SENIOR MOMENTS

Vol. I No. 8 February 2009

Coming Events

Mon., Feb. 23, 2009
Senior Breakfast 8-9am - $4.00
Scrambled eggs\ham\home fries
Biscuit\juice

Wed., Feb. 25, 2009
Monthly Birthday Party with lunch

Thurs., Feb. 26, 2009
Jersey Boys – Leave at 12:00pm
(Sold out)

Mon., Mar. 9, 2009
Batavia Casino-Leave at 9:00am
Return at 2:00pm. Sign Up required

Tues., Mar. 17, 2009
St. Patrick's Day Celebration at 11:00am

Every day is a good day to visit the Senior Center!

Getting to Know You

June Doud

"Almost born in an elevator" were June's mother's words of her birth. She was #3 in the family of 3 girls and a boy. Her first classroom was a one-room schoolhouse on Buffalo Road. June said she acquired a police record at the tender age of 2½ when along with playmates (the oldest a 5 year old) decided to go to a candy store on Clinton Avenue. They were picked up by police after becoming lost. The newspaper headline read "You should have seen them bawl". When asked their names, the 5 year old answered "I'm Nancy, but I don't know who they are". Of course, it was a happy ending with ice-cream cones for all.

Another adventure on Buffalo Road was a run-in with a turkey while delivering a pie to a neighbor living across the road. He came after June,

pecking at her legs as she ran. Needless to say the pie didn't survive the attack. The only turkey June likes, to this day, is one served on a platter.

Once, she and her sister were given a dime by a man from Harris Seed Company. Their home was next to Harris Seed land. They decided to bury their treasure in the field for safekeeping, marking it with a cross. Their shock came later when the field was plowed and no markers could be found. When the story came out, they were rewarded with a quarter each for their loss.

The family moved to Kendall, NY, where June graduated from high school. She started working for the Rochester Manpower organization in the Accounting Dept. Future husband, Russ, was a Navy buddy of her cousin. The two came home from New Jersey together, on leave. On February 28, 1958, a family wedding was held in Norfolk, VA. They will always remember the truck driver, a stranger to them, who presented a cake with the words "Be happy, Russ and June".

June became the typical 1950's "happy-homemaker". She was upset to learn that her ironing skills did not include a Navy uniform. After proudly showing Russ the beautiful crease down the front of his white dress pants, she learned that not only are they never creased in front, but are ironed inside out, flat, with side creases. Even more important, she learned that her new husband had a good sense of humor.

They became parents of a son, adopted at 11 years old. He was training to be a paralegal and a lover of football when he was killed in a tragic accident at age 29. Ironically, the drunk driver responsible, was an under-coach for a Pro-football team.

Their professional lives included many jobs and moves to new locations. While Russ took part in the evacuation of Lebanon and spent 13 months in Viet Nam, June was working in Connecticut for the Navy Department. In the 10 years spent with the Navy Department, she worked he way up to Supervisor of the Receipt Control branch. She was located on a submarine base where supplies were made ready for deployment of personnel for 3 to 6 month stretches. One incident illustrated how important every-day items became in this situation. There was huge concern when on-order soy sauce did not arrive until close to departure. Before the order was loaded, June added her own touch---fake vomit! Ever since those years on a sub base, where June saw, first-hand, how appreciated items from home became, she has stayed aware and ready to help coordinate efforts, We were grateful for her knowledge when we had our own collection for the troops here at the Senior Center this fall.
After 20 years in the Navy, Russ retired and went to work for the Border Patrol, assisted by a "drug-sniffing" dog. He was assigned to Houghton, ME and then the New York/Canadian border. In 1982, when they were transferred to the West Coast, Russ was assigned to LAX. June applied for Civil Service status while living in Torrence, CA. She was hired for the Contractor Administrative Assistant position, in the Defense Department, due to the

diversity of her work at Manpower in Rochester and on the submarine base. Their contracts were largely with Allied Signal during the Desert Storm era. Her responsibilities were to ensure that the necessary supplies were available, not delinquent, and that property on loan was returned before the contract was closed. She taught classes to groups "out of desperation" showing her method (using different colored pens) of completing contracts in a systematic manner. Her main goal, while working for the military, was to "keep them safe and happy". Russ retired from US Customs in 1996. June followed in his foot-steps in 1997.

Extended family was living in this part of New York when Russ and June bought a home in Alboin. While spending time at the Senior Center, June was encouraged, by Jim Rich, to take the volunteer position of Treasurer of the Sweden Senior Association, Inc, (formerly known as the Site Council). Nancy Duff and Ricky DeBaun completed the "encouragement". The treasurer's position has been in June's capable hands since 2000. You will find her volunteering behind the front office window every Tuesday if you want to say "Hi". (Submitted by Anita Wicks)

Special Trip

Vesta Teeter and Cora Schrader visited Lucy at the Orleans County Care Center, delivering a wonderful comfort quilt, completed for her by the Senior Center Quilters organization.

Lucy is happy and contented in her new home. Vesta and Cora were impressed with the facility and how well Lucy looked and acted. She would love to have more visiters.

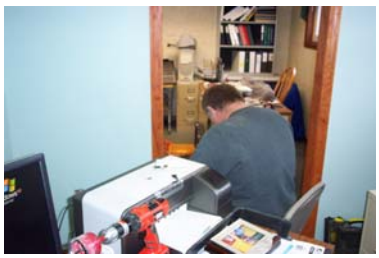
Special Event

The next meeting of the Elderberry Club is February 19, 2009. All the seniors are invited to enjoy Roger Walsh's memories when he speaks to the group after lunch. (approximately 12:30pm) Come join the fun!

Senior Center Staff Notes

Jill is back! She is holding her beautiful grandchild. Boo Hoo, Jill is now located at the Rec Center.

Love this picture of Tracy, Nicole, Tammy, and Megan, taking a short break for Rita's photo op. The lunch bunch appreciate their services.



Changes in the office

A new doorway has been inserted between Dave's office and Bre's. All offices now have glass doors. This is a welcome change.

A big welcome to Breanne "Bre" Spade!

Bre is permanently assigned to the Senior Center. Following is background information in her own words. Read On!

Hi, my name is Breanne Spade. I am originally from Norwich, NY, which is about 3 hours from Brockport. I lived there for the first 18 years of my life with my Mom, Dad, and two sisters. After completing high school I moved to Brockport to complete my Bachelors degree. I received my degree in the spring of 2004, majoring in recreation and leisure studies management, with a minor in dance.

While attending Brockport State I met my husband, Craig Spade, a Brockport native. After dating for 3 years, we decided to get married and settle in this area. In the winter of 2005 we wed at Christ Community Church in Brockport. Our first son, Andrew James, joined us January 5, 2007. That same year, in May, we purchased a home in Hamlin. Much to our surprise, we learned we would be welcoming another member to our family. Our daughter, Makenzie Spade, was born in October, 2008.

My children mean the world to me!!! I love being a mother. Sometimes it is

very hard to work fulltime, be a mother and a wife. I manage somehow. **Without the support of my husband it would not be possible!** My kids are my world. I would not change a single part of my life.

I began working for the Town of Sweden in July of 2005. At first I was a part-time, Recreation Assistant. In January, 2007, I moved up to a fulltime Recreation leader. A year later, January, 2008, I was appointed Recreation Supervisor. My job duties have included working with the tots, youth, teens, adults, and seniors of the community. I have been in charge of tumbling classes, dance classes, risk management issues, the before and after school program, director of the summer camp, instructor for Silver Sneakers programs, advertising, marketing and publications, summer sport camps, education classes, adult leagues, overseeing of all staff, overseeing front desk operations, and much more.

I come to the Sweden Senior Center with a positive and hopeful attitude toward the center and the members I serve. I hope to touch each member in my own way and want to continue to bring goodness into the center. I plan on creating new and exciting programs to keep the center "fresh". One goal I have is to bridge the gap between the baby boomers and current seniors using the senior center. I would also like to see the atmosphere around us be a positive and harmonious one. My wish is to have many happy and healthy years here at the Sweden Senior Center.

Our Senior Years

A Poem by Luella Jennejohn-Higgins

Growing old is not so bad
Just think of all the fun we've had

Parties, proms and movies gal;ore
Now who could ask for anything more?

We seniors are treated like royalty
The four-letter word we like is **F-R-E-E**

A discount here, and coupons there
Planes and trains lower our fare

We're treated kindly if our hair is white
My gosh, we must be doing something right

We can "kick up our heels" and act like a kid
Maybe not so high as we once did

The world is moving fast, we can't slow it down
So just stand proud and be prepared for that Crown.

The crafters are at work on lap robes for seniors at Lakeside-Beikirch Care Center

Going Down Memory Lane

Remember the Sweden Swingers?

What an entertainment group they were! The voices, the instruments!

Back Row, Left to Right:
Chuck Buscemi, Tommy Makim, Nancy Gardner, Chris Barthel, Lillian DuFour, Bill Reardon, Gert Reardon

2nd Row, Left to Right:
Clare Buscemi, Joan Austin, Earl VanCise, Marge VanCise, Jennie Witt, August DuFour

Front Row, Left to Right:
Luella Jennejohn-Higgins, Rod Hershey, Pat Sams

Frank Stremich is missing from the picture. He kept the group going with his energy and organization. The Sweden Swingers performed a great many times in Monroe, Genesee and Orleans counties. Their focus was hospitals and nursing homes. Every July 4th they appeared at Morgan Manning at exactly 12:00pm.

Congratulations, Sweden Swingers, for your many contributions. You are missed!

January Birthday Celebration

The monthly birthday party is back this year!

On Wednesday, January 28, 2009, all January birthdays were celebrated with a luscious cake.

Marilyn Secord represented all the January people. There was enough leftovers for those that missed it .

Valentine's Day Celebration

Our Seniors love to party!

Goody bags with special napkins were given out Wednesday, February 11, 2009 with lunch. Beautiful decorations also contributed to this fun occasion. Since Dottie Coia was enjoying a great vacation, Rita Prevost and Cora Schrader filled in. Thanks Rita and Cora.

PS-All goody bags rapidly disappeared, even the basket of extras. Hummm, me thinks there is a sweet tooth fairy around.

Crafter News

The 1st Thursday each month, Kristine Santillo, from LifeSpan, brings a surprise craft to the Crafters Club. February's surprise was the material to create a beaded key chain. The results were beautiful.

Kristine works with all Senior Centers, particularly ours and in the city, Lyell Ave and Parkway. Kris will be back again the 1st Thursday in March.

Come join the crafters each and every Thursday at 10:00am to enjoy working together on a variety of interesting projects.

Movie Review By Cora

Slumdog Millionaire **Rating: A**

What a fascinating movie! I laughed, cried, became very thoughtful, felt sorrow, and lastly , joy. It is a movie with a great deal of impact. It eventually has a happy ending. I understand why it is up for several academy awards

The movie takes place in Mumbai, India. The lives of 3 children are followed into adulthood. One of the teenagers is on the Indian version of "I want to be a Millionaire". As he given each question there is a flash back to the life experience that gives him the answer.

Please take the time to see this movie.

Cora . . .

Looking for a short-term, part-time Job? The 2010 National Census is look for you. The pay is good-$13.50 an hour. If you might be interested in being a Census Taker, look for the brochures in the Senior Center lobby.

News Letter Staff:

Editor: Cora Schrader
Reporter: Anita Wicks
Photos by: Rita Prevost
Lori Skoog
Cora Schrader

Thanks to our Contributors this month. We could
not do this job without you.

The Focus this month is the Sweden Senior Association, Inc. (SSAI)

The 2008/2009 officers are:
Left to right:
Joan Lavell, Vice President
Joyce Henion, Secretary
June Doud, Treasurer
Gary Skoog, Co-President
Lori Skoog, Co- President

All the officers are active in other areas of the Senior Center. They are committed to the continued success of the center and the activities enjoyed by all the members.

The Sweden Senior Association, Inc. has a history that started in September, 1980, the grand opening of the current Senior Center. Six people decided the new center needed a group to raise funds. These monies would be used to help the seniors and the center with needed improvements.

Over the years the SSAI has had a variety of names, reflecting the growth of the organization and the Senior Center.
1st: Site Council
2nd: Sweden Senior Advisory Council

The council incorporated on March 4, 2005, legally changing to the name of Sweden Senior Association, Inc.

The latest projects are the newsletter "Senior Moments" that you are reading now, the new ice maker, the proposed generator for future emergencies, and the return of the monthly birthday celebrations.

Following is a list of many completed projects from the past. Please excuse any omissions.

Treadmill and exercise bike (with matching funds from Wegmans)
2 Walkathons
Art along the Canal
Brick Memorial Walk (Coordinated by SSAI)
Compiled a Center Cookbook
Monthly spaghetti dinners
Fund raising Bazaars
Quilt cabinet (2nd floor)
Folding door (dining room)
Kitchen computer
Showcase (dining room)
Landscaping improvements at the Center
Provided funds and assistance for the Senior Center 25th Anniversary celebration, 9/2005
Provided funds and assistance for the Nation Accreditation

Currently the SSAI provides accounting and fund depository for all Senior Center organizations

Hooray for the SSAI!