

CLINTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER JULY 2008

P.O. Box 42
Clinton, New York 13323

38th HISTORIC CLINTON WEEK KICKS OFF ON JUNE 29

In 1971 the Society began this low-keyed observance of Clinton's history. The second week of July was chosen because that was when the village's centennial in 1887 was held. Now the first week is used to celebrate and commemorate our past. Join in this year for these events planned especially for ALL residents and visiting Clinton High School Alumni who will be in town July 4-5, 2008. Members are asked to fly their flags this week, too.

MONDAY JUNE 30- walking tour of park and business district; 7 PM starting from the Society with a 10-minute video tour of the village by Dan Melie and then a guided tour of the park and business district by Dick Williams

WEDNESDAY JULY 2- car cruise in 6:30 to 8:30 PM across street in village parking lot. All old, vintage, and historic vehicles are welcome; no registration fee; no judging

THURSDAY JULY 3- society open from 1 to 4 PM featuring school alumni exhibit

FRIDAY JULY 4- society open 1 to 4:30 PM for alumni school exhibit; society will enter 2-3 convertibles in 5 PM parade

SATURDAY JULY 5- society open 1 to 3 PM for unveiling of the new *Farms and Barns of Kirkland, New York* and book signing by editor Dick Williams; and opening of both a rural art and a farm exhibit; in evening society will have a table of books and maps and memberships at Clinton Arena for the ALL-CLASS REUNION

NOTICE- Saturday hours for the Munson Library will be suspended until September; Wednesday hours 1 to 3 and new summer hours on Thursday 12 to 3 will allow members and visitors to do research and visit the art and farm exhibits which will remain through Labor Day.

PARK DEDICATION

The Town of Kirkland Park on Post Street will be dedicated to former Supervisor John Karin at 3 PM on Saturday, July 5.

This Newsletter is printed through the generosity of Hamilton College.

ANNUAL MEETING DRAWS BIG CROWD

The rescheduled annual business meeting and **Cabaret night** drew 75 members on May 28 for an evening of socializing, annual business, food, and drink. All deemed the evening a grand success and wanted to give it a try again next year.

Frank Cittadino was reelected president, Wade Lallier will become vice president, Patricia Fox is the new treasurer replacing Chris Fox who takes over as secretary.

New directors for three-year terms are Robert Tegart, Paul Frey, Marjorie (Midge) Bakos, and Chris Marson. Our thanks go to retiring directors William Holland, Roseann Suhr, Faye Cittadino, and John Fitzpatrick. Faye was secretary for six years, and John served as president one year. Roseann has done publicity, and Bill Holland has monitored possible grants and helped greatly with computer issues.

New Officers
Wade Lallier, Chris Fox,
and Patricia Fox

New directors: Robert Tegart, Midge Bakos, Chris Marson, and Paul Frey

President Frank Cittadino will serve a second year as president and is seen here thanking Faye Cittadino, Roseann Suhr, and John Fitzpatrick, outgoing directors. Bill Holland was unable to attend.



CHECK DUES DATE ON ENVELOPE

Dues notices went out with the March 2008 Newsletter, and some members still have not renewed. Please check the date on the envelope address label. If it reads **03/31/09 or later**,, your dues are current. Otherwise, please remit \$10.00 for individuals, \$15.00 for families and businesses, \$25.00 for friends, and \$50.00 for contributing members. Dues income is the major part of the operating budget necessary to pay insurance, utilities, and building maintenance.

Another new life membership has come from **Tom Neumann and Corrine Gates** of Kirkland Lodge, Chestnut Street. Thank you!!! Welcome also to new members Sarah McDade and Barbara and Daniel Beigel.

WORK ON THE COLLECTION GOES ON

The Society took a major, exciting step to organize, accession, and preserve its collection this spring. The Society hired Brian Howard, executive director of the Oneida County Historical Society, to assess the collection and make recommendations for improvement. Brian, with degrees in collections management, dug right in and prepared a plan for the Society. Additionally, the Society approached the Oneida County Manpower Development office of David Mathis for summer help.

The result of this planning is that two Clinton college men, Vincent Whitney and Alexander Jansing, are working for eight weeks to help accession various artifacts donated in recent years.

With limited space the Society needed more storage so contact with Hamilton College Librarian Randy Ericson resulted in the College donating numerous sections of metal shelving which now have been transported and installed in the Loft. Walt Jury has superintended the installation helped by Frank Cittadino's van to truck the shelves, and Glen MacGregor and Wade Lallier for taking out the wood shelves and helping put together the College ones. John Burdick has also been helpful in obtaining the shelving and guiding the summer workers. It is hoped that by mid-August most of this work of accessioning, cataloging, and properly storing these 3-D artifacts of Clinton history will be mostly complete.

At right is summer helper Vincent Whitney holding a lantern from the Society's collection. He is standing among the new metal shelving in the Loft, which will allow us to sort out and store properly all the smaller artifacts.

Previously these artifacts were stored in boxes or on shelves and were not gathered together properly.

These items will now be more accessible and useful for both exhibits and display.



AWARD OF MERIT

The Society was very pleased to present its annual **AWARD OF MERIT** to Linda and Joe McHarris owners of McHarris Gifts at 1 College Street and Seward Avenue in Utica.

The McHarrises stock and sell all Society books, maps, and souvenir items. They turn over 100% of the sales to the Society...a much appreciated donation. Linda and Joe received the award at the May 28 annual meeting and are pictured at right.



POLITICAL PARTIES HERE IN 1916

Today we face another four months of the grueling presidential election campaign. Back in 1916 Kirkland voters could choose to enroll in one out of seven official parties. The “primary enrollment” form allowed voters to designate their party and then be able to vote in the primary.

Primary Enrollment for the Year 1916
COUNTY OF ONEIDA
TOWN OF KIRKLAND—4th ELECTION DISTRICT

ENROLLMENT No. 420

Name of Voter _____

I, who have placed a mark underneath the party emblem hereunder of my choice, do solemnly declare that I have this day registered as a voter for the next ensuing election, and that I am a qualified voter of the election district in which I have so registered; and that my residence address is as stated by me at the time I so registered; that I am in general sympathy with the principles of the party which I have designated by my mark hereunder; that it is my intention to support generally at the next general election, state or national, the nominee of such party for state or national offices; and that I have not enrolled with or participated in any primary election or convention of any other party since the first day of last January. The word “party” as used herein means a political organization which, at the last preceding election of a governor, polled at least ten thousand votes for any candidate for any office nominated by it to be voted for by all the electors of the state.

REPUBLICAN PARTY	DEMOCRATIC PARTY	INDEPENDENCE LEAGUE PARTY	AMERICAN PARTY	PROHIBITION PARTY	PROGRESSIVE PARTY	SOCIALIST PARTY
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

MAKE A CROSS (X) MARK, WITH A PENCIL HAVING BLACK LEAD IN THE CIRCLE UNDER THE EMBLEM OF THE PARTY WITH WHICH YOU WISH TO ENROLL, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PARTICIPATING IN ITS PRIMARY ELECTIONS DURING THE NEXT YEAR.

Primary Enrollment for Year 1916
COUNTY OF ONEIDA
Town of Kirkland--4th Election District

Enrollment No. 420

Besides the two major parties then, voters could opt to be members of one of the other five. The Prohibition Party died with prohibition in 1919. Previously the American Party opposed immigration. Eugene Debs founded the Socialist Party which held conventions between 1897 and 1946. William Randolph Hearst started the Independence League in 1906 through 1914 and fielded New York State candidates for governor. The Progressive Party’s presidential candidate in 1912 was Theodore

Roosevelt. Later in the 1920's Wisconsin’s Robert LaFollette ran for president as a Progressive. Henry Wallace also ran as a Progressive, but the party faded away after the 1952 elections.