

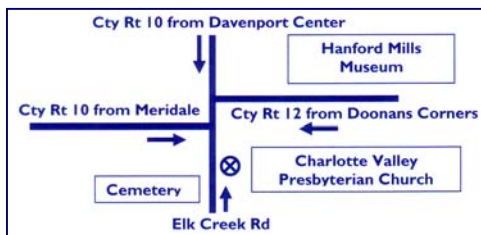
# Meredith Historical Society



Haying on the flat below Meredith Square during the Meridale Farms era.  
Photo courtesy Wilfred Jurjens.

## Program Schedule for 2008

The Meredith Historical Society cordially invites you to attend its programs and events which are open to the public, free of charge. The programs will be held at 7 pm at the Charlotte Valley Presbyterian Church in East Meredith, New York. The church is located on Elk Creek Road in the village of East Meredith just south of the intersection of Delaware County routes 10 and 12 approximately across from the cemetery, as shown in the diagram below.



Meredith Historical Society, P.O. Box 26, Meridale, NY 13806 is a non-profit educational corporation. Membership forms are available at all of our programs. Further information or forms may be obtained by phoning 607-746-8083. Your membership or donation is important to the success of the Meredith Historical Society and the preservation of Meredith's history.

MONDAY, April 7

7 pm

## Geological History of the Catskills

Robert Titus, Ph.D.

Hartwick College Geology Professor Robert Titus will speak on the geological history of the Catskill Mountains describing the ancient oceans and landscapes that are preserved in the bedrock of our mountains. Dr. Titus is known for his remarkable ability to communicate Catskill geological history to the public. We probably know him best through his articles that have appeared in *Kaatskill Life*, but he has also authored three books, The Catskills in the Ice Age, The Catskills: A Geological Guide and The Other Side of Time: Essays by "The Catskill Geologist".

Thursday, May 1

7 pm

## Annual Meeting and Miss New York 2007

Elisabeth Baldanza

Miss New York 2007 is Elisabeth Baldanza, a native of East Meredith. In this program, Miss Baldanza will speak to us about her time growing up in the area, her career as a dancer, her participation with the Miss America reality show on The Learning Channel, her experience at the Miss America Pageant, and most importantly, she will also discuss the work she has been doing all year meeting students in schools to help them find a worthy role model in themselves and not from the headlines. Because of limited seating, admission to this event is by reservation only with priority given to members of Meredith Historical Society. For reservations, call 607-746-8083 or 607-746-7288.

We will hold our annual business meeting immediately prior to Miss Baldanza's program. The primary purpose of this meeting is to elect officers and trustees for the coming year and to provide the membership with a brief update of the status of the society.

Thursday, June 5

7 pm

## The Catskills: an American Oracle

William Thompson, Ph.D.

From Dutch dreams of gold to the contemporary search for green employment opportunities, the Catskill Mountains are not merely another manifestation of the American spirit, but invariably led the way. As Professor Thompson's pictorial review demonstrates, over the last 300 years the Catskills gave birth to American romanticism and art, alternative life styles, cable TV, cheap vacations, pollution and its solution, and even the National Bureau of Statistics. As the mountains and its people now face one of its sternest tests, this review suggests that they will once again play their part in the continent's future. Dr. Thompson is Criminal Justice professor at SUNY, Delhi.

Friday, June 27

11 am

## Field Trip to Arkell Museum in Canajoharie

Emily Marlin

The NEW Arkell Museum of Art recently doubled the size of the original two-room gallery and has a wonderful collection of American paintings. It also has a selection from its Mohawk Valley History collection. (Sr. admission \$5) Car pool at 11 am from Price Chopper in Oneonta, or drive on your own, stopping enroute for a noon lunch (on your own) at the American Hotel, Sharon Springs. For information and reservations call Emily Marlin at 607-746-7288.

Thursday, July 10

7 pm

## Development of Firearms from the Civil War to the mid-1930s

William Holland

The development of smokeless powder during the latter half of the 19th century had many advantages over black powder but necessitated a redesign of firearms. In this program, William Holland will discuss how the design of firearms evolved from the end of the Civil War to the mid-1930s as a result of the invention of smokeless powder. Examples of firearms from muzzle loaders to the M1 rifle will be shown to illustrate these changes.

Friday, August 15

Noon

## Field Trip: Old Telephone Museum in Hobart

Emily Marlin

Jim Barr of Hobart, a member of the Antique Telephone Collectors Association, has a fabulous collection of over 250 telephones that he will show us at 1 pm in his garage museum at 168 Maple Avenue. We will first meet at noon for a light lunch of sandwiches and dessert (BYO beverage) at the Hobart Community Center on Cornell Avenue near the Fire Department. For information and reservations call Emily Marlin at 607-746-7288.

Thursday, August 7

7 pm

## Delaware County History 101

Tim Duerden

Tim Duerden is the director of the Delaware County Historical Association and author of the recent book, A History of Delaware County NY 1797 – 2007. Land use is at the fore of this tale of our remote upland county, once the haunt of Native Americans and the subsequent home of numerous European-American groups. Each group settled the region with its own particular needs to be derived from the land and eventually land use issues came to dominate our local history. This is documented by the stories of the Anti-Rent War, the construction of the railroads and highways through the region and eventually the creation of the two reservoirs for New York's thirsty millions. Exactly how our land is to be best utilized is, of course, very much a part of our present.

Thursday, September 4

7 pm

## Meredith Folks

Bernice Graham-Telian

**PEOPLE**— they make history and genealogy interesting. They teach us the characteristics and habits of the times and leave us rich endless stories; otherwise, very little would be known. How interesting is a list of names, or a headstone, if you don't know something personal about the name? Bernice Graham Telian, Meredith Historian, will present several early Meredith family stories, with interesting props, roles and recitations.

Thursday, October 2

7 pm

## 1930s Milk Strikes in Central New York

Edythe Ann Quinn, PhD

Hartwick College History Professor Edythe Ann Quinn has carried out extensive research on the 1930s milk strikes in central New York, including Delaware County. Her program will detail the history of the strikes, especially the 1933 and 1937 strikes, utilizing newspaper accounts and oral histories. She will describe the economic struggles of dairy farmers during the depression and the formation and activism of the Dairy Farmers Union. Members of the audience who remember the milk strikes will be encouraged to share their recollections.

Thursday, November 6

7 pm

## Running with the Compass: Exploring Early Maps

Frank M. Waterman

This program explores early survey maps of the Franklin and Whitesborough Patents that were drawn around 1800. These maps include most of the town of Meredith and the town of Delhi north of the Delaware River. While intended to show the subdivision of the land into farm lots, these colorful and artistic maps include many other fascinating features such as the roads and bridges that existed at the time, as well as the locations of the homesteads of early settlers, inns, and mills in this sparsely settled region. These early maps will be compared with 1907-1909 survey maps, and present day maps of the same region showing how the roads and settlements have changed in approximately 100 year intervals.