

CLINTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER JULY 2010

P.O. Box 42  
Clinton, New York 13323

## HISTORIC CLINTON WEEK 2010 EVENTS ANNOUNCED

Since 1971 the Clinton Historical Society has celebrated our rich local history by holding several events of importance. This year the CHS has an exceptional schedule for members and the community as follows:

**Monday** evening, June 28- opening reception for "Scenes of Everyday Life in the Town of Kirkland" photography show and exhibit from 6:00 to 7:15 at the Society; awards at 6:45.

Tour of the **Old Burying Ground** starting at 7:30 from the OBG at Norton and Kirkland avenues led by Bob Tegart and Dick Williams

**Tuesday** evening, June 29 at 7:30- 2 free films on canals: "Along the Erie Canal" and "History of the Erie Canal" at the Society

**Wednesday** evening, June 30 from 6:30 to 8:30 **Historic Car Cruise In** in village parking lot across from the Society; bring your old hot rod or restored whatever

**Thursday** evening, July 1 a special program on the 1879 Stone Presbyterian Church clock at 7:30 at the Society; Clinton merchants will hold a "Stroll Back In Time" Shoppers Stroll" from 5:00 to 7:30 PM

**Friday** evening, July 2 from 7:00 to 8:00 "Old Fashioned Soda Shoppe" at the Society featuring dishes of ice cream and root beer floats for sale at old fashioned prices; don't miss it!

**Saturday**, July 3 from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM OPEN HOUSE to view photo exhibit and **Scanathon**; **bring your photos of Kirkland and Clinton so we can add them to our archives. Originals returned to you.**

**Sunday**, July 4<sup>th</sup>- Society cars will march in the 7:00 PM parade

**CLINTON  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY**

Founded in 1962

**DIRECTORS**

Midge Bakos  
Faye M. Cittadino,

**President**

Cynthia Crossley  
Evelyn Edwards  
Paul Frey

**Vice-President**

Christopher Fox

**Secretary**

Patricia Fox

**Treasurer**

Fran Lallier  
Wade Lallier  
Chris Marson  
Ron McClusky  
Robert Tegart

**WEB SITE**

[www.clintonhistory.org](http://www.clintonhistory.org)

**QUARTERS**

Former Clinton  
Baptist Church, built  
in 1832, at 1 Fountain  
Street

**PHONE**

859-1392

**MAILING  
ADDRESS**

P.O. Box 42  
Clinton, New York  
13323

**E-MAIL ADDRESS**

[clintonhistorical  
society@yahoo.com](mailto:clintonhistorical<br/>society@yahoo.com)

**Collections- Esther  
Delaney**

**Editor- Richard  
Williams**

**OPEN HOURS**

**Wednesday 1-3**

**Saturday hours -**  
suspended for the  
summer

**ANNUAL MEETING REPORT**

On May 5 the Society held its annual meeting and Cabaret evening at 1 Fountain Street; about 60 members were in attendance and enjoyed delicious hors d'oeuvres, desserts, wine, and beer. The place was decorated very tastefully with tablecloths on card tables.

At the business meeting officers chosen are Faye Cittadino, president, Paul Frey, vice-president, Chris Fox, secretary, and Patty Fox, treasurer.

New directors are Fran Lallier, Ron McClusky, and Cynthia Crossley who replaced Jon Scott, Walt Jury, and Frank Cittadino, who were applauded for their service.

President Cittadino has appointed past president Frank Cittadino, public relations, Roseann Suhr, Peggy Jury, and Cynthia Crossley, hospitality, and Walt Jury, building supervisor.

Esther Delaney, who has overseen the Society collection since the early 1990s when we were still at the Town Library and then when the old Baptist Church was under complete renovations in 1999 and 2000, received the treasured **AWARD OF MERIT** for her unselfish accomplishments and time commitment to organizing the collection for research. Esther spends her Monday and Wednesday afternoons at the Society helping visitors, filing, sorting, and putting the collection in order. **Thank you, Esther!**

**DUES ARE DUE AGAIN**

The Society wishes to thank the 385 members who have renewed since March, but about 120 still need to send in the dues. Check the date to which your dues are now paid on the envelope label. If it reads, **March 31, 2010**, you are in arrears, and we'd appreciate your check soon. We **NEED** your dues support. Dues are as follows:

Individuals- \$10.00

Households/Businesses- \$15.00

Friend- \$25.00

Contributing- \$50.00

Life (one-time) \$500.00

Send to Treasurer P. Fox at P.O. Box 42, Clinton, NY 13323

**SUMMER HOURS-** Wednesdays 1 to 3 and Thursdays 1 to 3 and 5 to 8 in conjunction with Farmers' Market and Thursday Stroll Back In Time.

## HAMILTON ALUMS IN CIVIL WAR

Two Hamilton College alumni received the newly-created Congressional Medal of Honor in the Civil War. Morris J. Brown, '64, was in the 126<sup>th</sup> New York Volunteers with the rank of captain. He led his company on a flanking action on Cemetery Ridge at Gettysburg July 3, 1863 and captured 50 Confederates plus the colors of the 28<sup>th</sup> North Carolina Regiment. The medal was awarded posthumously as Brown died in action in Virginia June 22, 1864.

A class of 1863 member, Charles M. Holton, was a captain in the 7<sup>th</sup> Michigan Cavalry and also was at Gettysburg. At the Battle of Falling Waters on July 14, 1863 Holton led an attack on the rear guard of Lee's army and captured the colors of the 55<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry Regiment. Holton survived the Civil War.

*Note: this and other college history will be released this fall in Maurice Isserman's bicentennial book on Hamilton College. Hamilton was chartered in May 1812.*

## POLAROID PICTURES OF THE PAST

While taking digital pictures today requires slim skill, that wasn't always the case with making pictures. Tintypes and daguerreotypes of the mid-1800s were not printed from a negative, but were all an irreplaceable original positive just like the Polaroid snapshots of the 1950s.

Chemicals made images on silver coated plates with silver, iodine, mercury and gold instead of paint, ink and brushes.

Heliography was the name first used by Nicephore Niepce in 1833; he was a partner to Louis Jacques Mande Daguerre, whose name became associated with the process which quickly came to America from France. A U.S. patent was issued to Alexander Wolcott in 1839 for a camera which had a mirror which allowed shorter exposure times and a subject who was less fidgety.

By the summer of 1840 many itinerant daguerreian artists and studios were around the country. Often resort beaches were where the photographers setup.

Tintypes were an improvement in 1856 when Hamilton L. Smith, a professor at Kenyon College in Ohio, was issued a U.S. patent that ended the popularity of daguerreotypes. His process was an image on a sheet of iron metal, not tin. The metal is blackened by painting, laquering, or enameling and supports the emulsion. They were "instant photos" which would be processed immediately.

Many tintype photographers worked fairs and carnivals, and the image did not require drying so instant pictures could be finished in a few minutes.

Tintypes survive today; many are formal family portraits from the 1880s period. Do you have a tintype of your great, great uncle Herman?

**Oneida County was formed in 1798, and Clinton was settled in 1787. The Town of Kirkland was taken from the Town of Paris in 1827.**

## LETTER FROM FAYE M. CITTADINO, president

Dear Members,

Thank you all for making our Cabaret Night on May 5 such a huge success! It was a night of fun, food, good company, and our annual elections. A special thanks to our new directors Ron McClusky, Fran Lallier, Cynthia Crossley and returning directors, Patricia Fox and Wade Lallier. Our new officers for the year are: President- Faye Cittadino, Vice-President- Paul Frey, Treasurer- Patricia Fox and Secretary- Christopher Fox.

We are planning a very exciting Historic Clinton/Town of Kirkland Week June 27<sup>th</sup> -July 1<sup>st</sup> . There is something for everyone. Launching this special week will be a Photo Show of scenes from Clinton and the Town of Kirkland plus a tour of the Old Burying Grounds. Next a night of Erie Canal movies, our annual Classic Car Cruise In, a special celebration and unveiling of the Village Clock along with our popular old fashioned Soda Shoppe. On Saturday we will hold a "scanathon" of your pictures and artifacts that we can copy into our files. If you don't want to personally donate them yet to the Society we can have the pictures in our files for future generations to see. If you have a memory you would like to share but don't have time to write it down, please drop in and we can record it for our Memory Project. Personal memories are so important for future generations.

Again in August we will be holding our Summer History Camp for students in grades 4-6. The children will learn local history while having fun. This helps them to appreciate their roots.

Can you scoop ice cream? Set up tables? Decorate? Greet visitors? Take pictures? Use a computer? If you said yes to any of these questions then please volunteer to help our society make this coming year even more vibrant, exciting and successful. Don't hesitate to contact us at 859-1392, [historybuff65@hotmail.com](mailto:historybuff65@hotmail.com) and P.O. Box 42, Clinton, NY 13323.

We want to collect e-mail addresses for all members. Send yours to our e-mail address on page 2.

Have a wonderful summer!

Regards,

*Faye Cittadino*, President

## LITHIA WATER

Little did Fred Suppe know that he was starting an industry when he dug a well in the summer of 1888 on his Dugway Road hop farm just south of State Route 12-B. Suppe's new supply exceeded his expectations and it also had a rather unusual but pleasant taste. He had stumbled upon a natural mineral water similar to the famed lithia springs of Europe.

Before long others were digging up and down the area from downtown Franklin Iron Works (as it was then called) to the Red Bridge (first bridge) on the Dugway Road. This discovery spawned visions of another Saratoga or Richfield Springs, but these dreams never materialized. However, eight different firms operated at different times between 1888 and 1970 to bottle lithia water and make soft drinks.

With the Franklin blast furnace in its waning years, the discovery also caused the post office to change from Franklin Iron Works to Franklin Springs in 1898.

*To Be Continued*

