



Preble Today

Volume 2, Number 2

For the People of Preble

Preble Garden Club



Although they may be difficult to see without their leaves, there are two newly planted trees just inside the flaming bushes. There are also two in front of the memorial.

The Preble Town Board and the Preble Garden Club worked together this fall to renew the landscape at the Memorial Boulder. New crabapple trees have been

planted in the area surrounding the boulder. Each tree represents a period of time since World War II that has required our men and women to serve in war conditions overseas: The Korean Conflict, The Viet Nam War, The Afghanistan Wars and The Iraq War.

New flower beds have also been established for the Memorial grounds. Burning bushes provide background for peony bushes at the northern edge of the Memorial Boulder and a lilac garden is planted at the northwest corner of the grounds. The Garden Club members plan to have spring flowers blooming and available for children to pick during the Memorial Day ceremony each year for use as tributes when the parade moves to Elmwood Cemetery for the memorial service. The Garden Club will continue to plant and maintain the gardens in order to provide year round beauty for the site.

**Town of Preble
P.O. Box 234
Preble, NY 13141**

Preble Today

Offices at Town Hall
Preble Road, Preble, New York 13141
Town Hall (607) 749-3199

Town Supervisor: - James Doring
Email jdoring@twcny.rr.com

Deputy Supervisor: Peter Knapp - 607-749-2336
Town Council: Debra Brock - 315-696-5549
Thomas Fox - 607-749-2464
Dave Morse - 607-749-2856

Town Clerk and Tax Collector:
Jane Davenport - Phone 607-749-3199
Email prebletownclerk@centralny.twcbe.com

Deputy Town Clerk: Mary Ann McCloskey

Town Justice: Gary Schiffer (interim) - Phone 607-749-2377

Justice Clerk: Stacy Hall

Highway Supt.: Jeff Griswold - Phone 607-749-2710
Deputy Highway: Dale Mosher

Building Inspector and Code enforcement Officer:
W. Rick Fritz - Phone: 607-591-9898

Dog Control: Paul Burhans, Phone: 607-749-2734
Lindsay Anderson

Assessor: Nedra Griswold - Phone: 607-753-5322

Town Attorney: Donald Armstrong

Bookkeeper: Gina Nourse

County Legislator: John Steger,
Phone: 315-696-8483

Planning Board: James Harris, Chairman
Barbara Albro
Nate Curry
Donna Doody
Jim Seaman
Don Armstrong, Attorney

Mary Anne McCloskey, Secretary
Planning Board regular scheduled meeting:
4th Thursday of each month at 7 pm

Zoning Board of Appeals: Daniel O'Shea, Chairman
Amy Bertini
Robert Lieber
Linda Riehlman
Kay Vossler
Don Armstrong, Attorney
Mary Anne McCloskey, Secretary
Zoning Board of Appeals regular scheduled meeting:
1st Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm

Board of Assessment & Review:
Ann McLyman
William Underwood
Charles Dalley

Recreation Chairman: Babe Carroll
Phone 607-299-4474

Historian: Anne Henderson, Phone 607-749-2044

Population: 1,393 (2010 Census)
Registered Voters: 910

Town of Preble website: www.preble-ny.org
Cortland County website: www.cortland-co.org

Preble Today is a publication of the Preble Town Board.
Preble community members, friends and families are invited
to submit materials and ideas for future newsletters to:

Laura Doring
6785 Steger Rd.
Preble, New York 13141

Or email to: laura.doring@yahoo.com
Or jdoring@twcny.rr.com

Message from the Supervisor...

I would like to start by honoring two retiring local public servants. Lynn Webb, who has served the community in so many ways over the years, has left Preble for eastern Virginia to be with his children and grandchildren. Lynn's resignation from the position of Town Justice was effective October 28, 2011. Homer Town Justice Gary Schiffer will be filling in until a newly elected justice assumes duties on January 1, 2012. We also wish John Steger well as he retires from the Cortland County Legislature after serving the people of Preble and Scott for ten years.

Cortland County has informed the Preble Town Board that they will be installing a new communications tower on East Hill Rd. We are currently awaiting more information from the County.

More Preble home owners are getting their houses renovated thanks to a \$400,000 Community Development Block Grant. If you are an owner occupant and wish to apply for this grant, please call Thoma Development at 607-753-1433.

Last month I received a letter from Captain Mark Helms of the Cortland County Sheriff's Department informing the town of proposed budget cuts to the Sheriff's Department. He wanted us to be aware of the implications of budget cuts to outlying towns such as Preble and asked that we follow the budget process to ensure the Sheriff's Department's Road Patrol stays in tact. The letter is posted on the <http://preble-ny.org> website.

I would like to thank the Preble Garden Club for the landscaping work they did recently around the Memorial Boulder.

Renovation work on the Town Hall building will begin shortly. This renovation will include insulating the walls and ceiling, replacing the lighting with energy efficient bulbs and ballasts, installing heat pumps to eliminate the use of heating oil and possibly installing photovoltaic cells on the roof to produce electricity. These renovations will reduce energy usage and cut the costs of operating the building. This project is made feasible due to the significant amount of grant money the Town has been awarded. We received a \$25,000 grant



*James Doring
Town Supervisor*

from our state representative, Jim Seward. There is a \$30,000 grant coming from the CNY Regional Planning & Development Board. These funds originated from the Environmental Protection Agency. We are also receiving \$900 from National Grid and finally there will be some additional incentives from NYS Energy Research Development Authority (NYSERDA). The good news is that the project has a rapid 3-1/2 year payback. It will demonstrate an effort to move away from petroleum dependency and toward truly green technologies.

It is my pleasure to announce that in spite of rising costs for the New York State Retirement System, increased legal costs and a small increase in salaries, the 2012 Budget tax rate has decreased to \$1.1965 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation as compared to the 2011 tax rate of \$1.1982.

Our highway department will continue to do their best to make sure the roads are clear and safe for driving this winter. Have a happy Thanksgiving and holiday season. Should anyone have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me.

At Your Service,
James Doring

Preble in the Flight Path

by Laura Doring



The Monarch Butterfly
Photo from Monarch-butterfly.com
website

Preble residents are used to seeing geese and ducks fly south in the fall, but it's not so common to see the monarch butterfly in transit to their winter habitat in Mexico. This year, the migrating monarchs passed right through Preble. In fact, some of them may have taken a flight path that passed right through your back yard. For two to three weeks from

late September to early October, a steady stream of monarchs fluttered through this area on their migratory journey south. Some could be seen stopping to rest on a clothes line, a branch or a flower while others could be seen struggling on the ground with a wing injury or from sheer exhaustion. Not all survive the long and challenging trip.

The monarch butterfly can migrate up to 2,500 miles in search of their winter resting place. Its lifecycle has four stages; egg, larvae, cocoon, and butterfly. Four generations of monarch butterflies emerge every year, but it is only the fourth generation which makes the long arduous journey south for the winter months. Generations one through three die after laying their eggs having lived for only two to six weeks while the fourth generation lives for as long as six to eight months. During this time they flutter their way to Mexico, feeding on nectar and water as they go. Once in Mexico, they seek out the same oyamel fir trees to make their winter home as prior fourth generation monarchs did. The oyamel fir trees provide a safe environment for the monarchs to hibernate for the winter.

In February and March the monarchs find a mate and begin their journey north until they find a source of milkweed on which to lay their eggs. Having laid their

eggs, they die and a new four-generation annual cycle begins. Milkweed is essential to the monarch butterfly as it is the only plant that the caterpillar feeds on. Preble Valley may not always be in the migration path of the monarch, but as long as the area continues to have an abundant supply of milkweed, residents can be assured that the monarch butterflies with all their beauty will be a part of their summers for years to come.



The Monarch Butterfly
Photo from Monarch-butterfly.com
website

Farmland Protection Update

The Homer, Preble, and Scott Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan Advisory Committee continues to meet with American Farmland Trust representative Judy Wright and Cortland County Planning Director Dan Dineen to complete the final version of the plan. John Brennan, Farmland Protection Grant Administrator from NYS Ag and Markets has provided ongoing guidance to assist the committee in meeting the guidelines of the State of New York grant. Public comment from Preble residents will be required when the final version of the plan is approved in the Spring of 2012. For news on the project, and to review the updated version of the Plan and zoning changes recommended for the Town of Preble, please view the Preble website:

<http://preble-ny.org/projects-farmland-protection.htm>

A hard copy of the information can be requested from Jane Davenport, Town Clerk at the Preble Town Hall. Please submit questions and comments to Peter Knapp 607-749-2336 or Debra Brock 315-696-5549.

Climate Change Innovation Program Update



Brian Borchert of TAG Mechanical performs a blower door test to measure air leakage at the Preble Town Hall.

The Town of Preble, along with seven other municipalities from the region, was selected by the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board (CNY RPDB) to participate in the CNY Climate Change Innovation Program in the Fall of 2010. The CNY RPDB will provide technical assistance and financial incentives to the Town to:

- improve energy performance in local government operations; and
- remove barriers for greenhouse gas management and the reduction of vehicle miles traveled through the development of effective local government programs, policies, and outreach in the areas of land use, transportation, and community master planning.

The Town has established a facilities advisory committee to work

with CNY RPDB staff to identify cost effective energy retrofit measures for the Town Hall facility. This century old facility currently operates without insulation, has an older and inefficient heating system that is reliant on fuel oil (the cost of which is on the rise), has outdated and inefficient lighting, and has older windows that are in need of replacement. The town has had an energy assessment conducted for the facility and is currently working to develop a scope of work to put out to bid. From the initial assessment, the Town could realize significant energy savings from the proposed work scope.

The town will begin to conduct a greenhouse gas emissions inventory with assistance from the CNY RPDB during the spring of 2012,

followed by the development of a climate protection plan.

The CNY RPDB will also assist the Town in conducting outreach to town residents and businesses to provide information on resources and incentives for implementing energy conservation, efficiency, and alternative energy projects within the town.

Town Hall Display Case

The display case at the town hall has hosted many displays and collections over the years. The various displays offer a pleasing and creative sight for all to enjoy when making a trip to the post office or the town hall office.

On loan from individuals within our community, the displays are changed monthly and range in content from seasonal, to historical, to collectible.

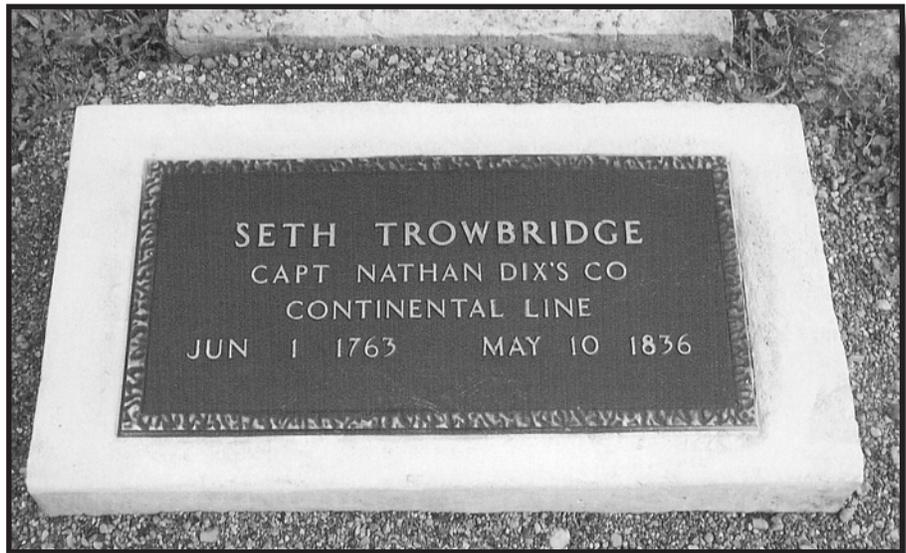
The diverse nature of the display reflects the diversity of interests and creativity among the people of Preble.

Feel free to take advantage of this opportunity to share your talents or interests. If you have something of interest: seasonal collections, club displays, antiques, models, holiday items, special interest, memorabilia, sports collections, artifacts from travel, etc. contact Esther Pierce, 607-591-1463. Look for new displays monthly. All items are under lock and key.

Historian Notes

by Anne Henderson

This past summer I helped the family of a Revolutionary War Soldier. This involved both the town history and the Elmwood Cemetery in Preble. Seth Trowbridge settled in the northern section of Preble following the war to claim his military tract. Other family members settled in Tully. Seth was active in church and Preble town government. When he died, he was buried in the Town of Tully. However, years later a military plaque bearing his name was delivered to the Elmwood Cemetery. It remained there for several years until some unknown point in time when the plaque was placed at the base of a gravestone of one of Seth's family members buried in Preble. Years passed and recently it was discovered, by a family member's research, that the plaque was delivered to the wrong cemetery. I met family members who came from Arizona to straighten this out. I was also in contact with other family members from California. The caretaker at Elmwood Cemetery removed and delivered the plaque to the Tully Cemetery. There, it was finally put in its rightful place of rest at Captain Seth Trowbridge's burial site. This was a very rewarding part of my job as Town Historian. I learned from Seth's descendants more about one of Preble's early settlers.



The burial plaque of Seth Trowbridge as it now appears in the Tully Cemetery.

This fall I will be applying for another grant from the William G Pomeroy Foundation in Syracuse to receive a second historical marker. This marker will replace the Slab City marker which has been missing for several years. The marker highlighted the early settlement of Slab City which was home to several industries including a sawmill, gristmill, cheese factory and a school.

My project for this winter is to have owners of barns in Preble trace and record the history of their barns. No matter if you have a big dairy barn or a small barn on your property that has history. Large dairy barns that are no longer used will disappear in years to come. I will take pictures of your barn and will compile a book so that we have this information saved. Please call me at 749-0133 and I will make sure you have an information paper.

About Preble - Did you know...

- The year 2012 marks the 200th anniversary of the Preble Post office. Preble's first post office was established on Route 11 in Little Baltimore in the year 1812.
- In 1916, The New York State Fair offered a prize of \$100.00 to the Grange showing the best 25 head of cattle. M.S. Nye of Preble won the prize for the Preble Grange.
- The population of Preble in 1825 was 1,327. Today Preble's population is 1,393.
- In May 1980, the pavilion was erected at Preble park through funds provided by the Town and with labor furnished by the Preble Fire Department.

From the Highway Superintendent

With the leaves on the ground and snow around the corner, I just wanted to take a moment to recap some regulations in Preble that are only valid in the winter months. Effective from November 1st 'til April 1st, there is an Ordinance prohibiting parking on any Town road. Also from December 1st 'til April 1st, certain roads in town are designated as "seasonal". No plowing or sanding will be done on the following roads during this time; Dawson Rd., Foley Rd., Maycumber Rd., Preble Hill Rd., Hill on Wright Rd., Maple Ridge Rd. from Seasonal Sign to the Town Line and Vormwald Rd. As always, if you have any questions, feel free to contact me at the Highway Garage at 607-749-2710. Have a safe winter.

From the Fire Department

The Preble Fire Department will be serving a Pancake Breakfast on the following dates. Attending these breakfasts is one way you can help support our volunteer fire department. Come enjoy a hot breakfast and a chance to interact with friends and neighbors.

Pancake Breakfast Schedule serving 7:30 am to 11:30 am

November 27, 2011

January 29, 2012

February 26, 2012

April 29, 2012

**A Chicken BBQ is scheduled for March
25, 2012 starting at 11:00 am.**

Town of Preble Building Permits Fall 2011 Report

<u>Date</u>	<u>Property Owner</u>	<u>Notes</u>
07/11/2011	Kathleen Bartleson	Solar Installation, 7434 Song Lake Rd
07/11/2011	Lawrence Mennig	Install pool 24' round, 2379 East Hill Rd
07/11/2011	Lonny and Linda Riehlman	Pole Barn 30 x 50, 6240 Little York Lake
07/11/2011	Charles Sturgen	Garage 12 x 24, 7560 Tully Center Rd
07/11/2011	Carol A. Kniffen Kogut	Deck 10 x 9, 7376 Song Lake Rd
08/08/2011	Michael Dannan	Fire repairs, 6361 Rt 11 Homer, NY
08/08/2011	Shane A. Stone	Pool, 1874 Preble Rd
08/08/2011	Robert Hull	Shed, Tully Trailer Park, Lot 2
08/22/2011	Josephine LoCasio	Remodel, 7358 Palmer Rd
08/29/2011	Jim and Donna Doody	Garage 28 x 40, 7243 US Rte 11
09/12/2011	Gary Harris	Cold storage 30 x 50, 1932 Preble Rd
10/17/2011	Tony Goddard	Addition 9'6 x 19, 1932 Lake Rd
10/24/2011	Ted McBride	Repair damage, 6608 Rt. 281
10/24/2011	Cynthia Peterson	Block repair, 6791 Steger Rd

Code Enforcement Officer Rick Fritz holds office hours in the Preble Town Hall each Monday afternoon from 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. He can also be reached by phone at 607-591-9898.