

NNHS NEWS LETTER

Northville Northampton Historical Society

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Editor
Gail M Cramer



WILLARD BROS HALL

AKA the Second Floor of the Northville Five and Dime Store

The Willard Bros Store was built in 1914 to accommodate the R. G Dewitt Five and Dime Store, that was already in business on south Main Street. The second floor had a large beautiful room where dances, meetings, dinners, drama and other community activities were held. The state codes were going to force the owner to either build another exit, besides the front steps from off the street. They refused to do it, so had to close off the upstairs to the public. It's been many years since the rooms on the second floor have been available to the public.

In 1931 it was sold to the J. J. Newberry Five and

Dime Store. Newberry's closed in 1997. That same year Sue LaPorte of Broadalbin and her father, Nelson Fisher, purchased the store. The manager of the store would still be Dave Fulmer who had managed the store since 1987. Currently in 2019, owners, Brian Correll and Sue Laporte Correll have refurbished the second floor into a beautiful facility with many new items for sale. The second floor was officially opened May 4th of this year. (More info on this store can be found in the March 2013 issue of the NNHS newsletter on the Northville Public Library or Town of Northampton website)



Stairway to new and better things and on the right is the renovated Willard Bros Hall. Note the beautiful floor.



Historical Society tour of second floor of Dime Store. Circa 1990



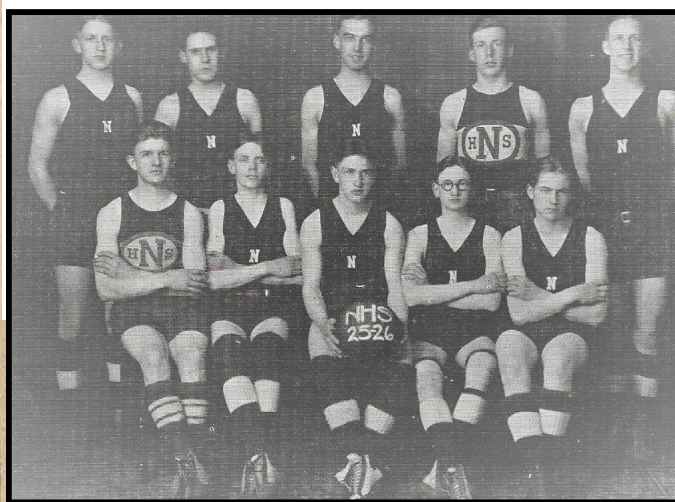
Today

This may seem more like an article about basketball, but it does include the team taking part at the Willard Brothers Hall for a celebration of victory. This was Northville's first high school basketball team.

Northville

NORTHVILLE, March 20—The closing game of the High School basketball team of this village was celebrated last Friday night with a glorious victory. Their opponents were the High School team from Burnt Hills and a team that has won every game from the locals since they have met. The local boys knew they had something to do to win as the visitors were made up of a class of husky boys who have cleaned up every team they have played with this winter, except two, previous to their coming here. Schuylerville won one and cotia the other. The visitors came with the intention of taking back the victory, and it was thought by some previous to the game that this might be true the way the visitors would make baskets in the practice. When the whistle blew for the beginning of the game our boys were slow to get in line as the visitors gathered three points right from the start. The home team boys gathered themselves together and in the next two minutes placed themselves in the lead and they were never passed. The floor work of the home team was the best ever saw on the local court. The locals won much applause not only from the patrons of the village but from most of the crowd that came with the visitors. The attendance was very large, probably the largest that has been seen on the local court this year. It is understood that the receipts were about \$60. The score was 51 to 23 in favor of the local team. While it is the intention of the local high school team to close its season with this game, it was to be regretted as many of the local sports would like to have seen the Glove City

High School team matched against the local team, for it was a question if the sister city could win from the locals the way they are playing at the present time. Prof. W. G. Cruickshank, a former teacher in the local school, but who is now the principal of the Burnt Hill School, accompanied the visitors together with about 20 others. The visitors made the trip by a large motor stage from Schenectady. They left on their return trip about 11 o'clock, not in the mood they expected to return in, and some felt rather sore, and expressed themselves in a very unpleasant way, being strangers to the people here. Roy Miller of the Y. M. C. A. of Gloversville was the referee and handled the game in a very satisfactory way. After the game the local players together with their friends retired to the Willard Brothers Hall where dancing was enjoyed until the small hours of the morning. Previous to the game the home team and visitors were entertained at the Wellsley team room as guests of Mr. and Mrs. Hiram C. Denton of this village.



Gordon Mosher, Grant Morrison, Dan Alter, Sheldon Johnson and others.

SOME EVENTS HELD AT WILLARD BROTHERS HALL

An invitation to attend a dance/ball to encourage the local high school baseball team. (Adirondacks) to be held at the Willard Bros Hall above the dime store

Those who have received invitations for the first annual ball and house warming of the Adirondacks should not forget that Friday night of this week is the time, and that Willard Brothers hall is the place. Rally and help the boys get started.

Republican Caucus to meet in Willard Brothers Hall.

The Democratic caucus for town of Northampton, for the purpose of nominating suitable candidates for town officers to be supported at the annual election to be in November, will be held in the Village Hose room Monday night at 7:30 o'clock. The Republican caucus to do the same will be held in the Willard Brothers Hall on Tuesday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock.

Northville

NORTHVILLE, July 6—A number of the members of John R. VanArnam's Minstrel troupe have arrived at the local station here in their Pullman car. It is expected the entire troupe will be here in a day or so, at which time rehearsals will start. Willard Brothers Hall seems to be the place where their rehearsals will take place. Mr. VanArnam is known by everybody in this section and is here this week getting the troupe together. He is trying to make arrangements with the Park Association to open his season there on Friday night, July 16th. It is hoped by his friends here that he can accomplish it. People who care to inspect the car may do so during certain hours of the day.



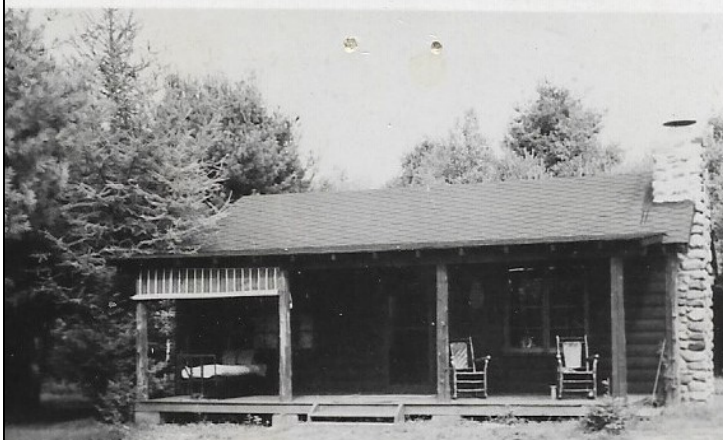
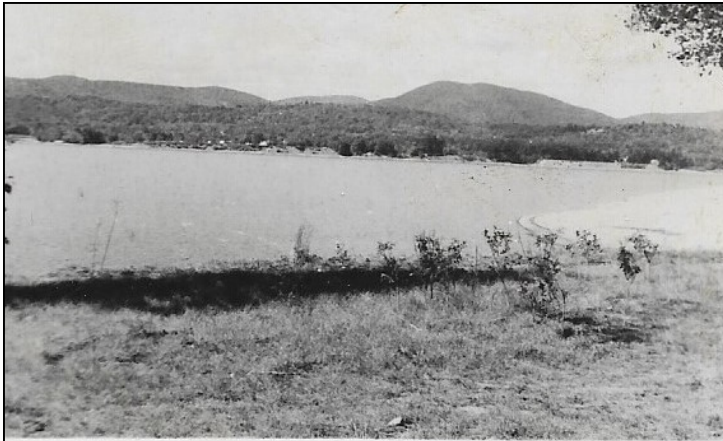
From last months newsletter. See next page for identification of the medal from a recipient of the monthly newsletter



**The Former Tree Restaurant
Route 30**



The old tree and the building were torn down and the above "Ice Cream Tree" Was built in it's place. The building on the left was once a grocery store run by Gene Hodlin. Later he sold antiques there. In 1984 Anders and Shirley Anderson operated the Tree Restaurant.



THE ANCHORAGE

C. K. SCHEMMEL, PROP.

HOUSEKEEPING COTTAGES - FISHING
BOATING - EXCELLENT BATHING BEACH

The ANCHORAGE was located on Seven Hills Road just beyond Christman's Private Road. Dates probably between mid 1950s to mid 1960s. There was a winding road down to the cabins and water. It could just barely be seen through the trees from Seven Hills road. A large sign stood out on Seven Hills Road.

I have very clear memories of lots of small bungalows, I don't think many of them had facilities. Nice view of the lake, extremely cold water. There was a stream in the back, much like a spring I would imagine that fed ice cold water into that little bay of the Anchorage, which is why the Anchorage had its name. I presume very steep slopes the lake would drop off radically from the side. The cottages were rented to people for a week or two weeks at a time. Mostly very heavily wooded area.

John Gleason

I continue to enjoy your newsletters. I can't help to identify the chap or the medal on his chest in the last photo (since the close up was blurry on my computer) but I do know that the "hat" on the floor is a pickelaub. It was a NY National Guard dress helmet issued between 1880 and 1901 (see Google images). So that fellow was a member, probably a private, during that time frame. Also enjoyed learning of Bob Van Arnam's heroics. J.O. Aston