

# Bank Personnel Active In Community

## Organization Of Corporation Is Explained

As the Marine Midland Trust Company of Northern New York is part of the Marine Midland Corporation, it might be helpful to examine the organization of a bank holding company. Marine Midland is the only statewide group banking company in New York State, and the second largest in the nation. It owns 11 banks with 200 offices serving 119 communities. Management of these subsidiary banks remains at the local level with decentralized management and direction. The Holding Company itself tends to function as a staff organization rendering services and helping to formulate broad policy.

Marine Midland Corporation secures advice from its Board of Directors (80% of whom are outside directors) and its Corporation Advisory Board which is staffed by the president and chairmen of the Boards of the affiliated banks. In turn, each affiliated bank is guided by a Board of Directors and many branch offices are further counseled by their own Advisory Boards, such as the one here in Potsdam.

Heading the local Advisory Board is Franklin R. Little of Ogdensburg. Other members include Alfred W. Thatcher, Richard Elliott, Felix Shelly, John Van Ness, Morton Winters and George Theobald. A thumb-nail sketch of each of the above and the staff members, including profession and community activities, follows.

**F. R. LITTLE**  
Franklin Little, president of the Northern New York Publishing Company, Ogdensburg, owns the largest commercial printing business in Northern New York and the only commercial photo engraving business in that area. Northern New York Publishing Co. Inc. owns the Ogdensburg Journal, Sunday Advance-News, Massena Observer, Potsdam Courier-Freeman. Mr. Little also does commercial printing.

He is vice-president and immediate past president of the Associated Dailies of New York State; a director of New York Press Association; member of the American Newspaper Publishers Association, the Associated Press, and a founder of the State Society of Newspaper Editors. A Princeton University graduate, class of 1922, Mr. Little is prominent and active in many civic organizations in Ogdensburg and Northern New York.

**JOHN VAN NESS**  
John Van Ness, president of Sunshine Accessory Stores Inc. and vice-president of Van Ness Co. Inc., is active in civic and business organizations.

He has served three terms as Mayor of Potsdam, is president of the Chamber of Commerce, and was a charter director of the Adequate Wiring Bureau of Central New York.

Van Ness is a vice president of the Board of Trustees of Paul Smiths College, chairman of the Board of Trustees of First Methodist Church, Potsdam; member of Rotary and member of Masons and Shrine.

**R. ELLIOTT**  
Richard Elliott, president of Elliott Hardware Company, Division of Litchfield Park Corp. of Potsdam and vice-president of Litchfield Park Corp. of New York City, is also a director of National Hardwood Lumber Association and vice president of Northeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association. Elliott is also vice president of Gross Veneer Company of High Point, N. C.

**ALFRED THATCHER**  
Alfred W. Thatcher, dean of the State University College at Potsdam, is a member of the Division of Higher Education of the National Education Association, the New York State Teachers Association, and Phi Delta Kappa, a national honorary society.

For 10 years he was state chairman of the Professional Education Committee of the New York State Teachers Association. From 1962 to 1964 he was a member of the Regents Advisory Board on Teacher Education Certification and Practice.

This Director has served as a member of accreditation committees for the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education.

He has served as chairman of the Potsdam Village Library Board for the past several years.



HOMER GIRARD

**G. THEOBALD**  
George Theobald, president of Racquette Valley Dairies Inc., is a graduate of Canton A.T.I. He is past president of Potsdam Lions Club, past master of Rackett River Lodge 213 F and A.M., and treasurer of First Methodist Church here.

**MORTON WINTERS**  
Morton S. Winters, who lives at 89 Elm St., Potsdam with his wife, Dorothy and two sons, is a graduate of Syracuse University class of 1939, with a degree in Business Administration.

He is president of Eastern Petroleum Corporation; and president of Eastern Fuel Service Inc., Shell and Firestone Distributors for St. Lawrence County.

Winters is a past chairman of Potsdam Area United Fund, a member of Potsdam Rotary, and is presently serving on the Board of Trustees of Potsdam Hospital.

**FELIX SHELLY**  
Felix Shelly, owner and president of Shelly Electric Inc., Potsdam, is a former Village Trustee and is presently serving as vice chairman of Potsdam Savings and Loan Association.

He is a trustee of Potsdam Hospital, chairman of the Adequate Wiring Bureau, director of New York State Association of Electrical Contractors and Dealers; and an Advisor for A.T.I., Canton and Pratt Institute, Brooklyn.

**JOSEPH ROMOLA**  
Joseph Romola came to Potsdam in July 1964 as vice president and manager of this Office of Marine Midland,



JOSEPH ROMOLA, BANK MANAGER



HOWARD STEELE

after serving in various official positions with the Trust Company.

Born in New York City, Romola attended Columbia University, the American Institute of Banking, and is a graduate of the Stonier Graduate School of Banking at Rutgers University.

He joined the staff of First National City Bank in 1937 and, after serving 38 months in the U. S. Army in World War 2, he rejoined that organization, leaving New York in 1947 to become affiliated with the Northern New York Trust Co., now the Marine Midland Trust Co. in Watertown.

While in Watertown, Romola was president of the Jefferson-Lewis Bankers Association, Watertown Kiwanis, Watertown Community Chest, and Greater Watertown Chamber of Commerce. He was treasurer of the Jefferson County Republican Committee and the Jefferson County Fair.

The Manager is a member of Potsdam Rotary, Potsdam Salvation Army Service Unit, 1000 Islands Girl Scout Council Endowment Fund; director of Potsdam Chamber of Commerce; treasurer of St. Lawrence Valley Association; vice president of St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce; member of Media Temple AA-NMS; Black River Valley Club, and Potsdam Town and Country Club.

Mr. and Mrs. Romola (the former Shirley R. Collins of Watertown) and their three children, Joseph Jr. 15, Katherine M. 12 and David C. 10 live at 31 Chestnut St., this village.

**IVY ROBAR**  
Mrs. Ivy C. Robar, chief



IVY ROBAR

clerk in the Midland Time Plan Department, was born in Parisville. She was graduated from Parisville High School and Central City Business School in Syracuse.

Mrs. Robar who started working at the Bank in September, 1942 is past president of the American Institute of Bank St. Lawrence County chapter; past treasurer of the Ladies Aid Society of Parisville Union Church; past grand chaplain of the Order of the Eastern Star, State of New York; and past treasurer of East St. Lawrence County Chapter of the American Red Cross.

She is presently secretary of the Parisville Rescue Squad, a trustee of Parish Chapter No. 91 Order of the Eastern Star and treasurer of Parisville - Hopkinton Central School District 1. Mrs. Robar has one son, Ronald.

**HOMER GIRARD**  
Homer Girard, assistant vice president of Marine Midland, joined the Potsdam Bank and Trust Co. in October 1962. When the bank was subsequently taken over by Marine Midland, Girard worked in various departments and was made an assistant secretary in January 1965, with the latest appointment coming in January 1965.

He was born in Montreal, Canada, attended McGill University in that city, the American Institute of Banking, and is a graduate of the Bankers School of Agriculture at Cornell University.

He joined the Royal Canadian Air Force in November 1942, serving in Canada and overseas. Following his discharge in June 1946, Girard was employed by Canadian Oil Companies Limited in Montreal, prior to moving to Potsdam in 1952.

This versatile vice president has worked with various community groups, including March of Dimes, United Fund and Cancer Fund. He is a member and past president of Potsdam Rotary Club, and is currently serving as president of the St. Lawrence County Bankers Association.

He is also a member of Rackett River Lodge 213 F and A.M., the Royal Canadian Air Force Association, Potsdam Town and Country Club, and Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

Mr. and Mrs. Girard (the former Margaret Will of Montreal) live in Hannawa Falls, with their two children, Heather Ann 10 and Robert David 8.

**HOWARD STEELE**  
Howard W. Steele, manager of the local Marine Midland Time Plan department and an assistant secretary, joined the



JAMES STAFFORD

Northern New York Trust Co. (now Marine Midland) in Watertown in 1950.

A native of Dexter, Steele served in the Army during World War 2, in the European theatre, after which he was employed by U.C.I.T. Credit Corp. prior to joining the Trust Co.

He served as collection manager and H-unit manager in Watertown and, in April 1956, was transferred to the Carthage office as manager of the Time Plan department. In 1959 he came to Potsdam in the same capacity. On July 1, 1964 he was named assistant secretary.

Steele is a member of Potsdam Lions Club and the Potsdam Town and Country Club. He and Mrs. Steele live at 5 Berkley Drive.

**JAMES STAFFORD**  
James C. Stafford, assistant secretary responsible for real

**Trust Co. Declares Quarterly Dividend**

The Board of Directors of Marine Midland Corporation on June 9, 1965 declared a quarterly dividend of 3 1/4 cents per common share of the Corporation, payable July 1, 1965 to stockholders of record June 15, 1965. This compares with the cash dividend of 30 cents a common share declared quarterly since September, 1964.

Marine Midland Corporation is a bank holding company with 11 banks serving 119 New York State Communities through 200 offices. An affiliate bank also operates an office in London, England.

**Southville**

by Mrs. Mabel Moore CO7-5248

Southville - Thirteen members of the Friendship Birthday Club, one guest and two children were entertained at the home of Mrs. Maefred Flanagan on Wednesday, June 16. Mrs. Mabel Moore was co-hostess.

Mrs. Lillian Barriger of Pierrepont was a luncheon guest of Mrs. Mary Barriger one day last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Barriger called on Mr. and Mrs. George Webb of Fort Jackson last Wednesday night.

Jill Franklin, young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Franklin, returned home from the Potsdam Hospital Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Harold Franklin's sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Darling and daughter Valerie of Cornwall, Ont. were Sunday visitors at the Franklin home.

The Leonard-Richard family attended the annual farm bureau picnic held at the Lyle Greene park on Sunday.

Continued Success To

## MARINE MIDLAND TRUST COMPANY OF NORTHERN NEW YORK

ON THE OPENING OF THEIR NEW POTSDAM OFFICE

On Elm Street

### Racquette Valley Dairies, Inc.

George L. Theobald, Pres.

90 Pierrepont Avenue

Phone Co7-2435

## CONGRATULATIONS

### MARINE MIDLAND TRUST COMPANY OF NORTHERN NEW YORK

Your new Potsdam Office should well serve this area. You are to be commended not only on your vision into area banking needs of the future, but also on your choice of materials.

We are indeed proud to have had a hand in supplying materials for construction of this project, as we have in so many other area improvements.

### Putnam-Hawley

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## Marine Midland Van Ness Company, Inc.

Suppliers of Sargent and Stanley Door Hardware

Serving Northern New York Since 1915

Distributors

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29 Depot St. Potsdam, N. Y.

ROU  
The stock...  
The first self-explains...  
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