CLINTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



February 2015

WHY NO VOTES FOR WOMEN?

A leading political issue of the 19th and early 20th century was the denial of the right of women to vote, something taken for granted today.

Our new Society director Susan Goodier is a scholar on women's activism from the Civil War through World War I. She holds a master's degree in Gender History and a Ph.D. in Public Policy History. She serves as a lecturer of history at SUNY Poly and teaches writing at Hamilton College.

She has written "No Votes For Women" which was published by University of Illinois Press.

Her topic on Sunday, February 8, 2015 at 2 PM will be "Clinton in the New York Suffrage Movement" and will focus on Clinton suffragists who argued against the sentiment of many men and women which denied women the right to vote.

The Clinton Historical Society has an extensive collection of materials from the period between 1912 and 1917 which Dr. Goodier has used for her research. Come and hear how the women (and some men) of Clinton did their part to obtain the vote for women.



The Society received a new coat of paint in late summer. Shown here are the shrubs covered up and the lift used to reach higher spots. State inmates painted the building for the second time.

Clinton Historical Society Founded in 1962

DIRECTORS

Mary Benson Byrd
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Erik Genalo- president
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(Original)



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OPEN HOURS

Wednesday 1-4

Saturday 1-3

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

RECENT DONATIONS

These members responded to our year-end appeal: Benson family, Mr. and Mrs. Jay Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Dominick Trasatti, and William Sequin, Jr. and James Grande.

After January 1st Frank Vlossak IV and Diana Seay made contributions. Thanks to these members.



Pictured above is Matt Urtz who spoke at the January meeting on the rebirth of the hops industry in the area. Matt, Madison County Historian, is seen chatting with President Erik prior to the program. Over 115 people attended; it was standing room only, and another interesting program.



Our founding father and first president George Washington (1732-1799) is seen above in the Gilbert Stuart portrait. George will be 283 years old February 22, 2015. He should not be forgotten for his leadership as military commander during the Revolutionary War and for his precedent-setting policies and astute management with class and unselfish achievements of our early years.

Now his birthday has been made into a 3-day weekend featuring furniture and car sales.

BEING POOR IN 1878

From the *Clinton Courier* of March 7, 1878 was this resolution passed at a Town of Kirkland meeting:

"That we the people of the Town of Kirkland in view of the present hard times urge upon all public officers of the town a strict economy in the performance of their duties."

"That we demand of the Overseer of the Poor elect a thorough entrenchment in the poor expenses."

"That no person is entitled to assistance from the town unless absolutely destitute and without means to procure daily substance."

"That the Overseer of the Poor should discriminate between our worthy poor suffering under temporary misfortune and our town vagrants."

The resolution was submitted by J.T. Watson.

At right is the logo for the Brothertown Indians, who settled here and in Marshall in 1785. Most moved west to Wisconsin in the 1830s.Over 1000 live there today and seek federal recognition as a tribe. They have no land.



DONATIONS TO THE COLLECTION

The Society's collection keeps growing thanks to these people, many of whom are members:

Curt Cadwell– Army uniform from 1966-68 period worn by Cadwell

Hezekiah Webster- cup from Ye Old Dog House, Kenmore heating pad, 1950s pitcher

Michael Cosgrove- 2 photos: Clinton Bowling League, 1957 and corn harvest, 1955

Anne Hameline- map of historic district, 1983 Utica directory, CFD 2007 program, Courier clippings, 1997

Robert O'Neil- 4 photos of Clinton Comets; 2 Clinton bicentennial badges

Howie Schaffer- artwork by Clinton artist William Palmer, cover of Fortune magazine April 1938

Cynthia Kershner– Photo of Marvin Street School, copies of Couriers for June 1946, 1946 centennial, 1966 issue, and 2 supplements from 1971, 5 binders of 35 mm negatives from 1994-1999, and a box of photos from 1999-2002

Joseph Phillips-ginger ale bottle from Vernor's of Franklin Springs

Joyce Cameron – Bristol-Myers magazine about Apothecary Shop August 1965, letter from B-M president, aerial view of Clinton, 1965, ad from Syracuse City Directory, c. 1900

More donations will follow in next months Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday season! I know the highlight around here was the Christmas Socializer. We all had a great time and enjoyed some delicious food.

Now that the decorations have been put away, it's time for us to get back to business. We kicked off the 2015 leg of our speaker series with a bang. We had 115 people show up for Matthew Urtz's program on "Hops Growing in Central New York", which had a record attendance! We have had some great guest speakers this season, and it will only get better with Susan Goodier's presentation this month on "Clinton in the New York Suffrage Movement".

With the weather getting colder by the day, I know the last thing most of us want to think about is going outside. So, if you want to learn about the history of Clinton without leaving your cozy home, why not check out our new and improved website? It has everything from pictures and articles to old newsletters and information on upcoming events.

And, if you want a cure for those winter blues, volunteer to come in on a Saturday and help us with one of our many ongoing projects! The coffee is always on and you are sure to have a good time.

Erik Genalo