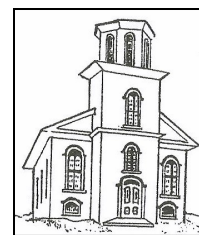


PRESERVE THE PAST FOR THE FUTURE



# CLINTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

October 2013

## AMERICAN PRESIDENTS NEXT PROGRAM

The story of the American presidents since the mid-twentieth century will be the topic for the October 13th meeting at the Society beginning at 2:00 p.m.

Ben Benson of New Hartford will present his study of the Presidency including many original documents that he has collected over the years. He began to be intrigued by the Presidency during the Kennedy years. Benson is also an artist and will have several portraits of recent Presidents that he has painted.

He will also discuss some of weaknesses and strengths of the various Presidents of the last fifty years and show some paintings of First Ladies that he has created.

Refreshments will follow the meeting. Come and enjoy the American Presidency with Ben Benson.

## BROCHURE CORRECTIONS

In the September Newsletter was the annual program brochure for the Society showing the membership list and public programs through next May.

Please add new members:

Jeffery Woldridge

Mr. and Mrs. Lester LaBrecque

Please add to Staffworks—Anita Vitullo

## DUES ARE DUE

The dues notice for the current year was sent out with the March 2013 Newsletter. Thanks to the 450 members who have renewed.

However, the Society still has not received the modest dues from about 80 members. A letter to those members went out recently and advised them that on October 1st their membership will be suspended pending receipt of dues.

Clinton Historical Society

Founded in 1962

### DIRECTORS

Mary Benson Byrd— secretary

Daryl Chesebro—treasurer

Faye Cittadino

Frank Cittadino

Barbara Decker

Paul Frey

Eric Genalo

Ceil Gilbert

Fran Lallier

Barbara Owens— vice-president

Diane Parrish

Robert Tegar— president

### Web Site

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

### Facebook

Clinton Historical Society  
(Original)



### E-Mail Address

[clintonhistoricalsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:clintonhistoricalsociety@yahoo.com)

### Phone

315-859-1392

### Mailing Address

P.O. Box 42

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### OPEN HOURS

Wednesday 1-4; Saturday 1-3

### Editor

**Richard Williams**

**DUES-** \$10.00 individual, \$15.00 families/businesses, \$25.00 friend, \$50.00 contributing

## COMPLETING EDUCATIONAL DISPLAY

High school intern, Dan Martini, completed the long term project of the Clinton Historical Society in the lobby of the headquarters at 1 Fountain Street. In the Fall of 2008 the beautiful huge white oak tree in the parking lot left of Tony's Pizza (College St. between Marvin St. and Franklin Ave.) was cut down due to disease.

A committee of then Society President Frank Cittadino, Glen McGregor, and John Burdick arranged to secure a slab of the trunk for a display. With the generous help of Cresswell Brothers, Kirkland Town Highway Department, who perfected the cut of the slab, Larry Thompson of Clinton Hardwood Floors, who finished it with polyurethane and Dave Litz of Clinton Moving and Storage, who had it moved to our building, it was permanently mounted just inside the front door.

Some historical background—In approximately 1800 Revolutionary War veteran, Ozias Marvin, had his home erected at 34 College St. which still stands today as College Commons. His barn was across the road. He owned most of the land from his house to the Oriskany Creek at one time and up until he died he still owned 36 acres including today's Marvin Street property up well beyond the Chestnut Street homes.

In 1846, two years before his death in 1848, a tree began to sprout to the left of his barn. After Marvin's death Othniel S. Williams purchased the thirty-six acres and started developing Marvin Street. Our historic tree survived for 146 years in the front yard of original homeowner, Dr. Panette Hastings, as well as Schilling's gas station and now Tony's.

The Society hopes the public, especially children, will study the labels in the rings to absorb the concept of local history.

At right is the white oak slab in the Society lobby. showing Dan's dates of Clinton events.



## CD POLICE ITEMS ACQUIRED

Society President Bob Tegart has been instrumental in acquiring several artifacts and items used by the Town of Kirkland Civilian Defense Auxiliary Police. With the cooperation of Town Supervisor Robert Meelan the items have been in the cellar of Lumbard Memorial Hall and had been unused since the late 1950s. and 1960s.

\*\*\*Recall that during the 1950s and 1960s Civilian Defense by attack by nuclear weapons and/or the Russians was a major issue.

These items are being evaluated and accessioned and plans are for a display in the future.

## SOME HISTORICAL SOCIETY BRIEFS

1. Former Society Director Wade Lallier has acquired a donation of an old wooden display case for the lower level. This will be filled with artifacts shortly and will enhance the exhibits in that area.
2. Saturday hours—Beginning in October the Society will be open on Saturdays from 1-3. This is in addition to the Wednesday hours of 1-4 which will remain in effect.
3. Painting—The Society building exterior is now scheduled to receive a new coat of paint (the same colors) in 2014.
4. Veterans' Day—Plans are being discussed for an appropriate program set for November 11th.
5. Class Reunion—The Clinton High School class of 1963 will hold a reunion the weekend of October 12th and will visit the Society for a brief program and to view old yearbooks.
6. Facebook—Members should check the Clinton Historical Society Facebook site for updates and new pictures. Also, check out the Society's website at [clintonhistory.org](http://clintonhistory.org) for numerous pictures and articles about Clinton history.

**Where were you on September 11, 2001? It is a day that we will never forget.**

To help future generations understand that day and let today's generation express their feelings and memories, the Clinton Historical Society warmly invites all members and their families to send their memories to the **Clinton Historical Society c/o Faye Cittadino, P.O. Box 42, Clinton, NY 13323** or E-mail her at: **your9-11memories@outlook.com**.

If you would rather have us audio record your memories, contact Faye at the above address or call her at 859-1055 and arrangements will be made. We will also hold taping sessions throughout the coming year at the Clinton Historical Society building.

**Please share your memories so they may be preserved in the historical society's collection for future generations.**





CD sign used by Kirkland CD officials in the 1950s. Headquarters was in the basement of Lumbard Town Hall. This plus many other artifacts are now in the Society collection.

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

We are busy at work organizing the new collection of Clinton Auxiliary Police artifacts, which we obtained from their old headquarters in Lumbard Hall. We would like to contact any past members of the Auxiliary Police to get details of the organization which protected us during the Cold War. There is a treasure trove of artifacts and documents from the 1960s and 1970s civil defense program, and your help is needed to fill out the story. We would like to thank Clinton Agway for the use of their truck, and Supervisor Bob Meelan, and Peter Burns for their support.

We are also working to install the new computer system and hope to have it completed soon. Special thanks to Jerry Semchenko and Paul Frey for the time and effort they put in on this task. We do need a "computer person (s)" to help us with installation and maintenance of our networked system. Anybody interested?

The board would like to open our rooms on Saturdays in the fall and need volunteers to manage the building. The Society belongs to all of us – won't you help maintain a presence in the community?

*Robert Tegart*