

Central Bridge Civic Assn.
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The origins of the CBCA began in the 1930s, when the hamlet was thriving, with a Board of Trade made up of local businessmen seeking to improve the community. In 1945, the Central Bridge Playground Assn, Inc. took over the roll, and purchased property at the corner of So Main and SR 30A to create a ball field. When the old local school house closed in the late 1950s, the playground equipment was moved to the ball field.

In 1960, the Playground Assn. became the Central Bridge Civic Assn. and functioned until the 1970s. It was reactivated in the early 1980s. The mission of the Assn is to equip, maintain and operate what is now known as the Community Park for ball players, children, and groups. We seek to promote civic, economic, and social welfare for the local vicinity.

Several soft ball teams use the diamond; we operate a snack bar, and maintain the pavilion which was donated by the CB Fire Dept. We also take care of the Village Green, installed a fence, plant flowers and maintain the Veteran's Monument which is owned by the Fire Dept. In 2019, we held three "Music on the Green" events with local musicians volunteering their time. We sold ice cream sodas; it was a nice way for residents to come together. We are pursuing an historic marker for the Green commemorating the importance of the railroad coming to town in 1863. We also had two chicken BBQs which were profitable. We hold an annual Easter Egg Hunt, Halloween and Christmas party for area children.

In the summer of 2017, Schoharie Area Long Term, Inc, which was created after the disaster of Hurricane Irene, held several community meetings and potluck dinners to find out what our residents would like to see happen. The CBCA has taken on the responsibility of making some of the ideas come to fruition. Our long-range goals are: install sidewalks throughout to make us walker-friendly, improve the playground equipment, install landscaping along the main streets, and crosswalks for safety. We are also endeavoring to clean up brush, abandoned vehicles and litter, hold more events, and establish a small museum and meeting location. SALT continues to support us while we pursue grants to pay for the improvements. Our income comes from the towns of Esperance and Schoharie, ball field, donations and member dues. We have started a campaign asking residents and businesses to contribute to our cause.

Recently, Alex Cipperly constructed dugouts for the ball players as an Eagle Scout project with our monetary support. So far, we have two new baby swings at the playground, funnel basketball hoops, and have cleared brush to make room for a bigger piece of equipment for small children. We are purchasing new handicapped accessible picnic tables and plan to construct an accessible bathroom.

Friend us on Facebook, and also, 'You know you grow up in Central Bridge', watch this site and the local newspaper, and join our organization to help us improve Central Bridge. Meetings are held monthly except for Jan and Feb on the third Wed at 7 pm at the Lutheran Church, 185 Church St.