

Bill Nichols ~ Town of Belfast

The Town of Belfast was established in 1824. The first settlers were from Belfast, Maine. It was primarily a farming and logging community. The Genesee Barge Canal passed through Belfast from Olean to Rochester where it connected with the Erie Canal. The old canal warehouse still stands along the banks of the canal on Hughes Street in Belfast. It has been used as a tavern hotel and bordello. This building was the site of two murders in the history of Belfast. In its heyday, Belfast boasted three railroads. They were the B&S, Erie and Pennsylvania Railroads with the Erie being the last one to pull up its tracks in the 1960s.

One of Belfast's favorite sons was William Muldoon, a professional wrestler and boxing trainer. The Town Park and the Civil War monument in it were donated to the Town by Muldoon. In 1889, he brought John L. Sullivan to Belfast to train for his last bare knuckle boxing match with Jake Kilrain. There are many stories regarding the escapades of John L. and his stay in Belfast. The training barns used by Muldoon and Sullivan are still standing in Belfast. Today they serve as a museum and the home of the Bare Knuckle Boxing Hall of Fame.

SUPERINTENDENT PROFILE

1968 ~ employed as a motor equipment operator (MEO)

1976 ~ appointed highway superintendent to finish a term

1977 ~ first elected as highway superintendent

1980, 1981 ~ President Allegany County Town Highway Superintendents Association

1982 ~ Appointed by DOT Commissioner William Hennessey to serve on the CHIPS Coordinating Committee (committee to develop and coordinate the guidelines for the CHIPS program)

1990 ~ President of the New York State Town Highway Superintendents Association

2000 ~ President of the Association of Towns of the State of New York

2002 - 2006 ~ Executive Secretary/Treasurer of the NYS Town Highway Superintendents Association

2004 ~ Appointed to the Association of Towns Emergency Services Task Force

2001 - Present ~ serves on the Association of Towns Resolutions Committee

Superintendent's Profile Questionnaire

Order	Question	Answer
1	How many years as superintendent	<u>39 YEARS</u>
2	Elected or appointed	<u>ELECTED</u>
3	Term length	<u>4 YEARS</u>
4	Total years with the highway Dept	<u>47 YEARS</u>
5	How many full time employees	<u>4</u>
6	How many part time employees	<u>0</u>
7	How many miles of highways	<u>42.46</u>
8	How many miles asphalt	<u>27.2</u>
9	How many miles dirt	<u>15.26</u>
10	How many miles seasonal	<u>4.19</u>
11	How many bridges	<u>5</u>
12	Town population	<u>1,800</u>
13	How many different population centers	<u>0</u>
14	Names of population centers	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>
15	Town owned water or sewer (Y/N)	<u>WATER ONLY</u>
16	Total budget to work with \$	<u>\$ 428,000</u>
17	Over all condition of the fleet	<u>FAIR</u>
18	Digital records or hand written	<u>DIGITAL BOTH</u>
19	Gravel source? If so, pit or stream?	<u>STREAM</u>
20	Start time in winter	<u>6:30 A.M.</u>

Town of Belfast 12-17-14



Supt. Bill Nichols, Brad Atherton, Jim Ace, Don Comstock, Connor Parker