

**August 2017 Historian Report for September 2017 Board Meetings**  
**Marybelle Beigh, Westfield Town & Village Historian**

**Historian Activities During August 2017:**

- Provided July 2017 Historian Report for Town Board Meeting of August 2, 2017
- Attended Village Board Meeting August 21, 2017, and provided Historian Report
- Continued Volunteer at Chamber Visitor Center at Lighthouse Keepers' Cottage Wednesday afternoons through end of August.
- Attended various August Historic Preservation Society meetings and provided additional preservation information assistance for upcoming website.
- Attended August 15<sup>th</sup> Chautauqua County Genealogical Society Picnic meeting and program at Ottaway Park and gave a presentation on History of Ottaway Park
- Attended August 16<sup>th</sup> Chautauqua County Historical Society meeting and program on the History of Cheese Making and Cheese Factories in Chautauqua County, held at Liberty Vineyard/Winery in Sheridan.
- Research on Prohibition and Rum-Running led to meeting with a local author from Erie PA, David Frew, whose book "Midnight Herring" included references to Westfield and Barcelona. Other pertinent books of Frew's include one about Lake Erie fishing history, and another about the Erie PA canal of 1844.
- Recent BeeLines articles are inspiring more connections to historic information and photos about the POW camps, Diners, and a variety of historic homes and businesses in Westfield; also requests for info about other historic topics.
- BeeLines articles researched, written, and published with related photos and maps in the Westfield Republican, and on Westfield Historian Village and Facebook pages for August 2017:
  1. "Along Lake Erie Shore and Chautauqua Creeks – Series Conclusion and Speculation"; mid 1900s photo of historic log cabin, thought to possibly be a French Fort from the 1700s, moved from Westfield Fish & Game Club property to Sherman's Yorker Club Museum Village circa 1960.
  2. "Westfield's WWII German POW Camp history"; Circa 1945 photo of POW Barracks Building and Guards, from Patterson Library WWII photo archives.
  3. "Welch Field & Pool History for 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Pool"; 1969 photo of Welch Field Pool (2 years after completion).
  4. "More Westfield Waterworks History;" photos of 1890 and 1913 Waterworks Dams courtesy Devon Taylor, Mayville (and Chautauqua Gorge) Historian.
  5. Buzzings from BeeLines seeking info about a Dunkirk Diner – Cappy's circa 1960 for a history client, and describing more about the disposition of the POW Camp buildings – ads from Westfield Republican.

The POW Camp story has unearthed a lot more information and more photos that will be used in upcoming BeeLines. Also, working with the Historic Preservation Society rebirth is bringing up a lot of new information and contacts, as well as recommendations to contact our local high school and college history departments for students wanting to do history research activities for credit.