

**District of Ross Mills**

*Ross Mills Newsletter*

October 2017

Contact Emory ~ 338-5792 or email us at [rossmillsnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:rossmillsnewsletter@gmail.com)



Sharing the blessings that come our way this season.

Maybe Daddy will make you a jack-o-lantern!

Pictured above is Emily Holmquist in Emory's pumpkin harvest.



## Ross Mills Grange News

Ross Grange met at the Falcon's Nest Banquet Hall on Sept, 11. Members reviewed the program calendar for the upcoming year.

Betty Wakefield, lecturer read "Where was God on September 11, 2011?" (He was everywhere,) followed by short readings from several members. A quiz on kinds of cake was enjoyed.

A financial report was given by Mary Jane Griffith, including the county fair booth. The scholarship committee met and referred two applications to the Southern Chautauqua County Community Foundation. A donation was voted to Falconer Fire Department.

Members voted to have their evening meal preceding meetings at 6:00PM a half hour earlier than previously. A thank you note was received from Kamryn Harper for the money received for her meat animal essay.

Velma Jones will have Veterans Day cards printed and distribute at the next meeting for members to sign.

Mrs. Wakefield and Leona Peterson will be voting delegates to the annual State Grange session in October. The annual craft show will be November 18. Details can be obtained from Mrs. Wakefield at 716 287-3363.

**Sister's Restaurant on Rt. 380**

**Sunday thru Saturday 7am - 2pm**

**Fridays 7am - 2pm and again later for dinner 4pm - 8pm**

**Falconer Repair Service  
3731 Falconer-Kimball Stand  
Falconer, New York 14733  
716-985-4308**

THE EARLY HISTORY OF THE PIONEERS OF CASSA-  
DAGA AND ITS TRIBUTARIES.

The next saw mill on the Cassadaga was located about three miles above the Ross mill and was built by John Eines and William Newton in 1819, and in 1822 they erected the first grist mill in that vicinity.

This mill was afterwards owned by Joel and Thomas Walkup and were for a long time known as the Walkup Mills.

They were for a time operated by John Cobb, who with his brother Roland, was about this time largely interested in lumbering. These mills passed through several hands, R. M. Miller being the last owner. They have long since gone the way of most lumber mills in this section—crumbled away to dust from whence they came.

Hatch Creek, the next tributary on which mills were built empties into the Cassadaga about half a mile above the Walkup mills. It flows through what was in an early day known as Vermont settlement or Buckley's corners. There was only one mill on this stream at any one time so far as I know, and I have little knowledge of its early history; but I think that Major Samuel Sinclair was the builder and owner of one of the first mills.

The Tower Run, a small stream which had its source in Ellery, was the next stream, one which Henry Shaw built the first mill about 1816. Elisha Tower and Jesse Dexter built in 1827 a mill on lands then owned, as now by the Tower family. This mill after running eighteen months was burned, and reported to have been rebuilt and running in six days.

A third mill was built on this stream by Holden Moun about 1840.

Mill Creek, the largest of the upper tributaries, takes its source by two branches—one in Arkwright and one in Cherry Creek—and flows through the entire town of Charlotte and part of Gerry.

A part of the following are extracts from Yourg's History of Chautauque County:

1809, was Major Samuel Sinclair from whom Sinclairville derives its name. During the summer of 1810 he built the first saw mill, and in the fall of the same year a frame house, which was for many years the village tavern, and in 1811 a grist mill. Each of the buildings was the first of its kind erected in Carleton or in the central part of the county.

Reuben Johnson and John M. Edson built a grist mill at Sinclairville at an early day. The lower mill on this stream was located about half way between the Cassadaga and Sinclairville, and was built by John McAllister, one of the early settlers, and on the land now owned by his son, James McAllister.

About four miles above Sinclairville at Charlotte Center, through which this stream passed, a mill was erected in 1817. There was no doubt other mills on this stream, but I have no authentic knowledge of the number or date.

A small stream emptied into the Cassadaga just below the Johnson mills at South Stockton on which a mill was built by Abel Bronson. The mill never did much business for want of water.

The mill on the Cassadaga at South Stockton was built by R. W. Fenner in 1824; later owned by Forbes Johnson and known as the Johnson mill.

In 1827 a grist mill was built by Johnson and Fenner; still owned by members of the Johnson family. I think that this is the only instance of a grist or saw mill owned or operated at the present time by descendants of the pioneer owner.

The next and last mill on the Cassadaga from which lumber was run to southern markets was built by Bela Todd about 1827, sold to Charles D. Cooper, who also built a carding and wool dressing establishment. A saw mill is still there.

A saw mill was built in 1830 on the Bybee Brook which empties into Bear Creek, a branch of the Cassadaga, the junction of the later creek being about one mile above South Stockton.

A grist and saw mill were built at the foot of Bear Lake (Delarby) by John Hines, Thuan Lazelle and Elijah Nelson about 1818.



# How did Kimball Stand get it's name?

Do you know? Emory is not sure and is wondering if any of you know. Many years ago it was called Walkup. According to the history a family by the name of Walkup had mills there. One of the first grist mills (grind and mix dairy feed) was there in about 1822. We don't know if the name Walkup was from the family name or some of the roads coming out of there was quite steep and people had to get off the stagecoach the lighten the load and walk up the hills.



