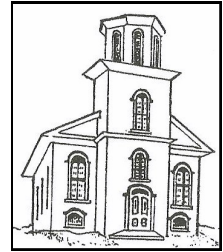


PRESERVE THE PAST FOR THE FUTURE

CLINTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



February 2016

MORE DONORS

The Society has had a great response from nearly 70 members in the year-end appeal to replenish funds used for a new fire escape.

48 members were listed with thanks in the January Newsletter and here are the remaining names of contributors:

Mrs. Ellen Phillips, Diana Seay, Valerie Wright, Ruth and Michael Cosgrove, Gertrude Hawley, David C. Sinclair, John and Cynthia Crossley, Sarah Gaetano, Frank Vlossak IV, Patrick McMahon, Sandy Scofield, Thomas and Eleanor Scott, Barbara and Richard Decker, Donna Copson, Scott and Maureen Hughes, Strategic Financial Services, Mr. and Mrs. James Balch, J. Michael Van Strander, and Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Ryan.

Individual letters of appreciation were sent by Secretary Mary Byrd.

WATERVILLE TIMES

Patty Louise, publisher of the *Waterville Times*, has announced that its coverage of Clinton and Kirkland will continue. Subscriptions are \$40.00 a year to the *Times*, P.O. box C, Waterville, NY 13480.

The Society is pleased with this development and welcomes the *Times* to Clinton.

CLINTON'S FOUNDING

Robert Tegart will present "The Founding of Clinton-1787" at the February 14, 2016 meeting. It begins at 2 PM at the Society.

Mr. Tegart has served as president of the Society three times and is now the Coordinator. He is an active researcher on various local history topics including military history.

Come and find out about early Clinton and how this small hamlet arose to be a leading business, farming, and mercantile center for this area in southern Oneida County.

Early land grants and the economy will be featured.

ONE-ROOM SCHOOL INFORMATION SOUGHT

Next month's program will be Kirkland one-room schools. Dick Williams seeks any facts, reminiscences, and pictures of the 15 districts, the buildings, the students, and the teachers.

He will scan and return any items. Contact him at 853-5018 or Apulia@verizon.net.

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIMES YOU VISITED THE SOCIETY?

Clinton Historical Society
Founded in 1962

DIRECTORS

Mary Benson Byrd-secretary

Ruth Cosgrove- vice-president

John Crossley

Barbara Decker

Lisa Firsching- treasurer

Erik Genalo

Robert G. Goering

Susan Goodier

Fran Lallier

Barbara Owens

Pat Smith

Gerry Semchenko-president

Robert Tegart- coordinator

Richard Williams- editor

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(original)

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clintonhistoricalsociety1@gmail.com

Open Hours: Wednesday 1-4
and Saturday 1-4;

Dues- \$10.00 individual;
\$15.00 families/businesses;
\$25.00 friends; \$50.00 contributing

...Menu...

Oyster Cocktail
Celery

Consonime Royal
Salted Almonds

Pincolas

Imperial Sauterne

Broiled Blue Fish

Parisienne Potatoes

Roast Domestic Turkey

New England Dressing

Cranberry Sauce

Creamed White Onions

Mashed Potatoes

Creme de Menthe Punch

Cigarettes

Calf's Brains en Savory

French Peas

Schrimp Salad

Mayonnaise

Tutti Frutti Ice Cream

Angel Cake

Macaroons

Fruit Cake

Roquefort Cheese

Bent's Water Crackers

Saltines

Demi Tasse

Boonville Spring Water

Cigars

The above menu dates from 1908 when alumni of the Clinton Grammar School held a banquet at the Hotel Yates in Utica. The School was located at 86-88 College Street and operated between 1813 and 1891 as the age of private schools here faded away.

The Grammar School was one of the longer lasting and more successful schools, which prepared boys for college.



CLINTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL, COLLEGE STREET

DERMADOR BY CLINTON PROFESSOR

Probably no readers ever heard of Anderson's Dermador, but it was developed by a professor at the Clinton Liberal Institute in the 1850 period. Homer Anderson was a teacher of mathematics and chemistry. About 1850 he introduced the 'Dermadore' which was an external remedy for all sorts of complaints. This was common medical and drug practice then to claim that one item cured ALL.



Ads claimed it cured inflammation in all cases of wounds, bruises, sprains, bronchitis, swelling of glands, broken breasts, frozen feet, pimples, and bee stings.

The earliest bottles were round. Later it was put up in oval bottles in fifty and twenty-five cent sizes. The brand was eventually purchased by David Ransom, who owned other well-known brands such as Trask's Magnetic Ointment.

The boys division of the Clinton Liberal Institute was at Utica and Mulberry streets in a four-story stone building similar to Hamilton College dormitories. The C.L.I. left for Fort Plain, New York in 1878.

It was sponsored by the Universalist Church, had ties to Tufts University, and later some of its remaining funds went to St. Lawrence University in Canton, New York.

Anderson must have been quite an inventor and chemist because he also invented a "new incendiary shell which was supposed to exceed in destructiveness anything that has hitherto been invented." This was according to an article in the *New Era* newspaper of August 31, 1855.

Concerning the siege of Charleston in 1863 Guy R. Hasegawa wrote in "Villainous Compounds: Weapons and the American Civil War" that Anderson offered his incendiary shell to the South Carolina Governor. It was unclear if the Governor used it to try to break the siege.

JACK'S UNIVERSITY SHOP

At 4 College Street Jack's operated in the late 1950s. Today it is the Rouge Royale Boutique store front in the Romanelli Block.

This shop has been a toy store, pet store, used clothing, candles, and many other items over the years.

In the late 1940s May Lenhardt sold used goods.



President's message

Greetings and Happy New Year 2016,

I would like to open by saying "thank you" to everyone who generously answered our end of the year call for donations. We have much to thank you for, but the bottom line is your generosity tends to keeping our building up to code and aesthetic in appearance as well as supporting the building infrastructure and facilities.

With your support we can continue to provide quality programs year after year. We are so fortunate to have a solid core of members who not only donate monetarily, but also their time and efforts to keep our organization running like a smooth machine.

Thanks for your unselfish dedication and support. You all make the Clinton Historical Society a great organization , and it continues to be a wonderful learning experience for me.

Warm regards,
Jerry Semchenko

EXHIBITS On DISPLAY

From time to time we'll have a picture of the permanent exhibits on the lower level of the Society.

Pictured at right is the area which has the old Seth Thomas clock from the Stone Presbyterian Church tower at left. It was given to the Society by the village which owned it.

On the far end of the picture is the lithia water display with numerous bottles of soft drinks and bottled water which 6-7 bottlers sold between the late 1880s and around 1970 when the last firm, Split-Rock, closed.



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All members are invited to come and look around. Temporary exhibits are in six display cases on the main level. We're open 1 to 4 Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Your editor, Dick Williams, will present a program on **Eagle Bay** history at the Oneida County Historical Society, 1608 Genesee Street in Utica at 1 PM on Saturday February 20, 2016. FREE