

Reporting Meeting of 15 November 2021

Calendar of Events

Last Week: 11/15 Nemec Designs with Artisan Jason Nemec
This Week: 11/22 Saratoga Soul Brandtville Blues – Carol Daggs
Next Week: **11/29 No Monday Meeting**
Coming Up: 11/30 **Tues.** Community Holiday Parade @ BHBL HS
12/4 **Sat.** 9 AM *Things Of My Very Own*,
Work at 249 Green Street Schenectady
12/6 Wellspring with Maggie Fronk
12/13 Holiday Party - Virtual
12/20 Ice at the North Pole with Tom Day

Note: Regular Zoom Meetings are held Mondays at 6:00 pm. Check your e-mail inbox the day of the meeting for the computer Zoom ID# and Password, as well as the phone number you can use to phone in if using your cell phone to participate.

Please give suggestions for future programs to Darlene Bower and Dan Stec.

Find us at bhblrotary.org and on Facebook

Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities and in ourselves

Carol Daggs- Local Author/Historian Brandtville

This week we had the pleasure of hearing from a local author and historian, Carol Daggs. She has focused on the small area outside of Saratoga Springs that is known as Brandtville, where her family has resided. She is fourth generation Saratogian and graduated from Saratoga Springs High School before attending Hartwick College and Univ of Amherst earning an undergraduate degree and Masters of Arts in Music. She is a longtime musical performer and recently performed at the Apollo Theater in 2016.

Her book, *Saratoga Soul Brandtville Blues* is a visual narrative collection representing an historic agglomeration of African-American life in upstate Saratoga Springs, New York. This publication includes an initial sampling of the photographic collection. The greatest number of photographs were acquired as relatives passed away. Photographic materials then passed into the author's possession. Other photos have long been in the Daggs family circulation. Many of the vintage images capture the quiet lucid beauty of a rural African American family and their beautiful life experience. The photographs span several decades during

the Twentieth Century. These souls were the early inhabitants of Brandtville and stewards of the land. They tell the story of Saratoga Soul Brandtville Blues.

Carol, read some excerpt from her book which is composed of alphabetical chapters each representing a unique part of the history of the Brandtville. During the early 1900's the Brandtville area was then on the outskirts of the Saratoga Springs city and was a predominantly agricultural area. Carol's family and others farmed and lived on this small part of land and were a very tight knit community.

She still lives in her grandfather's house and has been able to keep its expensive upkeep through historical grants. She has been the subject and speaker and numerous events and reading in Saratoga. Her book can be bought through her website, www.saratogasoulbook.com

Also for a video presentation of her speaking about her book please see the linked youtube video presentation. <https://youtu.be/kdMWa5hsXFc>

Saratoga Soul Brandtville Blues



CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

- See the upcoming schedule listed on at the beginning. Great programs are scheduled. It was announced that the Dec.13 Holiday Party will be virtual again this year. Santa's helper, Linda, will be sending an email to the membership with party details.
- Sign up to work at the Things of My Very Own on Saturday, Dec. 4.
- Plan to be present on Tuesday, Nov. 30, when we will join with the BPA to hold the second annual Holiday Drive Through at BH-BL High School. Mike discussed our role and requested help from club members with set up starting at 4 PM.
- Dan Stec announced that the Club was awarded a Foundation Giving award as a Top 3 Club for its annual giving. This was awarded at the District's Foundation Dinner last week.

Reported by Jon Costolo