area's traditional Irish music. Additionally, another Irish music session now takes place at the Red Coyote, Route 20A in Honeoye, beginning at 4:00 p.m. In October this session will move back to its original home at the American Hotel in Lima.

Ted and others in the area are actively involved in Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann (pronounced coal-tis kyol-tory air-in), an international organization dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of traditional Irish music, dance, language and culture. The CCE has branches throughout the world including 48 in North America. There are seven branches in the Northeast Region, from Buffalo to Boston, with about 1000 members. Over one million people attend Comhaltas events during the year, which support archival documentation and research of traditional Irish music as well as performance and teaching.



Ted McGraw

Ted McGraw plays button accordion and concertina to wide variety of Irish, Scottish, square and contra dance venues. He learned much of his repertory through informal study with traditional musician Frank Murphy, Marty O'Keefe, and others in the Rochester area. Ted is the creator, host, and producer for

go Art!

The Tom Monte Trio is led by accordionist and vocalist Tom Monte, with bassist Al Bruno and drummer Tom Sotile. They present Italian American dance band music, specializing in Frank Sinatra songs and style. Tom comes from the musical Passamonte family of Mt. Morris, NY. His father, Gus, had a barbershop in town, which was a popular spot for informal music making. Tom remembers, "every Sunday at Grandma's, there was music," with father Gus and uncles Jim, Nick Frank and Tom, who would hold forth with accordion, mandolin, banjo and guitars. Monte began singing and playing the accordion from the age of 12, focusing more on jazz styles. The family tradition continues with Monte's son, Tom Passamonte of the

jazz/blues band Special Blend, and grandchildren Sara and Justin Passamonte in the reggae band, Nevergreen, all based in the Rochester area.

The Trio keeps some older Italian polkas, mazurkas and tarantellas their playlist for your dancing enjoyment, along with their featured Italian American popular songs, swing and jazz from the 1940s-1960s. Tom's vocals, which recreate the Sinatra sound, add special appeal to the group. The Tom Monte Trio has been performing together for more than 35 years and can be heard regularly at The Lodge at Woodcliff, social dance clubs, and many area festival and concert venues.

Regional Traditional Arts Program

The Needlework and Art of Ellen Strivings
Livingston Arts Center, Apartment One Gallery
4 Murray Hill Drive, Mt. Morris NY
Information: 585-243-6785;
www.gvcaonline.org

The Genesee Valley Council on the Arts, another partner in our Regional Traditional Arts Program, is featuring an exhibit "The Needlework and Art of Ellen Strivings" this summer from June 1 through August 14. This exhibit represents more than 65 years of craftsmanship in knitting, embroidery, rug hooking, quilting, tatting and painting.



Ellen Strivings. Photo by Jim Kimball.

Ellen Johannesen was born in southern Norway in 1920, and lived in Drammen (near Oslo), until coming to the United States in 1947, eventually settling in Castile with her husband, Silas Strivings. She learned many basic skills of sewing and knitting at home and

from extended family members, whose professional skills included tailoring, baking, house building and woodcarving. Ellen applied her needlework skills to household items like tablecloths and runners, linens and clothing, as well as in purely decorative uses such as wall hangings.

She has continued to expand her creative pursuits throughout her life here in New York, exploring watercolor and acrylic painting, stenciling, and mastering rug hooking with a group of women who met regularly for more than thirty years. Ellen often incorporated rosemaling (decorative flower style), reindeer, and other Norwegian designs into her rugs, quilts, and other projects. Currently, she lives in Genesee and knits with others from St. Michael's Church as part of its prayer shawl ministry.

One regional knitting style in which Ellen excels comes from the Setesdal Valley, a few hours away from her home and also in the south of Norway. Much of the world recognizes it in the "classic" Norwegian sweater, featuring a small, all-over pattern with contrasting geometric patterns on the neck, shoulders and sleeves, and often with beautifully embroidered and bound cuffs, neckband and front facing. Hats, socks and mittens also fill out Ellen's repertory. These employ patterns of snowflakes, stars and other intricate patterns that originated in the 19th century in northern Norway, but are now found throughout the country. The double-stranded or two-color technique is common to these

go Art!

and other styles, which effectively creates a second layer of knitted wool yarn into the garment and increases its warmth.

Like many traditional artists, Ellen's creative skills are based in providing essentials of everyday life: clothing and other household necessities. There is nothing ordinary, however, in the beauty and craftsmanship she imbues in her work, and a shared desire among countless tradition bearers to reveal the artistry within one's daily life. We hope you will enjoy the sampling of her work this summer.



Setesdal style Norwegian sweater by Ellen Strivings.

Leatherwork Demonstration by John Mary

July 27, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

Lower Falls Restaurant, Letchworth State Park



Leatherworker John Mary, 2007. Photo by Claire Aubrey

John Mary, Jr. of South Wales first started working with leather during crafts projects with his Boy Scout troop in Lancaster, NY at the age of 12. At 18 he set up a leather working shop in the back room of his father's house in Elma, NY making wallets and key cases to sell to co-workers at the glassworks where

he was employed. For many years he was co-owner, with his wife Patricia Ann, of Pat's Tack and Western Wear in Holland, NY, that provided tack (gear used to equip a horse) and western wear to our region. Mr. Mary continues to do leatherworking from his farm shop for the new owners of Pat's Tack, and by commission. He will share stories and demonstrate techniques used to create items such as tie straps, reigns and saddles—including the "secret" of making braided reins from one piece of leather. Many of Mr. Mary's tools and materials would have been familiar to Mr. Letchworth, particularly as owner of Pratt & Letchworth's saddlery hardware business.

go Art! Membership Form

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/TOWN/ZIP _____

PHONE _____ FAX _____ E-mail _____

I AM WILLING TO VOLUNTEER AT GO ART! SPONSORED EVENTS

I AM INTERESTED IN SERVING ON A GO ART! COMMITTEE

MEMBER:

- ARTIST/CRAFTER \$30.00
- INDIVIDUAL \$40.00
- FAMILY \$60.00
- ORGANIZATION \$85.00
- FRIENDS \$100.00+

I would like to make an additional tax-deductible donation of \$ _____ to GO ART!

Credit Card # _____
(Visa or MasterCard)

Expires _____ Signature _____

Genesee-Orleans Regional Arts Council • 201 East Main St.,
Batavia, NY 14020-2205

Today's Date: _____

This Year's Amount: _____

Please Make Checks Payable to:

**Genesee - Orleans
Regional Arts Council**

GO ART! recognizes the substantial role our donors play in keeping the arts vibrant and healthy. We want to thank you for your gift to the arts by giving you the arts in return!

Complete form & keep this stub for your records.

Picnic in the Park

Sponsors

Batavia Area Jaycees • City of Batavia • County of Genesee
Key Bank • Rotary Club of Batavia • The Daily News/Drummer
Turnbull Heating & Air

Contributors

CY Farms/Batavia Turf • Stephen M. Hawley & Associates, LLC
Pudgies • Sterling Tents • Tonawanda Valley Federal Credit Union
Tops Friendly Markets • Turner Treescape • WBTA am1490

Friends

City of Batavia Bureau of Maintenance	Dr. Bob & Terri Marchese
Jerry & Donna Condello	Tom McGinnis Excavating & Plumbing
DelPlato-Casey Law Offices	Max & Jane Mason
Genesee ARC	Sloat Tire Shop
Genesee Patrons COOP	Roger & JoAnn Triftshauser
Steve Kopper	

go Art!

GO ART! Gratefully Acknowledges the Support of the Following Contributors to our Annual Programs

Dr. and Mrs. Bernard Asher
Bank of Castile
The Batavia Club
Bero Architecture
Harvey & Linda Blanchet
Joel & Katie Blanchet
Barry & Suzanne Bower
BrightLine ITV Marketing Specialists
Lynn E. Browne
Patrick & E. Jane Burk
Doug & Donna Call
Richard & Marie Call
(The Late) Don Carmichael
Betty Casey
Charles Men's Shop
Charlotte Conable
Gerald & Donna Condello
The Daily News
Norma Danesh
Brian & Linda Daviau
Skip Draper
East Hill Foundation
Henry & Ann Emmans
Donna Ferry
Freed, Maxick & Battaglia CPAs, PC
James & Marjorie Fulmer
GCC Albion
Garlock Office Systems
Genesee County Office for the Aging
Genesee County Legislature
Bob Gilsinan
Lorri Goergen

Heaster Building Restoration
Carl Jordan
Tom & Kelly Kiebala
Bob & Linda Knipe
Dr. & Mrs. Matthew Landfried
Liberty Pumps
M & T Charitable Foundation
Rosalie Maguire
(The Late) Joan Marchese
Peter & Dawn Mark
Max & Jane Mason
Randy & Laurie Mastin
Andrew Meier
Mark & Jacquie Modzelewski
Arthur & Donna Mruczek
Former NYS Assemblyman Charles Nesbitt
NYS Council on the Arts
NYS OPRHP
NYS Senator George Maziarz
Former NYS Senator Mary Lou Rath
National Grid
National Endowment for the Arts
Kim Nesbitt
Orleans County Foundation, Inc.
Orleans County Legislature
Pioneer Credit Recovery, Inc.
Rick & Deb Porter
Darin & Jennifer Blanchet Rauworth
Andrea Rebeck

Rochester Area Community Foundation
Rotary Club of Batavia
John & Kathy Saville
(The Late) Rev. David Scheider
Richard & (The Late) Kathy Seymour
Shirt Factory Café
(The Late) Dr. and Mrs. Alan Siegel
Sigma International
George & Martha Spinnegan
Star Electric
Adam Tabelski
Turnbull Heating
Roger & JoAnn Triftshauser
Former US Congressman Tom Reynolds
Karen Valle
(The Late) Norris & Sally Webster
Tom and Marsha Wenhold
Western New York Foundation
Dr. Teri Yasses
Town of Yates
Craig & Kimberly Yunker

GO ART! Contributors Continued

Norman Argulski
 Bruce & Nancy Baker
 Bob Harris Realty
 Larry & Sherye Boylan
 Ged & Sandra Brady
 Robert & Roberta Call
 Charlie & Toby Cook
 Linda Covell
 Michael Del Plato
 Jim & Chris Fix
 Gerace's Hair Care
 Center
 Robert & Carol
 Harrower

AmeriCorps
 David & Kristina Andersen
 Ted & Sharon Anderson
 Kim Argenta
 Batavia Family Dentistry
 The Batavian
 Jolene Beckman
 Marilyn Beechler
 Jan Beglinger
 Jennifer Ford Berry
 Robert & Elizabeth Boyce
 Charles & Mary Brenner
 Brown's Berry Patch
 Linda Bucklin
 Dr. Ann Bunch
 Don Burkel
 Byron-Bergen Public Library
 David & Nelda Callard
 John Canale
 Karen Canning
 Rachel Casano
 Mary Ellen Casey
 Charley's Salon
 Daniel Cherry
 Mary Chua
 Ron Colantonio
 Pam Conklin
 Elizabeth Cooper
 Victor Corey
 Corning Museum of Glass
 Tony & Karen Crupi
 Janice Cummings
 D & R Depot
 Bart & Susan Dambra
 Fred & Adrienne Daniels
 Lori DeFazio
 Margaret Delahanty
 "Dizzy"
 Cheryl Doody
 Jacquie Dwyer
 Lynn Eick

Stephen M. Hawley &
 Associates LLC
 Robert & Carol
 Humphrey
 The Journal-Register
 Gary Kent
 William & Carol Kistner
 Dr. Conrad Kubiniec
 Kleen-All Company
 Lake Plains Eye Center
 Sam and Esther
 Leadley
 Lyndonville Lions Club,
 Inc.

Gerald Erion
 Norm & Alice Fagnan
 Sarah Fenello
 Barbara Filipiak
 Linda Miranda Fix
 Charlie Flagg
 Floral Fantasies
 Jack Forsythe
 Ernest & Eleanor Found
 Marjorie Fronk
 Robert & Pat Fussell
 Bill & Nancy Gaenzler
 GCASA
 GCC Batavia
 Ruth & Joe Gear
 Genesee Ballet Repertory
 Company
 Genesee Cancer Assistance
 Genesee Chorale
 Genesee County Chamber
 Genesee Feeds
 Genesee Symphony Orchestra
 Marge Gilhooly
 Lorraine Gluck
 Jeanne Goetze
 Ann Gouinlock
 George Graham
 Heather Grant
 Helen Grapka
 Barbara Gray
 Jean Grinnell
 Kevin Hammon
 Rita Hammond
 Roz Hayes
 Carol Hertel
 Richard Heye
 John Hodgins
 Larene Hoelcle
 Bernard Hoerbelt
 The Home Depot
 House of K

Shirley Maloney
 The Medicine Shoppe
 Paul Miles
 O-AT-KA Milk Products
 Coop
 Jeffrey & Rebecca
 Oshlag & Family
 Platt Properties
 Ann Reid
 Richard & Doris
 Richenberg
 Roxy's Music Store
 Stan & Paula
 Schumann

Iroquois Job Corps
 Gilbert Jordan
 Delores Johnson
 Mary Ellen Juliano
 Bill & Lucine Kauffman
 Allen Kidder
 Cynthia Kiebala
 Gail Kinney
 Lambert's Design Jewelers
 David & Marilyn Lange
 Joe Langen
 Peter Langen
 Larry's Steak House
 Leonard Oakes Estate Winery
 Shirley LeSeur
 Maxine Long
 Lorie Longhany
 Martha Lorshbaugh
 Annette Lopez
 Frederic Lupi PE
 Lance Mark, PLLC
 Paul & Maureen Marshall
 Audra Mazieka
 (The Late) Catherine McLellan
 Maria Mercodo
 Ken Mistler
 Nancy Mortellaro
 Lucy Minor
 Mosman's Wallpaper & Paint
 Kim Muscarella
 Nails by Gail
 Oliver's Candies
 Orleans Renaissance Group, Inc.
 Patti Pacino & Family
 Jeanette Partis
 Charles Pero & Sons
 J. Brian Pfeiffer
 Bill Pitcher
 Chuck & Mary Platt
 Poets & Writers
 POMCO Group

The Talking Phone Book
 Dorothy Taylor
 Bob Terry
 Trek, Inc.
 Wayne VanVleet
 WBTA
 Western New York
 Energy, LLC
 Robert Waters
 Jan & Sue Witkowski

Joan Post
 Pawlak's Save-A-Lot
 Pudgies
 Marilyn Rainer
 John & Liz Riter
 Janet Root
 Catherine Roth
 Mary Ann Scarborough
 Jeffrey Schwartz
 Carl Seaburg
 Michael & Sandra Seyfried
 Ray Shirtz
 Terrance & Joan Shearin
 Shoreline Fruit LLC
 Gary Simboli
 Ronald & Karen Sodoma
 Pat Stabell
 Dr. Stuart Steiner
 Janet Steves
 Rosemary Surowka
 Rebecca Chatt Swanson
 Dr. & Mrs. David Swartz
 Target
 Bruce Tehan
 Roberta Terbuska
 Terry Hills Golf Course
 360 I 365 Film Festival
 Ginny Tiede
 Tillman's Village Inn
 Mary Torrey
 Valle Jewelers
 Karen Vasser
 Deborah Wilson
 Lyn Worden
 Henry Yasses
 Ted Yasses
 Yates Community Library
 Denniston Wood
 Bernice Yunker
 Zambistro
 (The Late) Mr. Zito



HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING



REFRIGERATION

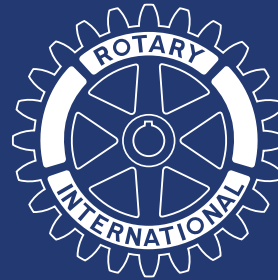
Stephen M. Hawley & Assoc., LLC @

THE INSURANCE CENTER



www.WBTA1490.com

Batavia Rotary Club



KeyBank



THE DRUMMER Penny Saver

THE DAILY NEWS