

CLINTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2009

P.O. Box 42  
Clinton, New York 13323

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## CIDER MAKING AT CIDER MILL NEXT

What better way to enjoy the fall season than to join us on Thursday, October 8 at 7:30 at the Clinton Cider Mill at 28 Elm Street? Our hosts John and Mimi Fehlner will take us back to the older ways and days of cider making.

The Clinton Cider Mill dates from 1927 and was operated by the Wentworth family prior to the Fehlners taking it over in 1998.

While some seating will be provided, President Frank Cittadino suggests bringing small folding chairs for comfort.



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## KIRKLAND BIRDS

The September 10th meeting drew 40 members to hear Matt Perry discuss local birds and naturalists. Matt had a very good video of numerous local birds and their habitat.

## WATERVILLE BLOG

Have you heard the term "Blog?" How does it apply to historical societies? Flip Brown, Waterville Village Historian, has begun a blog on the Web. To view it go to <http://athomeinthehuddle2009.blogspot.com>

Check the date to which your dues are paid by looking at the envelope label. If 3/31/09 is printed, your dues are overdue and must be received or membership will be suspended.

## ONEIDA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Our County Society maintains a museum, library, and exhibit space at 1608 Genesee in Utica, the former Christian Scientist Church.

On October 7 the OCHS will hold its **Richard W. Couper Living Legends** dinner at Hart's Hill Inn. CHS members are encouraged to attend by calling 735-3642 for ticket information.

[www.oneidacountyhistory.org](http://www.oneidacountyhistory.org) is the Society's web site and well worth a visit. Web Master Carl Saporito has put together a very different and amazing site with talking historical figures such as Roscoe Conkling.

OCHS was founded in 1876 at the nation's centennial and did much to buy and preserve the lands around the August 7, 1777 Battle of Oriskany.

**CLINTON  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY**

Founded in 1962

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**WEB SITE**

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

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Former Clinton Baptist  
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**KIRKLAND'S BORDERS**

When was the last time Kirkland's borders were changed? 1839 is the answer, and as the lines are about to be changed again, a look at the boundaries since Clinton's settlement in 1787 seems in order.

The Cherrywood development off State Route 5, which features double-wide manufactured homes, began in 1988 by Kenneth Coulter on John Feketa farm land. It is across Route 5 from Applewood, another manufactured home community. Both use the Clinton zip code and are in the Clinton school system.

Looking at the Cherrywood file in the Kirkland Town Planning Office recently shows that the development was mostly in New Hartford, but a portion on the south west corner was in the Town of Kirkland. The maps on file in 1988 clearly delineate the boundaries of the two towns and which lots are in which jurisdiction.

It is surprising then that some officials have been confused recently and issued permits for parcels in another town.

Kirkland had more land acreage when it was formed April 13, 1827 by the New York State Legislature. After 1776 this area was in the Town of German Flatts of Montgomery County and then in the Town of Whitestown until 1792 when we became part of the then-new Town of Paris. The first Town of Paris meeting was at the home of Moses Foote, Clinton's founder, on West Park Row in Clinton on April 2, 1793.

Counties changed, too. Herkimer County was formed from Montgomery in 1791 so we were in that county until 1798 when Oneida County was formed.

The granite bench in front of Lumbard Memorial Town Hall has the history of these various jurisdictions etched on the top.

At first Kirkland, named after Oneida Indian missionary Samuel Kirkland, also consisted of the current Town of Marshall to our south. Marshall, broken off on February 21, 1829, was named after Supreme Court Chief Justice John Marshall.

In 1834 a small part of Kirkland was annexed to the Town of New Hartford, and in 1839 a small part of the Town of Paris was added to Kirkland. The exact boundaries and acreage of these two parcels is not known. They obviously bordered the other towns, but why the change is also unknown.

So now with 19,716 acres since 1839, Kirkland is about to lose 11 acres and also some tax revenue. The affected residents must first vote to approve the change. And then the State must approve. Unchanged would be the postal zip code and the school district...both Clinton.

It certainly makes sense to have one jurisdiction in control of building permits and certificates of occupancy. Why didn't developer Coulter seek to have the entire area put in the Town of New Hartford in 1988? We will probably never know as he is now deceased, and the property is in his estate.

Former New Hartford town supervisor Ralph Humphreys owned the development for a time and now holds the mortgage. He has been active in seeing the town lines changed so that all is in New Hartford and people who have bought land in the Kirkland section can get certificates of occupancy for their new homes.

Kirkland councilman Nick Venero has brought up the array of jurisdictions in the mobile home park called Milgate Meadows off Pratt Avenue in Clark Mills. The three towns of Kirkland, Whitestown, and New Hartford all come together there although it is only accessible by road through Kirkland.

In the past response times for emergencies and fires there have been discussed, and the Clark Mills Fire District has the job of providing emergency coverage to the park which is mostly in the Town of New Hartford.

When town lines were set some 180-200 years ago developments, fire departments, and roads were fewer. While original boundaries probably made sense then, today having the closest fire department answer your call is the way it should be.

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**GIVE THE GIFT OF CHS MEMBERSHIP FOR BIRTHDAYS, CHRISTMAS**

Mail this form or a copy of it to CHS, P.O. Box 42, Clinton, NY 13323

Name.....

Address.....

.....zip.....

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| Dues are: \$10.00<br>individuals; \$15.00<br>families/households/busi<br>nesses; \$25.00 Friends;<br>\$50.00 Contributing |
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Benefits- CHS Newsletter 9 times a year- full of history  
Notices of all meetings, programs, and special events  
Free admission to research in the Munson Library

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Support and preserve the 1832 Baptist Church  
Keep Clinton and Kirkland's rich heritage alive

Gift from.....

The Society will notify the recipient.



