



Clinton County Historical Association North Country Notes

Issue #424

March, 2020



Annual Report: CCHA's Busy 2019

By Geri Favreau and Helen Allen Nerska

Edited by Luke Cyphers

**Thank you for
picking up our
newsletter!**

The Clinton County Historical Association (CCHA) is a non-profit organization that is chartered by the New York State Board of Regents. We collect and preserve items that have relevance to Clinton County.

In its 74th year of existence, the Clinton County Historical Association did what it always does—collect, preserve and celebrate our region's vital history.

The annual report presented in November at our yearly members meeting showed 2019 was another banner year.

IMPACT ON THE COUNTY

In 2019, CCHA presented more than 50 programs, often co-sponsoring events with other organizations, including Lake Forest Senior Living Community, the League of Women Voters, Peru Community Church, SUNY Plattsburgh, Victory Place, the



CCHA President Geri Favreau (center) and Trustee Emeritus Roger Harwood (second from right) accept AARCH award for preservation of the Bluff Point Lighthouse, won in conjunction with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Also on hand were AARCH President Dean Melville (far left), DEC Regional Director Bob Stegmann (second from left) and AARCH Executive Director Steven Engelhart (far right).

For those unable to make the meeting, we present this abridged version of the report, which paints a portrait of a vital, productive and, yes, busy association.

As always, we thank our members for their support and look forward to seeing you at our many events in 2020, which are highlighted on Page 3.

Anderson Falls Heritage Society and many more. These events entertained, informed and celebrated more than 1,500 residents and visitors. Museum Days alone brought in 200 visitors to CCHA over two days. Beyond that, more than 900 patrons visited the Museum or the Bluff Point Lighthouse in 2019. We mail our events card and North

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Position	Board of Trustees
President	Geri Favreau
Vice President	Jerry Gagnier
Secretary	Jan Couture
Treasurer	William Laundry Carol Arnold Sue Coffey John Crotty Luke Cyphers Kevin Farrington Mary Nicknish Karin Thone
Director	Helen A. Nerska

2019 Annual Report (cont.)

Country Notes to 500 addresses across the county and across the country. CCHA volunteers maintain three Facebook pages with more than 4,800 followers.

Visitors to our Museum in 2019 hailed from 23 U.S. states, four Canadian provinces, the Ukraine and Vietnam.

Many visitors tell us that they are in the area specifically to visit our museums and/or do genealogy. Some are just passing through. But these visitors are staying in our hotels, eating in our restaurants and spending money on other tourist attractions.

AWARDS & HONORS

CCHA acknowledged current Vice President Jerry Gagnier for recognition he has received from another community-minded organization. Jerry serves as lieutenant governor for the Kiwanis Club's ADK Region. CCHA is also recognizing Julie Dowd as Board Member Emeritus. Julie has been a long time member and past Board Member who continues to be a valuable volunteer to the organization, maintaining two CCHA Facebook pages.

Each year Adirondack Architectural Heritage recognizes examples of "exemplary historic preservation work throughout the Adirondack region." At the 24th Annual awards ceremony, CCHA and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation were honored for the work done by both organizations to preserve the Bluff Point Lighthouse. CCHA's Roger Harwood, Pat Parker and Geri Favreau attended the award ceremony at The Hedges in Blue Mountain Lake. This award is given for examples of "sensitive restoration, rehabilitation, adaptive reuse, and demonstrated long-term stewardship by a wide range of individuals and organizations."

EMPLOYEES

Helen Allen Nerska, our part-time Director, at her request, gets paid minimum wage. In 2019, at her own expense, Helen attended numerous seminars, workshops and webinars learning all she can about managing collections and a Museum.

In 2018, the Board agreed to hire another part-time employee to process our Collections artifacts. CCHA has moved five times since 1945 and unfortunately, processing our artifacts properly had fallen behind. We hired a graduate of SUNY Plattsburgh, Makenzee Bruce, and she continued to do a fantastic job of helping us to catch up.

Makenzee processes recently donated artifacts and items that are being found as we take inventory of our collection. For every item found in the collection or coming through the door deemed necessary to preserve, Makenzee assigns an accession number, takes a picture (or scans an image if it's a document or photo), assigns a location, enters it into our Past Perfect software database, tags it with the accession number, prepares it for storage by placing in appropriate acid free boxes with acid free paper if necessary, and places in the assigned location.

Once that painstaking work is complete, Makenzee teams with Collections Committee Chair Maurica Gilbert to organize and list

items for the collections meetings. We currently have over 16,000 items documented in Past Perfect, and that database is available to researchers.

We are finding that this is money well spent to preserve and make available the history of Clinton County.

COLLECTIONS

Major Acquisitions

In 2019 we were honored to have received the Martin J. Aikin Rifle as part of our permanent collection, thanks to the generosity of the John Barton family, which has owned the rifle for five generations, and which had loaned the rifle to the museum for display since 1992. This is a real treasure, as it was presented to Martin Aikin by Congress for his leadership of the "Aikin Volunteers" during the Battle of Plattsburgh.

The Barton family's sale of the rifle to CCHA—for \$100—was a major addition to the collection, and the association is honored to house this one-of-a-kind artifact.



The Martin J. Aikin Rifle, on loan to the museum since 1992, is now a permanent part of the CCHA collection.

That wasn't the only significant purchase for our collection. We are able through the establishment in 2015 of the "Helen Allen Nerska Fund" to purchase items that occasionally become available. This enables us to ensure that many important Clinton County documents and artifacts will remain in Clinton County. In 2019 this fund enabled us to purchase the "Addoms Papers" and add them to our collection. Major John Addoms, a civil engineer and surveyor in the Revolutionary War, was one of the early settlers in Plattsburgh and these papers shed light on this important period in local history.

Glass Plate and Celluloid Negatives

Roger Black continues his work in making these photos available. Currently through his efforts, over 100 images are on the North Country Public Radio People at Work web site. There are thousands of negatives, both portraits and scenes, still to be processed. The Brush Studio portrait negatives have all been alphabetized and are being logged by volunteers under the guidance of Simon George, who works for us under the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP). Once logged, names of portraits available will be shared through the CCHA web site. Simon's assignment with CCHA ended in October, but he has continued on as a volunteer. Patricia Amore, also working under SCSEP, joined us to help with the photo collection.

CCHA 2020 Coming Attractions

Note: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, CCHA has closed the museum to the public indefinitely, and cancelled or postponed all scheduled events for March and April. Please check our Facebook page or call (518) 561-0340 for updates on our calendar.

MARCH/APRIL

POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

- William Beaumont and His Legacy in Medical History, by Dr. Paolo Fedi*
- Prohibition in Northern New York, with a Focus on Clinton County and the Town of Champlain, by Larry Gooley*
- Plattsburgh's Stone Arch Bridge: An Historic Dedication Captured in Photos, by Roger Black*

MAY

- May 21—*The Story of Isaac Johnson, with Corky Reinhart***
North Country Underground Railroad Historical Association and Adirondack Architectural Heritage, co-sponsors. 6:30 p.m., Peru Community Church Hall.
- May 23—*Beekmantown Cemetery Tour*** 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Reservations required!
- May 28—*History of Education in Beekmantown: From One-Room Schoolhouses to the Largest District in Clinton County, by James Sears and Dan Mannix*** Beekmantown Bicentennial Committee, co-sponsor. Beekmantown Hall, 7 p.m.

JUNE

- June (Date TBD)—*Bluff Point Lighthouse Update, with Roger Harwood***
- June 11—*The History of Farming in Beekmantown, with Dr. Rick Grant, Miner Institute***
Beekmantown Bicentennial Committee and Clinton County Farm Bureau, co-sponsors. Beekmantown Hall, 7 p.m.
- June 13—*Clinton County History Conference***
Beekmantown Hall, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- June 20-21—*Museum Weekend***

JULY

- July/August—*Bluff Point Lighthouse*** Open Sundays, 1-3 p.m.
- July 12—*Sunday on the Island*** 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Reservations required! Tours of the Valcour Island Lighthouse, with transportation provided by CCHA. *Rain date Aug. 9.*
- July 23—*Camps Red Wing & Red Cloud on Point Au Roche, with Mary Simmers***. Beekmantown Bicentennial Committee, co-sponsor. Beekmantown Hall, 7 p.m.
- July 25—*Walking Tour of the U.S. Oval, with Helen Allen Nerska***. CCHA, 10:30 a.m.

AUGUST

- Aug. 1—*Suffrage Auto Tour***
Starts at CCHA, 9:30 a.m. (first of 4 weekends)
- Aug. 15—*Walking Tour of the U.S. Oval, with Helen Allen Nerska***. CCHA, 10:30 a.m.
- Aug. 19—*Women's Suffrage Story, with Helen Allen Nerska***. Sponsored by the Anderson Falls Historical Society. Town of Ausable Hall, 7 p.m.
- Aug. 26—*Women's Equality Day Celebration***
League of Women Voters of the North Country, co-sponsor. CCHA, 6:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

- Sept. 5—*CCHA Street Drive fundraiser*** 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Sept. 10-14—*Battle of Plattsburgh Weekend***
- Sept. 26—*Peru Cemetery Tour*** 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Reservations required!

OCTOBER

- October—*New York History Month***
- Oct. 10-11—*Digstock 2020*** Chazy, 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
- Oct. 10—*Out of the Attic, with Ted Comstock and Barb Stadnicki*** CCHA, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Oct. 10-11—*Path Through History Weekend***
- Oct. 17—*International Archeology Day***
- Oct. 22—*The Story of Junior Plattsburgh Camp on Point Au Roche with Rich Frost***. Beekmantown Bicentennial Committee, co-sponsor. Beekmantown Hall, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 29—*The New York Catholic Protectory and Farm Families of Clinton County in the Early 20th Century with Dan Ladue***. 6:30 p.m., venue TBD

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

- Nov. 11—*CCHA Annual Meeting***
- Nov. 28—*Small Business Saturday***
CCHA, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
- December 12-13—*CCHA Holiday Open House***

2019 Annual Report (cont.)

Historic Photographs Working Group

Roger Black formed this committee, and its purpose is to:

- Provide the CCHA Director and Trustees with a long term plan for the management, preservation and display of its photographic collection, particularly with regard to its archive of celluloid and glass plate negatives.

- Build and manage its online photo gallery including uploading images, setting searchable categories and encouraging the creation of additional formats for the use of photos to describe Clinton County's historical narrative.

- Suggest the most effective and practical method for storing the negatives in the collection including glass plate negatives and positives, celluloids, slides, digital images, prints, framed prints and any other image format in the CCHA collection.

- Set proper scanning and handling procedures when converting negatives and prints to a digital format and when sleeving and moving the negatives to their storage locations.

- Encourage the exhibition of CCHA photographs within the CCHA Museum as well as outside its walls.

- Promote and manage the sale of CCHA prints to businesses and individuals in the community to raise revenues for CCHA and support the efforts of the HPWG.

The group is tasked with identifying and loading historic photographs with captions on a new Diviner system, which was donated to CCHA by North Country Public Radio.

VOLUNTEERS

CCHA has over 60 volunteers, and our “all volunteer” Board is a working Board. The Trustees are chairs of committees, serve on committees and perform many other tasks that support our mission, as well as maintain our building and grounds.

Our volunteers maintain and open the Bluff Point Lighthouse, work with the on-going donations to our collection, process memberships, mow the grass, keep up the building, construct new signage and many other projects.



Long-time CCHA Trustee and volunteer Bill Rowe passed away in 2019. His dedication, energy and ideas left an indelible legacy on the organization. He will be missed.

We honor and thank our volunteers at an Annual Volunteer Appreciation Party provided by the Board of Trustees. We invite the in-house volunteers to a lunch to give them information and get their feedback and ideas about how we perform at the Museum. Each year some of those chosen to be honored at the Six Over Seventy event sponsored by the Senior Council are volunteers at CCHA.

And each year Director Helen Allen Nerska and Julie Dowd attend Museum Association of New York and Association of Public Historians of New York State meetings at their own expense and return with great ideas for CCHA.



FUNDRAISING

We continually work to come up with new ideas to raise funds and promote the Museum. We have had some very successful fundraisers such as Out of the Attic. Sales from our annual Holiday Ornament have been a huge success, and our Museum Shop has the largest collection of local history books in the area.

We had several grants this year: Chapel Hill and Stewart’s sponsored programs geared for youth and a program featuring SUNY students on

International Archaeology Day; and Rotary Club of Plattsburgh provided a grant to publish papers written by SUNY Plattsburgh students and Helen Allen Nerska about suffrage in Clinton County.

CCHA is often the recipient of donations in memory of the passing of a loved on, and we receive matching funds from Pfizer and Caterpillar thanks to members who have been employed at these companies.

Our Street Drive took in \$1,632 this year, down from \$1,941 last year in 2018, and remains an important fundraiser. This year’s take was down because we only had enough volunteers to occupy two intersections, rather than three in years past.

Our Annual Appeal raised more than \$7,000 in 2019 and is our major fundraiser. These fundraisers supplement funding we receive from the County each year in support of our Association/

2019 Annual Report (cont.)

Museum. In 2019, the County contributed \$27,030 for operating expenses. We are requesting \$28,500 for 2020. We are grateful to the County Legislature for their support. Our budget for 2020 is \$89,650, up from \$72,000 in 2019, due mostly to our part-time collections employee. The difference (approximately \$35,000) is made up in memberships, donations, corporate matches, shop sales, dividend interest, etc. So every little bit helps us to fulfil our mission and maintain our property. CCHA has many infrastructure issues, such as window replacement, that are being addressed and will require substantial funding.

COLLABORATION

During the Battle of Plattsburgh weekend, we offered tours of the Oval and other special events. President Geri Favreau was a speaker at the ceremony dedicating the footbridge over the Saranac to Kit Booth and Gary VanCour.

The local Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP), meanwhile, has provided us with two people to work on our glass plate and celluloid negatives and photo collection. These donated services are paid by SCSEP.

Clinton Community College requested we provide photos of Industry in Clinton County for their new Institute for Advance Manufacturing, and we are diligently working on this project. CCC will be providing a student intern to help.

We work closely with SUNY Plattsburgh and provided internships for six students, who gained experience working with collections and research. Additionally, eight students from the SUNY Anthropology Department did off site archeology work through CCHA on the Allen Farm site in Peru.

The League of Women Voters, Champlain Valley Business & Professional Women and CCHA co-sponsored an event at Meadowbrook Healthcare on Aug. 26 celebrating National Women's Equality Day.

CCHA is a supporter of and a participant in the Battlefield Memorial Gateway project sponsored by the Town of Plattsburgh and the County American Legion.

CCHA is already in the process of making plans for America 250, which will be held in 2026. Volunteers attended planning meetings in Saratoga Springs this year. We will be collaborating on this important event with the New York State Historian and the local Daughters of the American Revolution Chapter, as well as other organizations in the County and State.

We work closely with the Northern New York American-Canadian Genealogical Society (NNYACGS) and Adirondack Architectural Heritage (AARCH). UFirst Federal Credit Union helps with our Street Drive in memory of the late Joe Congelosi, who was a UFirst employee and CCHA trustee.

This year CCHA and North Country Public Radio worked together on the NCPR "North County at Work" project. NCPR had a grant for this project and gave CCHA photos, 18 easels, audio equipment and Diviner software, which, with volunteer support, will enable us to make our thousands of images

available for public viewing. The photos collected as part of this project will be on display in the hallway outside the Legislature office in the County building.

Other collaborations included:

- The Lake Champlain Basin Program provided banners celebrating the Year of the Salmon.
- CCHA supported the recent 90th Anniversary celebration of the local Kiwanis.
- CCHA nominated the Plattsburgh Aircraft Restoration crew for the Mayor's Cup "Spirit of Ianelli" Award, and the volunteers were extremely pleased when they were chosen for this prestigious honor. This dedicated group of volunteers are restoring the planes at the entrance to the Old Base Museum Campus.



North Country Public Radio's Amy Feiereisel worked with CCHA to present images for NCPR's "North Country at Work" project.

In addition, we collaborate with other museums, historians, cultural organizations, government (State, County, City, Towns & Villages), researchers, Adirondack Architectural Heritage (AARCH), Adirondack Coast Cultural Alliance (ACCA), American Legion (National and local posts), Association of Public Historians of New York State (APHNYS), Battle of Plattsburgh Committee, Champlain Valley Heritage Network (CVNHP), Clinton Community College, DAR/SAR, Documentary Heritage and Preservation Services for New York (DHPSNY), Friends of the Old Stone Barracks Committee, Home Town Cable, Kiwanis, Lake Forest Senior Community Center, Lakes to Locks, League of Women Voters, Mountain Lake PBS, National Public Radio, North Country Chamber, Office of the Aging/Senior Council/JCEO, Plattsburgh State University (PR/Marketing, Anthropology, Archeology, History Departments), Plattsburgh Memorial Chapel Association, Rotary, Seton Catholic, SCSEP, UFirst Federal Credit Union, United Way, Upward Bound, VFW, WIRY and others.

2019 Annual Report (cont.)

EVENTS

We had an ambitious calendar of events for 2019. CCHA either sponsored/hosted/attended or supported in some way well over 50 events in 2019, with over 1,500 attendees, not including all the Sundays that the Lighthouse was open. We attend all the ACCA meetings, held once a month in various locations around the County.

Museum Days is held the second weekend in June in conjunction with the New York State sponsored Path Through

available other tours of the County. This year we were again able to offer boat transportation to Valcour Island for people to visit the Bluff Point Lighthouse. We had more than 90 visitors over the two days and plan on offering these tours again next summer.

We offered many presentations on local history over the course of the year (e.g., Roger Black, Peter Slocum, Julie Dowd, Jan Couture, William D. Laundry, Helen Nerska, Penny Clute, Roger Harwood, Jim Jones, Ellen Adams and Jim Millard).

International Archaeology Day was Oct. 19, and SUNY Plattsburgh students did a program at CCHA. We participated in the Snow Ball children's winter break event and in June hosted Seton Catholic 4th graders.

EXHIBITS

In 2020, one of our galleries will feature an exhibit commemorating the Beekmantown bicentennial. In addition, 2020 will mark the 75th Anniversary of CCHA and an exhibit is being planned to celebrate this important event.

And once again, our volunteers will create the exhibit in the County Building Display Cases, as they've done for several months each of the past several years.

OUTREACH

CCHA had a presence at many events throughout the Region this year for example: State of the State and State of the County, Legislative Breakfast, Civil War Program in Canton, Parker Family Maple Festival, Pound the Ground (International Metal Detecting event), Chamber events such as Business Expo and Taste of the North Country, Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership Summit meeting, Museum related conferences, and many workshops to learn the proper care of our collection.

CCHA co-sponsored the first ever Clinton County History Conference held in June at the Town of Beekmantown town offices. This event drew over 50 participants and many, many positive comments. Plans are in the works for another conference in 2020.

We serve on the Battle of Plattsburgh, ACCA, and Friends of the Old Stone Barracks committees. We are the lead organization for the Destination Old Base Museum Campus and the Historic District project to promote the rich history of the North Country and region. Plans are being made to promote the Battle of Valcour in 2026 as part of the National DAR's commemoration of the Revolutionary War "America 250."

Each year we have numerous researchers who visit the Museum or contact us for information from our extensive Research Library. Our reconstructed website will feature many links that researchers and the general public will find very useful. We maintain three Facebook pages: general



Once again in 2019, CCHA created fascinating, informative exhibits for the County Building display cases.

History (PTH) weekend. Museum Days was the brainchild of Bob Parks and John Bernardi, and 2019 was the twelfth year! We work closely with ACCA, the Chamber and the Press Republican to make it a successful weekend for 17 museums in Clinton County.

There are two PTH weekends each year and CCHA offered a special event for the fall version – our annual "Out of the Attic" on Oct. 12. The public is invited to come with their treasures and for \$5/item receive a verbal appraisal. Ted Comstock, an insurance and estate appraiser, donates his time and expertise. These weekends are examples of our efforts to attract and retain visitors to the County, increasing sales tax revenue and sharing our history.

We offer walking and virtual tours of the U.S. Oval and have

CCHA Donors

April 2019 through January 2020

Ellen Adams and Josh Beatty, Adirondack Architectural Heritage, Algonquin Chap. of the ADK, Janet Alexander, Allen County Public Library, Ron and Carol Allen, Ara Asadourian, Beth Ashabrunner, Ausable Chasm Company.

Martha Bachman, Kathy and Ira Barbell, Larry and Vesta Barcomb, Jack Barrette, Betty and Bernard Bassett, Sylvie Beaudreau, Barb Beckwith/Town of Schuyler Falls, Jack and Donna Bell, Eleanor Berger, Rod and Christine Bigelow, Buck Bobbin and Meg LeFevre, Kit and Sally Booth, Helen Booth, Alan and Jennifer Booth, Tom Braga, Terrence and Michele Branon, Dick and Connie Brogowski, Warren Bennett/Brown Funeral Home, Angela Brown, Cindi Bruneau, Carolyn Burakowski, Edgar and Emily Burde.

William and Margaret Caldon, Caterpillar Foundation, Robert Cheeseman/Town of Chazy, Ann Keese Chien, Alice Church and Marty Mannix, Jane Claffey, Richard and Tilly Close, John and Penny Clute, Jim and Susan Coffey, Shirley Coffey, Paula Cormier and Sarah Gooley, Anne Coste, Herb and Irene Cottrell, Jan and Dave Couture, John and Barbara Crotty, Luke and Lisa Cyphers.

Ron Dahlgren, Saranac Chap. Of the DAR, Robert Davis and Carol Allen, James and Caroline Dawson, John Dawson, Suzanne and Glenn DeForge, Jeff and Mary Ellen Dengler, Msgr. Lawrence Deno, Nelson Disco, Joan Dominy, Bob and Mary Donlan, Barbara Dorrance, Julie Dowd, Rachel Dutil.

Debra Emili, Danielle Erb, Geri Favreau, Connie Fisher, Anne and Jack Fitzpatrick, Peter and Cornelia Forrence, Rich and Marty Frost, Jerry Gagnier, Anne Gearhart and Kathleen Shanahan, Gina and Maurice Gilbert, Maurica Gilbert and Noel Sowley, Rod and Dodie Giltz, David and Lynne Glenn, Eleanor Goldman.

Steve and Lee Harstedt, Roger Harwood, Judith Heintz, Alix Heuston, Sharron Hewston, Patricia Higgins and Mark Cohen, David and Mary Hinsman, Joan Hobbs/Town of Ellenburg, Rush Holt and Margaret Lancefield, John and Norma Homberger, Claudia Hornby, Jacqueline Huru, Mick Jarvis, Euclid and Susanne Jones.

Pete Keenan, Richard and Susan Kelley, Jane and Bill Kelting, Helen Kho, Debra Kimok, Carol Klepper, John Kronstadt, John Krueger, William Krueger and Suzy Johnson. Michael Lafontaine, Art Lajoy, Connie LaLonde, Rosemary LaMarche, Bill Laundry,

Bill and Beverly Leege, Katherine and Dorothy Lewis, James Lindgren and Mary Ann Weiglhofer, Roland and Martie Lockwood, Pat Loughan.

Jacqueline Madison, Kim and Dennis Manion, Eva Martin and Family, Stephen Martin, Mason Family, Beverly Maynard/Village of Champlain, Marshall and Ann Maynard, Mark and Deena McCullough, Nancy McGaulley, Linda McGuire, John and Rose McKee, David and Diane Merkel, Anne Merkley, Elizabeth and Thomas Metz, Barbara and Bruce Miers, Jim Millard, Jay Miner, Miles and Kelly Moody, Henry Morlock and Ursula Jones, Ruth Mowry, James and Janet Murnane, Pat and Sheila Murnane, Tom and Katherine Murnane, David and Elizabeth Murray, William and Barbara Murray.

Anna Nardelli, Merrie and Alan Nautel, Alex Nerska and Shannon Veedock, Helen Allen Nerska, Chris and Sandra Neuzil, Sylvia Newman, Mary Nicknish, George Norman, Northern NY Library Network, Northern Insuring, NYS Library, Cassidy O'Brian and Pam Seymour, Nancy Olsen, Joanne and Jack Orr.

Elaine Panton, Don and Vivian Papson, Celine Paquette, Peru Central School, Francis Peryea, Pfizer Foundation, Ernest Piscatello, Plattsburgh Professional Firefighters, Plattsburgh Boat Basin, Gordon and Sandra Pollard, Kris Portal. Russ and Chris Randolph, Donna Racine/Village of Rouses Point, Stan and Christina Ransom, Geri Rickert and Bill Umbreit, Sean Rosemeyer, John and Jean Ryan, Kevin and Mary Ryan, Martin Ryan.

Roby Scott/Town of Ausable, Colleen and Larry Seney/Village of Dannemora, Charles Smith, Jr., Fred Smith, Nancy Smith, Curt and Michele Snyder, John and Joanne Southwick, Ed Stansbury, Jeff and Janet Stephens, Noel and Debbie Stewart, Dave and Sandy Stortz, David and Roberta Sullivan, Scott Sutherland, Jack Swan. Shirley Tedford, Rosemary Thomas, Karin Thone, Town of Peru, Jaimie Trautman and Virginia Brady, Hunt True/True Insurance.

Lynn Valenti, Gary VanCour, June Venette, Irv and Marlene Waite, Alan and Jackie Walker, Karla Weincek, Steve and Sue Welch, Bill and Kay Wellman, Mark White, John Willey, Dale and Ruth Wolfe, Joel and Marla Wolkowicz, Peter Wollenberg/Wollenberg Building Conservation, Bill and Carlene Wood, Margot Zeglis, John Zurlo and Clinton County.



CLINTON COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

98 Ohio Avenue
Plattsburgh, NY 12903
Phone: (518) 561-0340
www.clintoncountyhistorical.org



@ClintonCounty
HistoricalAssociation

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Current Resident or:

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information, Clinton County Civil War Veterans, and The Bluff Point Lighthouse. We also post items of interest to the Old Base Museum Campus and ACCA Facebook pages.

CCHA Trustee Emeritus Julie Dowd has begun posting pictures and information about the numerous historic markers around the county on the Historic Markers and the Places They Represent in New York State Facebook page.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Our building (which formerly housed the 21st Infantry Band and the ROTC Headquarters) was built in 1905 and like all old buildings constantly needs attention. We have done the best we can with existing resources to maintain the building. The building has numerous cracked windows, a roof that has missing and falling shingles, peeling paint, etc. This year we had to replace two windows that fell apart. The bill for that project was \$4,400. We will be searching for grants to help with this much needed work. Billy Jones has recently made a grant available to CCHA for \$5,000. The plan is to use this funding to replace our front doors, which are outdated and not energy efficient.

PROJECTS

There is a long list of projects waiting for volunteers and/or interns to take them on. Noel Stewart, past president, has been

working on a WWI Project with the help of a SUNY Intern. The purpose of this project is to provide a narrative regarding the role of Clinton County before during, and after the war and to provide a record of Clinton County men and women who served in the armed forces during the war. Historical newspapers and other resources will be used to describe community opinion and events of this period.

This will include war preparedness, the draft, contributions to the war effort, and the Armistice/Homecoming. The narrative will set the stage for recognizing Clinton County men and women who served. Their service records, draft registration records, pictures, stories, will be researched and included wherever possible. A record of World War I veterans buried in Clinton County will also be included and listed by town and cemetery.

AND FINALLY...

At our Annual Meeting in November, we elected new board members, shared our accomplishments, and enjoyed a lecture from Corky Reinhart on Isaac Johnson, a freed slave who went on to become an influential stone mason and architect.

We thank each and every one of our members, volunteers and all who are interested in preserving Clinton County history and supporting our association and museum throughout the year!