

NNHS NEWS LETTER

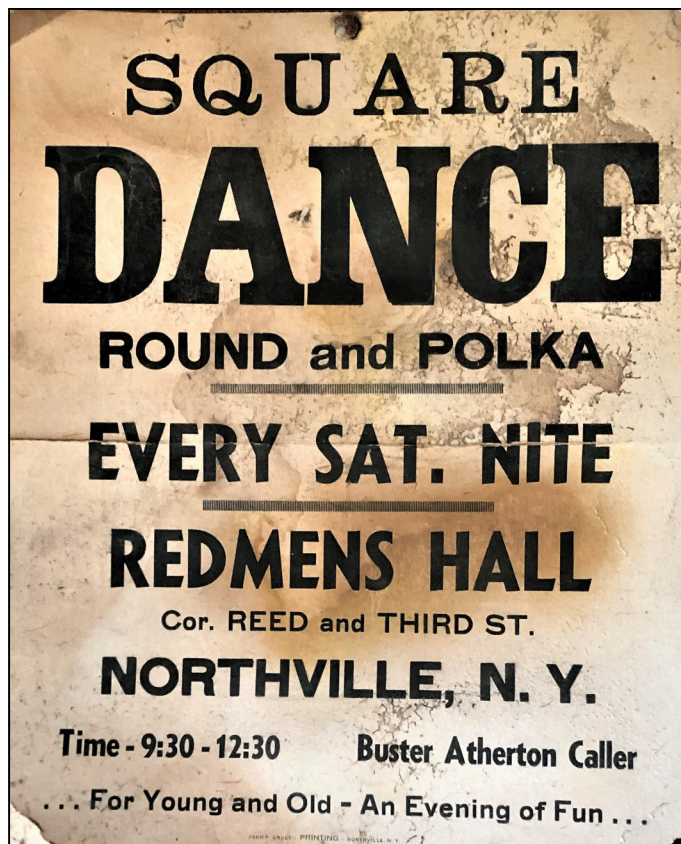
Northville Northampton Historical Society

Issue 154
July 2023
Editor
Gail M Cramer



REDMENS HALL Square Dancing

Square dance is for 4 couples or 8 dancers total, arranged in a square. There is a “caller” that shouts out the moves, usually with music background. Buster Atherton called many dances not only at Redmens Hall but for other square dances in the Northville-Wells area.



Poster located hanging in Atherton’s garage on Reed Street. Donated by Cathy Atherton July 2023

Redmens Hall was located in the village. It was used and owned by the Redmens Club.

During the 1950s, 60s and 70s it was a very popular place for local teens to spend dancing on a Saturday night. The Hall was an easy walking distance for the local teens. It was well chaperoned and a safe place for an evening of fun. The building now is a private residential home.

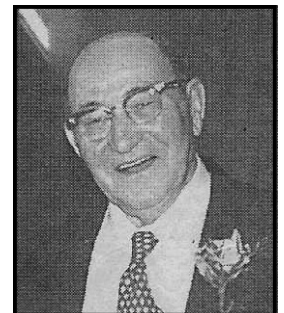
COUNTRY MUSIC and
SQUARE DANCING -
Leon Page and
The Hope Valley Boys
Buster Atherton — Caller
9:30 p.m. • 1:30 a.m.
GRAHAMS HOTEL
Speculator, N.Y.
EVERY SATURDAY -

MUSEUM

During the Rotary-Woodworking and Fine Arts Show, we had 405 visitors that signed our book. We also had new members sign up to the historical society.



Linda Finch and Gail Cramer selling history books, a raffle for a historical painting and signing up new members



“BUSTER”

HARVEY “BUSTER” ATHERTON 1922-2008

Buster was not only well-known as a local square dance caller but he was active in community service. He was a former member of the Redmens Club , Past President of the Northampton Democratic Club, a former member of the Northville Volunteer Fire Department and member of the United Methodist Church of Northville. He attended Gifford Valley and Northville schools and was a United States World War II Army Veteran serving from 1942 to 1946, where he guarded Italian and German prisoner of war and Russian Deserters. He was also employed by American Locomotive and General Electric for many years.

JOSEPH MACGREGOR LYON

1868-1951

JOSEPH LYON, AGED 83, DIES

Joseph MacGregor Lyon of 103 South Market street died shortly after 11 last night in the Littauer hospital, where he had been a patient since January 11. He was 83 years of age.

He was born in Lyons, N. Y., on February 2, 1868, the son of LeRoy and Mary (Peck) Lyon. He spent his early days in Brooklyn and graduated from Trinity Church school at the age of 17.

He came to Speculator and taught school for one year and then entered the glove business, operating glove shops over a period of years in Johnstown, Northville and St. Johnsville.

Survivors are his wife, Clara (Wells) Lyon; his sister, Mrs. William Galpin of this city, and a nephew, Charles Palmer Lyon of Haddon Heights, N. J.

The body was removed to the Palmer & Benjamin funeral home. Arrangements will be announced.

The 1900 census records Joseph and Mary living in Hope Township with Mary's father, John Brownell. His employment was glove manufacturing.

The Conroy Glove shop burned in 1903, which means that Joseph may have moved his glove shop after the fire to the building on second street.

In 1903 Joseph duly adjudicated bankrupt. "*The Gloversville daily leader*"

At some point after this he moved his business from Northville to Johnstown, NY

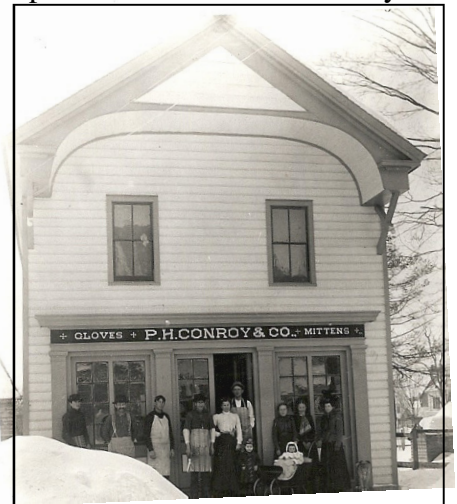


Picture compliments of Sally Svenson

When Joseph entered the glove business, his first shop was in the Conroy Glove Shop on Reed Street. (today it's an apartment house) He had to move his shop when there was a major fire at Conroy's. The above picture shows the shop on North Second Street. There was an apartment on the second story

and mostly likely some storage room. The apartment was rented by an Italian that was engaged in resurfacing the macadam road to the north of the Village. He called it, "Hotel de Dago".

Joseph married Mary C. Brownell of Hope, NY in 1894. Mary died very young, he then married Louise ?, divorced her and married Clara Wells Lyon.



1905

LECCINGS

Combination Thigh Leering and Obergaiter
Made of Fast Black Jersey Cloth.

FITS LIKE A 'STOCKING'
They are warm, comfortable and being elastic conform to every movement of the leg and will give splendid service.

POSTAGE PAID. Send size of shoe.
LADIES' and MISSIES' sizes 11 to 7,
at \$1.00 per pair. CHILDREN'S and IN.
FANTS' sizes 4 to 10, 75c. per pair.

J. M. LYON MFG. CO., Northville, N. Y.

Darby Glove Company in Northville Burned Out in Early Morning Fire

The Leader Herald January 26, 1959

While firemen were still at the scene of the fire that destroyed the Darby Glove Company in Northville early this morning, Harold Darby owner of the shop was making plans to resume production in another building.

Tentative arrangements reportedly have been completed at noon today to resume the production carried out by about 30 employees in the building formerly occupied by the Walker La-Rowe Glove Company at Second and Division Streets.

Northville Fire Chief Frank Catanzaro said the 2 1/2-story building was almost completely burned out. He said there was no indication of how the fire started though it apparently started on the second floor.

Minutes After Alarm

Some 36 firemen, 26 of them from the Northville volunteer company and the rest from Mayfield were at the burning Second Street glove shop within minutes of when the alarm was received at 1:55.

Although hampered by temperatures of 12 to 16 below zero, men were able effectively contain the blaze to the building.

A large storage shed attached to the glove shop and nearby house on either side of the building were saved. One of the houses saved was that of George Van Arnam, owner of the building.

It was reported that the glove shop owner had no fire insurance, his loss could not be estimated this morning.

Items Destroyed

Destroyed were most of the sewing machines on the second floor where damage was the heaviest and the glove making dies on the first floor. A quantity of finished gloves and leather, described as considerable also was lost.

The metal siding on the building and coincidentally, the bitter cold helped the firemen contain the blaze. Ice coated the building and all inside beams that were not at the center of the fire, keeping the flames from spreading.

Chief Catanzaro said no firemen were injured or suffered frostbite, though the men were covered with ice from the hose mist.

Four 3-1/2 inch, three 1-1/2 inch and two booster lines were used. Four hydrants were tapped. The chief said the firemen were able to avoid the problem of freezing lines.

But a maze of frozen lines remained to be picked up this morning, a job that took until noon. Three Northville pumpers and a pumper from Mayfield were used.

When firemen arrived, the entire second floor was ablaze and part of the first floor was burning. About three-quarters of the roof had caved in before the fire was out shortly after 7 a.m.

Records Saved

Though the building and most of the equipment were lost, firemen were able to save office records and the company safe from the office at the front of the building.

Coffee was served by Van Arnam and his daughter and son and Mrs. Walter J Weaver Jr., Mrs. Sidney Junquera and William Griffin.

Though temperatures were well below zero, it was estimated that several hundred Northville residents were at the scene at various times throughout the night.

First Deputy John A Brown directed traffic.



Smoke billows from the windows of the Darby Glove Company building on Second Street early this morning.

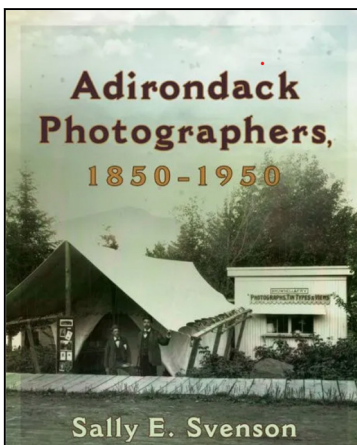


Some of the last employees to work at the Darby Glove Shop before it burned.

The building that housed Lyon Glove Shop and many years later, Darby's Glove shop, was also used for other purposes over the years after Lyon Glove Manufacturer Co. moved on to Johnstown. I have not been able to find out if J. M. Lyon built the building or exactly when it was built. When the fire at the Conroy glove shop burned in 1903, an article mentions that Mr. Lyon would be looking for another place for his glove making shop. Did he build one or move into an existing building? Doug Parker wrote the following in 2002. *Editor*

“This shop was located on 202 North Second Street. It was formerly a 2-story building. It was used as a factory for the production of baby clothes. Mrs. Charlotte Russell mentioned the fact that she worked for the company as a little girl. They would deliver her the clothes that needed buttons and she and others would sew on the buttons. In later years it became a glove shop. The roof caught fire and burned off in 1959. The temperature reached 20 degrees below zero that night. Since the bottom story was saved, it was decided that they would make it a one-story building. The upper story wasn't needed/ It continued to be used by various groups including a freight station (*probably Schuyler's*) a temporary church, Boy Scout meeting place and some glove making until I purchased it in 1980.”

Editor: Doug and his wife converted the one story building into a lovely home. They lived there until they both passed away. They are greatly missed by many Northvillians.



I fell in love with Adirondack photographs not long after arriving in the Adirondacks as a seasonal resident in 2002. In searching for images with which to illustrate a book on the rich history of the region's church architecture I discovered compelling images in often unexpected places. Few of them came with much in the way of background, and my curiosity grew about the largely unheralded photographers whose work I was enjoying. This book is the somewhat overdue result. “*From the authors preface* “

Sally Svenson

“*I highly recommend this extensively researched and historical informational book on Adirondack photographers. You'll find in it's pages local photographers such as Bowman and Dunlop.*” *Gail Cramer*

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/adirondack-photographers-1850-1950-sally-e-svenson/1142563870>