

CLINTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2007

P.O. Box 42  
Clinton, New York 13323

## **THE MOHAWK VALLEY OUR NEXT TOPIC**      **October 11**

Our home valley has historical significance to our country's and our state's past. David Siegenthaler has studied and lived here and has begun to write about the history of the Mohawk Valley in recent years. His talk to us on Thursday, October 11, will tell some of the historical stories about the people, the valley, and some of the events that are important.

Mr. Siegenthaler lives in Utica and is a former vice president of the Savings Bank of Utica. He graduated from Albany Business College and is now a supervisor at Zogby International.

Join us at 7:30 on October 11 to broaden your historical horizons and learn more about our Valley's history and some of the key people in that drama.

Refreshments will follow the meeting at 1 Fountain Street.

### **RECENT BOARD MEETING**

Working behind the scenes but always working is your Board of Directors(see picture on page 2). At the September meeting these items were on the agenda:

1- the Society enjoyed a huge turnout of visitors during the August 25 Clinton Art & Music Festival. Thanks to Patty and Chris Fox, Faye and Frank Cittadino, John Burdick, Heidi Philley, and Phil and Barbara McKnight for staffing the building. Our air-conditioned atmosphere was a welcome break from the summer heat for an estimated 700 visitors that day.

2- the cemetery sign dedication has been rescheduled and will be announced

3- the Society thanks John and Chris Calidonna for displaying a horse-drawn hay cutter on the front lawn.

4- Shoppers' Stroll is set for

### **MORE BOARD ITEMS**

November 23, and the Society is making plans now for displays

5- the finance committee met on September 17 to review the Society's investments

6- a committee, to look at a five-year plan to end at the Society's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2012, will be organized

7- President Cittadino has brought up the need for a "disaster plan" should the building be endangered by water, wind, or fire. He noted that the many documents and artifacts held by the Society are very valuable, and every effort should be made to protect them. The Board agreed to look into a "Disaster Plan."

8- Society By-Laws will be reviewed by a committee this fall as they haven't been looked at in several years except to change the dues structure.

## **CLINTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Founded in 1962

### **DIRECTORS**

John Burdick  
Faye Cittadino  
Frank Cittadino  
John Fitzpatrick  
Christopher Fox  
Patricia Fox  
William Holland  
Walt Jury  
Wade Lallier  
Glen MacGregor  
Brian Rand  
Roseann Suhr

### **WEB SITE**

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

### **QUARTERS**

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

### **PHONE**

315-859-1392

### **MAILING ADDRESS**

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Clinton, New York 13323

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Hamilton College

HOURS- Wednesday 1 to  
3 and Saturday 11 to 2

**Curator- Esther Delaney**  
**Editor- Richard Williams**

## PROFESSIONAL THEATER IN CLINTON

While most of us know that amateur theater productions at the high school and at Hamilton College take place, how many recall the time when professional actors took the stage in the Town of Kirkland?

The place was the Minor Theater on Campus Road, and the period was the 1970's when Barneveld resident Maitland Ijams produced summer stock plays at Minor Theater. Ijams had begun in the early 1970's using the Town of Webb School auditorium in Old Forge, but moved around 1971 to the Minor Theater. It was billed as "Central New York's Only Professional

(Actors' Equity) Resident Summer Theatre"

The 1974 season, for example, had these plays: *Two for the Seessaw*, *Private Ear and Public Eye*, *Blithe Spirit*, *Jacques Brel Is Alive and Well and Living in Paris*, *RMS RIV VU*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and *Play It Again, Sam*.

At left is the schedule for the 1977 season. Notice the ticket prices of \$6.00 for adults and \$4.25 for senior citizens. Today Broadway tickets range from \$50.00 upwards.

In the 1974 season ticket prices were even lower: \$4.75 for adults and \$3.25 for senior citizens. A season ticket for eight shows was \$27.00 that year.

The editor saw *Fantasticks* in 1977 and recalls how great an evening it was with young performers doing their best in hopes of a career in the theater.

The Playhouse lasted until the late 1970's..







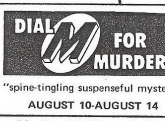

### PLAYHOUSE ON THE HILL

Central New York's Only Professional (Actors' Equity) Resident Summer Theatre

In Air Conditioned Minor Theatre on the Hamilton College Campus in Clinton, New York

**1977-----SEVENTH SEASON-----1977**

EIGHT FABULOUS LIVE STAGE PRODUCTIONS  
(Two MUSICALS---Five COMEDIES---One MURDER MYSTERY)

 <p>"wonderfully amusing musical" JUNE 21-JUNE 26 (see opposite side)</p>			
 <p>"mirthful merriment" JUNE 29-JULY 3</p>	 <p>"America's longest running musical" JULY 6-JULY 10</p>	 <p>"three hilariously flakey one act comedies" JULY 13-JULY 17</p>	
 <p>"free spirited frolic" Two Weeks JULY 20-JULY 31</p>	 <p>"capricious comedy" AUGUST 3-AUGUST 7</p>	 <p>"spine-tingling suspenseful mystery" AUGUST 10-AUGUST 14</p>	 <p>"heartwarming family comedy" AUGUST 17-AUGUST 21</p>

\* Special Thurs. Matinee      \*\* Special Thurs. & Sat. Matinees

**CURTAIN TIMES:** Wednesday through Saturday evenings - 8:30    Sunday evening - 7:30    Sunday and Special Matinee - 2:30  
Tuesday evenings - 8:30    Tuesday performances on June 21 and July 26 ONLY.

<b>SINGLE TICKET PRICES</b>	Adults	Senior Citizens and Students
Tuesday (when designated), Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday Evenings	\$6.00	\$4.25
Friday and Saturday Evenings	\$6.75	\$5.00
Sunday and Special Matinees	\$4.00	\$3.00

LAST ROW OF BALCONY \$3.50 FOR ALL PERFORMANCES EXCEPT \$4.00 FRIDAY AND SATURDAY EVENINGS AND \$2.50 ALL MATINEES.

**SEASON SUBSCRIPTIONS SAVINGS!!!! (Two Terrific Plans)**

**Plan 1: 20% SAVINGS** (if purchased prior to July 3, 1977)  
Seven tickets to be used one per show throughout season

**ADULTS:**  
Evenings: seven shows.....\$35.00  
Matinees: seven shows.....\$21.00

**SENIOR CITIZENS and STUDENTS:**  
Evenings: seven shows.....\$26.00  
Matinees: seven shows.....\$18.00

**Plan 2: SUBSTANTIAL SAVINGS!!!!** (Can be purchased throughout season) Seven Ticket Coupon Booklet--tickets may be used in any combination-- one per show, all seven per show or whatever.

Seven ticket coupon booklet.....\$40.00

**PLAYHOUSE ON THE HILL**  
**CLINTON, NEW YORK 13323**  
**BOX OFFICE TELEPHONE: (315) 853-5511**

**BURMA SHAVE SIGNS-** A sight which made us chuckle and car trips more enjoyable in the 1940's and 1950's was the small red and white road signs of Burma-Shave. One example: "Car in Ditch, Driver in Tree, The moon was full, And so was he" Burma Shave

## KIRKLAND MEN JOINED CO. G, 146<sup>TH</sup> REGIMENT

During the Civil War several regiments were formed in Oneida County among them the 146<sup>th</sup> Regiment, New York Volunteers, originally called the "Fifth Oneida" and "Halleck Infantry." Company G was recruited in Clinton chiefly through the efforts of Isaac Platt Powell of the College Hill Road Powell family. Powell went on to become a minister after the war.

The 146<sup>th</sup> had about 3000 enrolled and suffered heavy losses totaling 843 casualties as it engaged in about 30 battles. Seven officers and 126 enlisted men were killed, and two officers and 179 enlisted men died of disease.

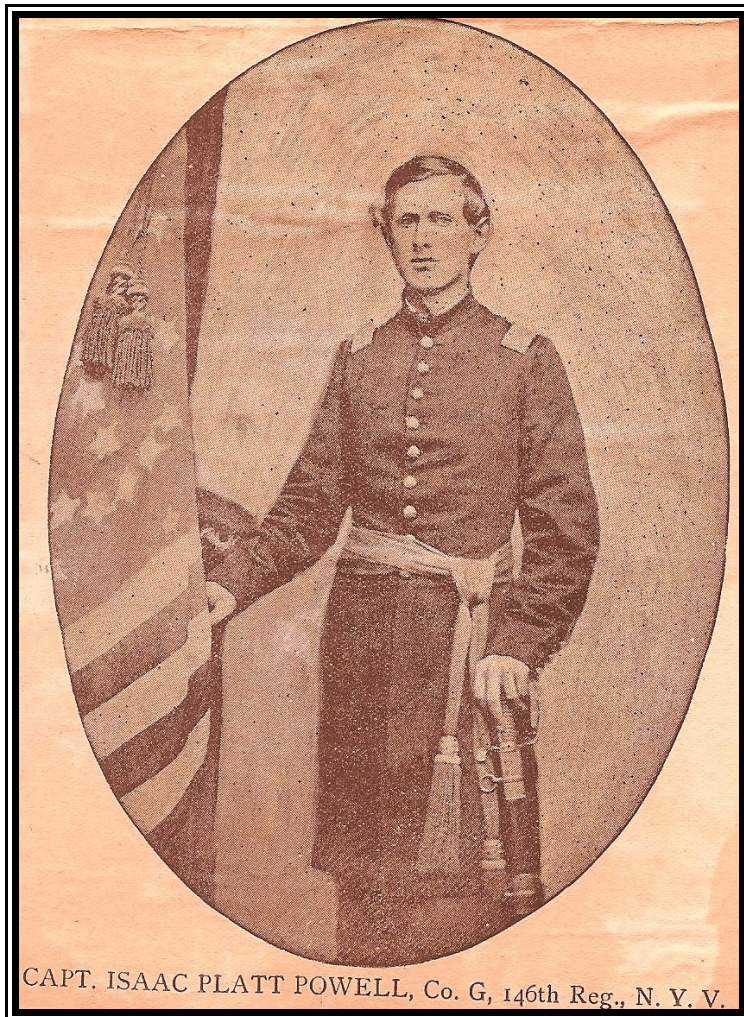
The 146<sup>th</sup> was attached to General Sykes' Division and later formed a Zouave Brigade of the 5<sup>th</sup> Corps. Zouave troops wore colorful uniforms based on those of the French Tirailleurs Algeriens of "Turcos." The French Zouaves wore a fatigue cap, short loose jacket, and very full knee pants.

Co. G included volunteers from Clinton, Kirkland, Bridgewater, and Plainfield. It went to Rome to Camp Huntington and was officially mustered into service October 10, 1862 leaving for Washington, D.C. the next day to defend the capital. Then it joined the Army of the Potomac at Snicker's Gap, Virginia and was active in campaigns at Rappahannock, Fredericksburg, Falmouth, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Petersburg, Hatch's Run, Wilderness, Culpepper, Spottsylvania, Five Forks, White Oak Road, and Appomattox.

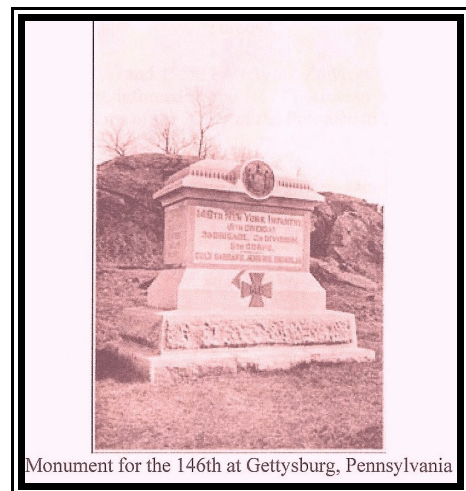
Two Co. G soldiers were captured and held in Andersonville Prison; they were Daniel Blanchard and John Goodfellow of Kirkland.

The 146<sup>th</sup> was mustered out July 16, 1865 near Washington, D.C..

In October 1899 on the 37<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 146<sup>th</sup> mustering in the Hinckley Post, Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), sponsored a reunion in Clinton. The Hinckley Post was a veterans' club of the era somewhat like the V.F.W. and American Legion today



CAPT. ISAAC PLATT POWELL, Co. G, 146th Reg., N. Y. V.



Monument for the 146th at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

