



# Preble Today

Volume 4, Number 2

For the People of Preble

Fall, 2013

## Preble's Junior Firefighting Program

by Michael Compton

The Preble Fire Department's Junior Firefighting Program has been in existence according to department by-laws for many years. Although it existed, it was not a very active program until 2008

In 2008 the officers of the Preble Fire department were facing the task of trying to get more people interested in becoming members of the department, especially younger members, since the department at the time had only three members under the age of 35. In an effort to change the trend of the department getting older, the officers wanted to get the Junior Firefighting program active in hopes of exciting young community members to join the department.

The initial initiative resulted in four young members of the community join-

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*Current Junior Firefighter Zack Hulbert, past Junior Firefighters who are now active members, Luke Miller and Richard Gunn, and current Junior Firefighter, Bridget Hulbert all pose in front of a Preble Fire Truck.*

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**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](mailto:jdoring@twcny.rr.com)

**Deputy Supervisor:** Peter Knapp- 607-749-2336  
**Town Council:** Debra Brock- 315-696-5549  
Linda Riehlman - 607-749-3790  
Dave Morse- 607-749-2856

**Town Clerk and Tax Collector:**  
Jane Davenport - Phone 607-749-3199  
Email [prebletownclerk@centralny.twcbe.com](mailto:prebletownclerk@centralny.twcbe.com)

**Deputy Town Clerk:** Mary Ann McCloskey

**Town Justice:** Donna Doody - Phone 607-749-2377  
**Justice Clerk:** Haily Doody

**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:** Bill Bearup: 607-423-2558

**Town Attorney:** Donald Armstrong

**Bookkeeper:** Gina Nourse

**County Legislator:** Don Boyden  
Phone: 607-749-8709

**Planning Board:** James Harris, Chairman  
Barbara Albro  
Tim Coyne  
Maureen Knapp  
Jim Seamon  
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  
Jay Currie  
Robert Lieber  
Al Socha  
Nancy Dalley  
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:**  
Mike Compton  
William Underwood  
Charles Dalley  
Bob Allen

**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](http://www.preble-ny.org)  
**Cortland County website:** [www.cortland-co.org](http://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](mailto:laura.doring@yahoo.com)  
Or [jdoring@twcny.rr.com](mailto:jdoring@twcny.rr.com)

# Message From the Supervisor

The harvest is in and the gardens have been put to bed for the winter. As the seasons change, so do our activities. During the coming winter months we will be looking forward to card games, fireman pancake breakfasts, skiing, sledding, snowmobiling, and holiday festivities.

The cover story this issue features our junior firefighters. We are very proud of these young men and women who are investing their time and energy to participate in very extensive training and rigorous work as a volunteer Preble Firefighter. If you see one of these young people on the street be sure to thank them for their service to their community.

The Town of Preble recently hired a new assessor. Bill Bearup started the job on October 1<sup>st</sup>. If you have any questions or issues concerning your assessment, Bill would be pleased to get together with you. His Town Hall hours are from 5 -7pm on the second and fourth Thursday of every month. Bill's contact information is: phone 607-842-6289, cell 607-423-2558, email [blbearup@frontiernet.net](mailto:blbearup@frontiernet.net).

On October 16, there was an open house for our newest corporate neighbor, Northeast Transformers, Inc. They bought the BestDeck building, which was originally occupied by Saulsbury Fire Apparatus. State Senator Jim Seward spoke and offered additional State funds for the company to expand their Preble facility. With the expansion, Northeast Transformers anticipates adding ten net new jobs over the next two years. Management took visitors on plant tours so the public could learn more about their business and view the extensive renovations they did to the building.

The Town Board has completed the annual budget for 2014. The Town tax rate will be \$1.21 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. This is a rise of 2 cents from last year. The reason for this tax rate rise is that the assessed value of the property in Preble dropped from \$89,069,612 last year to 87,310,780 this year. This drop of \$1,758,832 is not a result of your home and land decreasing in value. It is a direct result of the Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreements negotiated between the Cortland County Industrial Development Agency and two recent corporate arrivals, Suit-Kote and Northeast Transformers. Since their payments in lieu of taxes are lower than the taxes they would



*Jim Doring, Supervisor*

normally pay, there is an adjustment in assessed valuation. As the assessed value drops, the tax rate rises. After speaking to the Cortland County Real Property office, they told me that this is the adjustment for the PILOT agreements and that we would not see a further reduction of assessed valuation next year.

I recently contacted NYSDOT seeking status on the I-81 bridge work. Field Engineer, Jim Dussing, assured me that the work is on schedule. On November 11<sup>th</sup> they will be closing the northbound lane and using a crossover to route the traffic. This condition will exist for fourteen days and end on November 25<sup>th</sup>. At this time the northbound lane will be in place. Additional work will be done under and around the bridge until December 15, on which day Preble road will be reopened. They will make sure that there is enough room available for snow plowing. If we have mild weather during the winter, they will start preparations for the southbound lane. If we have a harsh winter, they will delay preparations until the end of the winter.

If you are interested in serving our town by sitting on a board or committee, there is plenty of opportunity. Please contact me if you are interested. Should you have any town related questions, please call me at 749-5315 or email me at [jdoring@twcny.rr.com](mailto:jdoring@twcny.rr.com). If I cannot answer your question, I will send you in the right direction to find the appropriate answer.

Have a safe and joyful holiday season.

At Your Service,  
Jim Doring  
Supervisor

# Interview with Pat and Jim Griswold

*Interviewed by Debra Brock*



*Jim and Pat Griswold*

Throughout the years, a good many people have sat at Pat and Jim Griswold's dining table. For many generations, family and friends have shared great fun and have comforted each other through the hard times around the table. For a few years, those who found themselves outside of the law found a seat at the table, waiting for justice to be served. Today we're seated at the table, sipping cider and enjoying the autumn view. From this vantage, it's easy to understand why Pat and Jim's table could be thought of as the very heart of Preble.

Jim and Pat had much in common in their young years. Pat was the second of seven children born to Leona and Robert Stone, a dairy family. She remembers growing up with parents who encouraged the family to enjoy their lives. Even when times were tough, their mother and daddy took such good care of the kids. They always had a lot of fun.

Jim's parents, Earl and Clara Griswold, lived on the farm on West Bennet Hollow now farmed by David and Connie Griswold. In good weather, Jim and his siblings walked more than a mile to attend the Preble School, now the Town Hall. At lunch, they would walk to "uptown" Preble to Gramma and Grandpa Root's house for lunch. Gramma never let them start back to the school until the passenger train whistle blew when it went through Preble. In bad weather, their father would take them to school in the horse and wagon.

Pat and Jim met at a mutual friend's wedding in 1956. A year later, they were wed and took up house keeping in Gramma and Granddad Root's home on NYS Route 281, where Pat and Jim still reside. They had much work to do, as the home hadn't been lived in for years. It was a labor of love that Pat says is ongoing. There are just a few more things left to do on the house...

Their home in Preble has been a wonderful place to raise their five children; Peggie, Renee, Jim, Jeff and Joe. Preble is just outside the hustle of the city (Cortland) and yet close enough to enjoy all anyone wants that the city can offer. The Griswold kids enjoyed growing up in Preble. Peggie was active in Girl Scouts, with Esther Winslow and Jinny Griswold as Troop leaders. Peggie was active in 4-H, too. Pat has great fun thinking of the 4-H Club she and June Knapp led called the Preblites, where members learned about electric and wiring projects. Renee had her horse and studied agility training with her dogs in the Pals and Wags 4-H club with Karen Haight. The boys had many 4-H projects, including animals, learning to sew carpenter aprons and gardening. One 4-H project son Jim had was a cow named Antoinette. She took ribbons at the fair, and then became part of the family, providing milk and butter. The Griswold family has always had animals; a beeper named Sparky, rabbits, a horse named Lulubelle and many beloved cats

and dogs through the years. The family tapped maple trees for syrup, kept bee hives for honey and grew gardens and orchards, all part of the good country life Preble offers. 4-H, Girls Scouts, and the church all played an important role as Jim and Pat guided their children into adulthood. The family went to St. Margaret's in Homer then, and still do. Pat has been a member for over 65 years.

All through their lives, Pat and Jim have worked. Jim worked on the farm for thirty years. When he changed jobs, he worked in construction for a while. He then worked for the NYS Department of Transportation on the night shift which included plowing snow in the winter. Jim drove for Preble Milk Co-op for some years, too. He and Pat also owned the Preble Laundromat, operating from the building just north of their home from 1966 to 1980.

Pat's first job was in Cortland at the Girl Scouts of America. She caught the Greyhound bus to work each day and walked three blocks in high heels to the GSA office. Secretarial work required dressing up in those days. She also worked for thirteen years at Little York Plantation in the 1980s, starting when the business was young.

Their work also included positions in public service. Jim was Preble Highway Superintendent for several years.

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*The Griswold family. In the back row are: Son-in-law Ed Miller, daughter Peggie, Pat, Jim, and son Jim. In the front row are: sons Joe and Jeff, and daughter Renee.*

## Junior Firefighters (Cont'd)

ing the department. Those members are Ethan Allen, Alex Dalley, Richard Gunn and Derek Sisson. Since that time, seven more young men and women have joined the junior ranks of the department. Those members are Jason Stevens, Zack Libbey, Nate Delles, Bridget Hulbert, Luke Miller, Zack Hulbert and Andrew Schrauben.

To be considered for the junior ranks, the youth has to be at least sixteen and not reached their eighteenth birthday yet. The Department also accepts youth between the ages of fourteen until their sixteenth birthday to be pre-junior firefighters. The difference being that the junior firefighters can participate in trainings, they can take State, County and local fire courses but are limited in their participation at actual emergency scenes. This limitation is restricted due to Insurance Regulations. Although New York State allows firefighters over the age of sixteen to be Interior Certified, the department policies and Insurance Regulations do not allow this until they are eighteen. The pre-junior members can only observe trainings and perform tasks around the station such as assist with fundraising events, and help with cleaning and maintaining equipment. They have to remain at the station during emergency calls but can help put gear and equipment back after calls as well as wash the vehicles. The department also only allows five junior members at one time. This policy is in place so that the juniors are always supervised to avoid careless property damage or personal injury.

When interviewing the junior members as to why they joined the department, there are three common responses: I want to learn how to help people, there's not a lot for kids to do in Preble so I wanted to find something productive to do, and I have family in the department.

Of the eleven juniors that have joined the department, six members, Ethan Allen, Alex Dalley, Richard Gunn, Jason Stevens, Derek Sisson and Bridget Hulbert have completed the Cortland County Boot Camp training program. This program consists of over 150 hours of training. When they completed this training they received completion certificates from the New York

State Office of Fire Prevention and Control for six different core firefighting courses. These courses are the same courses that career firefighters in paid departments complete during their fire academy. With that in mind, this is a real accomplishment since they completed this training while juggling high school courses and maintaining their grades.

Derek Sisson and Zack Libbey have become inactive while away serving in the military. Alex Dalley, Nate Delles and Andrew Schrauben are presently away at college but are sure to help out in any way they can when they are home. Ethan Allen has risen to the rank of Fire Captain and has finished Firefighter II training as well as FAST training, an advanced interior rescue training. Richard Gunn works locally and has also completed the Firefighting II and FAST courses. Jason Stevens has shown an interest in the medical side and is currently enrolled in an Emergency Medical Responder course. Luke Miller is a senior in high school and is active in trainings and details. Bridget Hulbert, one of the two current juniors, is in 11th grade and anxiously awaits her eighteenth birthday so that she can become interior certified according to department regulations. Zack Hulbert, the other junior, is in 10th grade and attends many trainings and details. He is waiting patiently to turn sixteen so he can participate more and learn by doing.

The junior program has strengthened the Preble Fire Department and the youth that have been involved have had a very positive effect on the Department. The juniors get the training so that when they reach the age of eighteen they can become active members and an immediate asset to the department and the community. As a result of implementing the Junior Firefighting Program, the department now has ten members that are thirty years old or younger.

At the present time, the department has only two junior members. The department is looking for new junior members as well as regular members. For information on how to join, stop by the fire station most any Monday night around 7:00 p.m., contact one of our present members, call 607-749-4237, or email [preblefiredepartment@yahoo.com](mailto:preblefiredepartment@yahoo.com).

## Griswold (Cont'd)

He also served as Preble Justice of the Peace for fifteen years, with Pat by his side as Court Clerk. In those days, court sessions were held in the Griswold's home. On occasion, some of those coming before the court were handcuffed to their dining room chairs. There were also times of happiness when Jim performed weddings in their den, officially witnessed by Griswold family members when needed. The most memorable marriage ceremony he performed was for his son Jim and Teena when they wed 30 years ago.

Volunteering for public service has been a very large part of Pat and Jim's daily work through the years. Jim served with the Preble Fire Department for sixty-five years, starting when he was 21 years old. He also served as a Preble Fire Commissioner for 21 years. His service included eleven years as a Preble Town Board Council member, missing only one meeting in those 11 years. Jim still attends the Preble Town Board meetings religiously. Pat was a founding member of the Preble Garden Club and has served with the Preble Fire Auxiliary for fifty years. She is still active with those groups. Pat says she's busier now than when she 'worked'. Ten grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren help keep her on her toes.

When asked about Preble's future, Pat hopes the community will always have a place to meet on a daily basis, as they do now at the Post Office. She also encourages all of us to exercise our right and responsibility to vote, which will keep the Town of Preble running smoothly. As a former highway superintendent, Jim hopes the town of Preble will build a new DPW Garage. Based on his personal experience, he feels the town needs an updated facility to continue the level of service people in Preble deserve and have come to expect.

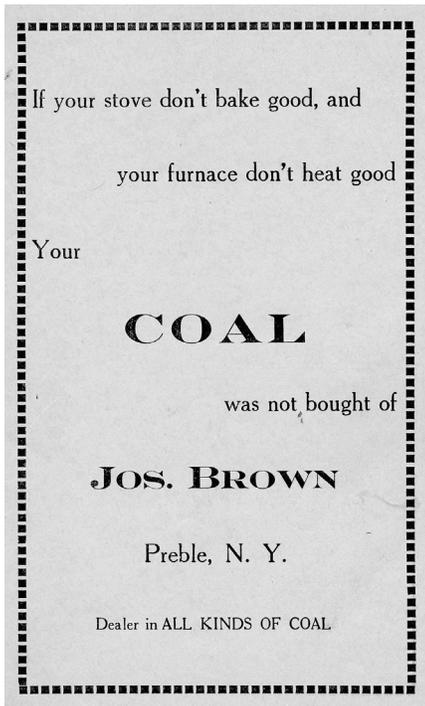
In Pat's words 'We've had lots of opportunities to travel outside of Preble. We've been to Puerto Rico, Germany and on many bus trips, but it's always a welcome sight when we see the church steeple and the Preble sign. We then know the trip is over and we can settle in back home in our beautiful Preble Valley'.

We thank Jim and Pat for all of their service to the Town of Preble and the community, and wish them many more good times seated around the dining room table.

# Historian Notes

by Ann Henderson

## Early Businesses of Preble



*An Ad for the Joseph Brown Coal*

In 1863 Preble had many business places offering their wares and services to townspeople. There was no I-81 or NYS Route 281 back then. It was a trip by horse and wagon to the nearest town.

A doctor was always needed and we had Dr. P. H. Burdick. C.D. Finner was a dealer in dry goods, groceries, hardware, crockery, boots, shoes, hats, caps, paints, oils, and drugs. You could do one stop shopping at his store. Robert Connine was the Town Clerk, and a boot and shoemaker. William Van Denburg built the first tavern in the Preble Village just east of the present Preble Hotel. Other names of early merchants were Markhams, VanBuskirk, VanHoesen, and Burdick.

Moving up to the 1930's and 1940's we find names of merchants that may be familiar to residents today. Jess Gardner had a blacksmith shop. The Preble Garage near Steger Road was operated by Harley

French, Les Bartholomew, Jim Householder, Cal Currie and Bob Johnson over the years. The Moulton family had a grocery store (Red/White) near the corner. Chris Aungier sold farm implements from his home which was right across the street from our fire station. The Preble Hotel has been doing business in the same place for years and years.

Harry Green ran the Preble Store located at the end of Steger Road and Preble Road for many years. His son, Alton, worked in the store from boyhood and in 1947 or thereabouts, he turned it over to his son, Kenneth Green. They ran the store for many more years. You could go buy groceries, pick up your mail at the post office in the back of the store, and visit with friends and neighbors for a while. Those were the days!

Crossing over to the east side of town, we would find the home of John Moss, who was an excellent meat cutter. He would butcher and package your meat at his shop. Across the road, by the church, JK Henderson started selling sleights and buggies, and then expanded into farm equipment. His daughter in-law, Doris Henderson, had a beauty shop in her home across the way.

Bob Knapp was a farmer, but also dealt in the sale of cabbage. Cabbage was

a big business in the town. Nearly every farmer grew large crops of cabbage. The income from the cabbage crop helped to supplement their milk checks.

Going down by the tracks, there was a cheese factory. Joe Brown sold coal and was also the station master at the railroad. A.L. VanHousen & Son ran the Tioughnioga Valley Feed Store. It was started by Frank Corl. Preston Plank had a barber shop in his home, just a short distance from the Preble Milk Co-op. Storage houses for cabbage were also in this area near the tracks.

Over in Baltimore, back in the 1800s, there was a tannery, the first post office for the Preble area, and the first school on the corner of East Hill. Many of you remember the little Baltimore Store. A Mr. Ryan started it followed by Knapp, the Fields Family, and lastly by Ray and Nellie Gardner. You could buy groceries, meats, very good cheese, a newspaper, and ice cream. It is now a private residence. Across the road, Art Goodwin had a Sinclair gas station. The company logo, which was a large, real life looking, dinosaur would catch your eye when you drove by.

Heading south on Route 11 to Slab City, there was Clayton Smith who had a lumber mill. He would also make cider for customers who brought their apples to him in the fall. Back up Route 11 to the north, we come to the Vormwald's Turkey Farm which was a busy business, especially at holiday times. Just beyond there, was a small restaurant located very close to the road called the Rural grill. Up near the "Y" on Route 11, Harold Hoefler operated a small tea room/restaurant called The Crossing.

These are a few of the business places in our town that I have been trying to get some history on. If I've forgotten any, please let me know. This is information we need to get recorded for others to be informed about. It is part of our town's history. Next time, I will be telling you about what changed in Preble when NYS Route 281 and I-81 came through our town.

QTY.	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	AMOUNT
			\$ 35

*Receipt from the Tioughnioga Valley Feed Store for Elmwood Cemetery dated 8/31/50*



*Paul Stepien and Gary Lawrence stand behind items donated to the Preble Fire Department. Receiving the equipment on behalf of the fire department were Stacey Griswold, 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Chief and Mike Compton, Chief.*

## Special Thanks from the Fire Department

The Preble Fire Department extends a special thanks to the Little York Lake Association for their recent donation. The association collaborated with the fire department to equip their rescue boat with water safety equipment which will enable the department to better serve the community and guests as they enjoy the many lakes in and around the Preble Fire District. The donation was presented to the department by Little York Lake Association President, Paul Stepien, and Vice President, Gary Lawrence, at the annual C-OFOKLA picnic in September. This collaboration and gift goes a long way in improving our water rescue capabilities. We cannot thank them enough. They were a pleasure to work with and we greatly appreciate their support.

## The Town of Preble Record Management Project

In August, the Town Board received a report on our records management project from Karen Q. Snyder, Town Clerk/Collector, Town of Cortlandville. In early April of 2013, Jane Davenport contacted Karen Snyder to assist her with the organizing and identification of town records housed in the town's vault and within the open office area.

An assessment of the area found that the vault is in good condition and properly sized for the Town Hall. With proper utilization, there should be adequate room to store records now and in the future for all departments.

### Recommendations are:

- The Justice records should be properly identified and purged, if applicable, with permission from the NYS Unified Court System. By doing this the Justice shelving area would be freed up.
- The Zoning and Code Enforcement personnel are strongly recommended to look through records and dispose of any duplicate documents. This would free up valuable shelf space for them. With the organization of the vault records, this should be an easy task as these records will be located together.
- The renovated basement can be utilized for storage of purgeable records and non-vault items and or equipment.
- The dehumidifier in the basement should be checked biweekly or weekly for proper operation in order to keep the basement as dry as possible. The existing air conditioner in the vault should be replaced with a more energy efficient one.
- Fireproof file cabinets could be purchased

and housed in the town's office area for the departments needing them (i.e. Justice, Town Clerk, CEO, Assessor). These cabinets should be used for active records as the vault should be used for permanent and inactive non purgeable records.

- An office space should be provided for the Town Historian, as this individual is an integral part of the town. This would free up valuable space in the vault for more shelving, map drawers and working file cabinets.
- Broken file cabinets in the vault should be disposed of. This again would free up valuable space in the vault for more shelving, map drawers and working file cabinets. A fireproof file cabinet is not necessary for a vault. Only if preferred.
- Mouse traps should be put into place in the vault. The area should be sealed if found where rodent(s) are entering.
- A town policy should be put in place for departments to understand their records and the purpose of those records. The policy should help the departments understand how the records are to be identified and who is responsible for the final result of these records.

Karen stated 'It is always exciting to see the progress with a project and we thank you for thinking we could be of some assistance to you and the town. The Town of Preble has the equipment, space and individuals interested in the organization, preservation, cataloging and purging of applicable records. Placing a policy in effect will keep these records moving by pre-

serving and purging yearly in an orderly fashion'.

The Preble Town Board is in the process of taking action on the recommendations, including adoption of the record keeping protocol. The Town Board extended sincere thanks to Karen Snyder, Karen Livingston and Jane Davenport for their efforts.

## Town of Preble Sustainability Plan

### Focus on Energy

The Town of Preble, in conjunction with Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board, has formed a committee to craft the Town of Preble Sustainability Plan 2013, Focus on Energy. Committee members are working with Amanda Sopchak and Sam Gordon of CNYRPDB to determine goals that can be set for the community and action plans that can help the Town reach the goals. Committee members include Jim Doring, Tarki Heath, Evelyn Petit, Deb Brock and Jeff Griswold. The committee is the first step in planning for Preble's future in regard to energy efficiencies and mitigation of climate change impacts. Impacts to forests, agriculture, human, plant and animal health, recreational opportunities, infrastructure and land use are included in the Plan. The committee welcomes input from Preble residents. Please contact Deb Brock at [dbrock1@twcny.rr.com](mailto:dbrock1@twcny.rr.com) or 315-696-5549 for further explanation or comments.

# Save Our Steeple Project Preble Town

## Events

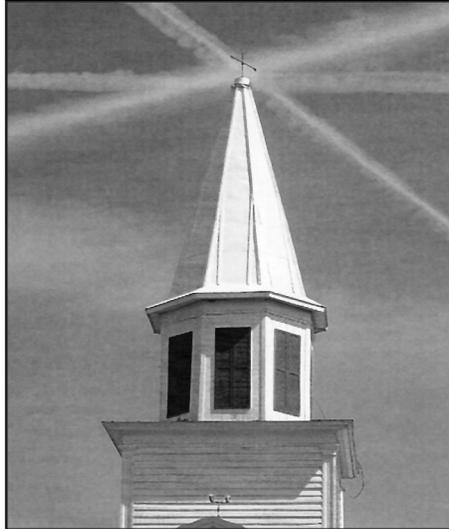
The Preble Congregational Church has adopted the famous SOS distress signal for their Save Our Steeple fund raising project. This past summer, the church trustees discovered several structural deficiencies in the steeple which have caused a noticeable tilt of the bell tower and a bulging of an outer wall. In late June, a professional engineer studied the steeple structure and provided specific recommendations for corrective action to restore the structural integrity. From three qualified bids, an experienced contractor was selected and the restoration work began in October.

The one hundred eighty-three year old church is listed on the New York State and Federal Registers of Historic places and is an iconic tribute to rural community living. Its steeple is a beacon of light to those who travel I-81 and nearby roads during the evening and nighttime hours. A well-recognized landmark of the town of Preble, the church and its steeple are beloved and treasured by parishioners and townspeople alike.

Repairs and upgrades are being financed through a special fund-raising campaign which was launched in September. The church trustees wish to thank the many church members, community friends, and area businesses who have already helped raise over 50% of the contracted

cost of repairs. Though the work is expected to be completed in November, the fund-raising campaign will continue as long as needed.

For more information on the Save Our Steeple Project or to respond to the call for help, contact an SOS committee member at 749-2844 or 749-7137.



*Preble's landmark steeple*

### Cabin Fever Pitch

The Preble Fire Department Auxiliary will host a series of "Cabin fever" Pitch card games on Saturday evenings throughout the winter. Come and bring a friend. The games begin at 7:00 p.m. Refreshments served. \$2.00 donation per person. Prizes !!!

*November 16, 2013*

*December 14, 2013*

*January 11 & 25, 2014*

*February 8 & 22, 2014*

*March 8 & 22, 2014*

*April 12 & 19, 2014*

### Pancake Breakfast

The Preble Fire Department invites you to enjoy their Pancake Breakfast at the station on the following dates.

*November 24, 2013*

*January 26, 2014*

*February 23, 2014*

*March 30, 2014*

*Time: 7:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.*

### Chicken BBQ

The Fire Department will be serving BBQ chicken on:

*March 9, 2014*

*11:00 a.m. until gone.*

## Recreation Department

There was good participation for the Cake Contest held on Community Day back on August 3rd. The judges were Brad Baldwin, Jim Doring, and Sue Whiteman. The first place winner was Kristie Pitman, age 12. Second place went to Pat Griswold, and third place went to Lindsay Sears, age 17. Congratulations to all the winners and thanks to all who participated.

## Building Permits Fall 2013 Report

<u>Date</u>	<u>Property Owner</u>	<u>Notes</u>
04/22/2013	Mark & Audrey Fairchild	Storage shed 12' x 24'
04/29/2013	Kevin Stack	Shed
05/06/2013	Nancy & Charles Dalley	Pellet Stove
05/06/2013	David Barrows	Post and rail fence
05/06/2013	Michael Caughey	Pool
05/06/2013	Mirabito Energy Products	Bulk Propane Tank
05/06/2013	Carl Grillo	24' x 28' wood deck
05/13/2013	Andrew Kendall	Deck
06/17/2013	Geraldine Compton	Roof and porch
06/17/2013	Gary and Carol Harris	30' x 40' Pole Barn
06/22/2013	David Barrows	Storage shed 8' x 16'
08/12/2013	Donna Evans	Shed
08/12/2013	Donna Evans	Demo garage & kitchen
08/12/2013	Michael Fry	Deck and garage
09/09/2013	Scott Kennedy	Addition pole barn
09/09/2013	Richard Martin	Replace support beam
09/09/2013	Susan Congdon	Fence
09/16/2013	Preble UCC Church	Repair bell tower
09/16/2013	Terry Orr	Addition
09/23/2013	Sam Colombo	Sun room 20' x 20'
09/30/2013	Keith Taber	Fence
10/07/2013	AT&T	Fiber upgrade

*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 be reached by phone at 607-591-9898.*

# C - O F O K L A News

*By Tarki Heath*

The Cortland-Onondaga Federation of Kettle Lake Associations had another active year. C-OFOKLA is a coalition of lake associations that includes Crooked Lake, Little York Lake, Song Lake and Tully Lake. Our continued thanks goes to the Town of Tully for their ongoing support in providing the Tully Town Hall as the venue for most of our meetings. Our good fortune also rests in the generosity of the speakers who donate their time and expertise to share their knowledge with us.

We started our season with a presentation in March by Justin Gansowski. Justin is a wildlife disease biologist with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and Wildlife Services. He clearly explained to us how feral swine in New York can have tremendous negative impacts on native plants, wildlife, livestock, agriculture, and humans. Feral swine have been located in and are impacting both Onondaga and Cortland Counties. Justin's fascinating presentation explained what feral swine are and how they were introduced, why they are invasive and the specific issues they present as well as the difficulties in eradicating or reducing their numbers.

Our April presentation: Unconventional Gas Development from Shale Plays: Myths and Realities with speaker, Professor Tony Ingraffea was too large for our usual venue, so we remain truly grateful that Tully Elementary School was available for this talk. Tony Ingraffea is the Dwight C. Baum Prof. of Engineering and a Weiss Presidential Teaching Fellow at Cornell University. He kept the audience fully engaged as he explored some myths and realities concerning large-scale development of the unconventional natural gas resource in shale deposits. His discussion included local and global impacts, and green alternatives. Prior to his presentation, we again were fortunate to have State University of NY – Environmental Science and Forestry – Limnology students present their exciting work with our lakes.

Our June presentation was again, standing room only, for Scott Kishbaugh. Scott has been the Director of the New York Department of Environmental Conservation Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program

since 1985. He currently serves as the Bureau Chief of the Lakes Monitoring and Assessment Section of the Bureau of Water Assessment Management. He is the senior author of the book *Diet for a Small Lake: A New Yorkers Guide to Lake Management*. Scott serves on advisory panels for the Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program, the NYS Federation of Lake Associations, and the USEPA Nutrient Criteria Development program. His presentation, while tailored for our kettle lakes, presented important information on all of the lakes in NYS.

Our August speaker, and neighbor, Kevin Stack, presented: *Biomimicry – “The Conscious Emulation of Nature’s Genius”*. Kevin is an ecological builder, building scientist, and ecoliteracy educator. Kevin first described the innovation of Ecological Performance Standards, as part of the uniquely adaptable Building in Nature’s Image™ system. Kevin teaches at SUNY ESF and OCC, and lectures, internationally, as a Biomimicry Speakers Guild member. His perspectives on building and design were appreciated for their ecological importance and beauty.

The weather could not have been better for our September, C-OFOKLA Water Festival and Picnic at Little York Lake Pavilion. This year we thank the Little York Lake Homeowners Association, for hosting the event, Colleen Kattau for the inspiring music, and all the lakes for their participation.

The final presentation took place at Camp Hoover, Song Lake. We began in Fern Lodge with a presentation on Forestry Pests by Professor Mark Whitmore from Cornell University: a leading expert in Forest Ecology, Biological Control of Forest Insect Pests, Forest Entomology and Non-Native Invasive Forest Pests. He specifically discussed the impact of the emerald ash borer and hemlock woolly adelgid. Again, blessed with a gorgeous day, we enjoyed a walking field trip in the beautiful woods at Camp Hoover.

With our goal of education for the community we have hosted several educational presentations over the years. We will continue to present speakers in 2014, and will have those announced at our website along with a full list of past presentations, with notes and some downloads.

For those who are new to our group, the objectives of the coalition are to: pool local resources, to provide an organized approach to grant writing, to improve educational programming, and to improve regional efficiency by working together on mutual goals: collaborate on efforts to improve and protect water quality: research and when possible, to implement cooperative lake improvement projects: provide educational literature and opportunities to participating lake associations: support efforts to secure private, local, state, and federal funds for lake management programs: seek the support of local, county, and state agencies to develop and implement water quality management programs: provide environmental awareness within and beyond the lake boundaries: act and support efforts to address any adverse conditions affecting the quality of our water.

To find out more about our Speakers Series and C-OFOKLA, go to our website: [www.cofokla.org](http://www.cofokla.org). To help us out and become an active participant, contact Tarki Heath at 315-696-5262 or Karen Lang at (607) 423-4653, or send an email to [cofokla@gmail.com](mailto:cofokla@gmail.com).

## Bald Eagle Sightings

*by Jo LoCasio*

It was August 25, 2010, my niece's birthday. We were celebrating on the deck at Song Lake when one of her friends said, "There's a bald eagle in that tree across the lake". Most of us thought it was an osprey. The binoculars proved us wrong. My niece thought it was the best birthday present ever. The next year we saw an eagle again in August, circling, landing in trees along Camp Hoover's shore, often flying off to the north with fish in its talons. Then in 2012, there were two eagles circling together, riding the air currents and looking beautiful. This year, there were three. We are assuming they are a happy family. Our guests have spent many happy hours watching them catch and eat fish along the Girl Scout's shore. My niece continues to spend each new birth