

INFORMER

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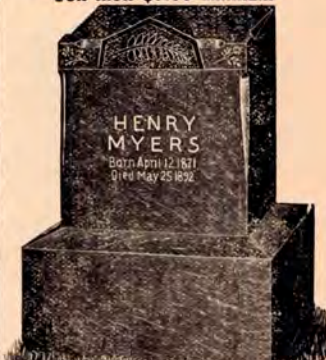
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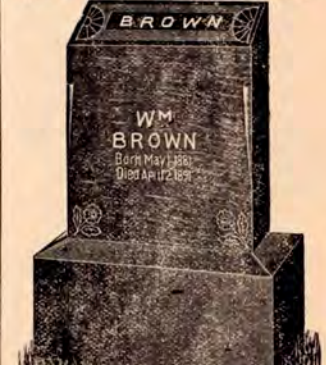
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INFORMER JANUARY 2017

Correspondence about dues, memberships, and lost *Informers* should be directed to:
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Letters to the editor use the "contact page" on www.jcnygs.com or: Editor, JCNYS
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 Watertown, NY 13601



The JCNYS Presidency as of 1 October 2016: In the photo, left to right, Larry Corbett, President; Roberta Calhoun-Eagan, Secretary; Greg Plantz, Treasurer; and Tom LaClair, Vice President. Photo by JCNYS Member Jim Eagan.

Happy New Year to our readers

I hope all the members will join me in thanking President Tom LaClair, Vice President Ann Davis, Recording Secretary Tammy Plantz, Program Chairman Roberta Calhoun-Eagan, and Jerry Davis and the Informer Committee for their service over the past year. Thanks also to the new officers. Tom LaClair is our new Vice-President, Roberta Calhoun-Eagan our Recording Secretary, and Greg Plantz our Treasurer.

Tammy Plantz will be serving as Correspondence Secretary. Roberta and Jerry have agreed to serve another year as Chairs of their committees. In 2017, the Society hopes to index the Informers of the past 6 years to merge with previous indices, last compiled by the late Al Seymour. For the 100th Anniversary of US involvement in World War I, we will be spotlighting Jefferson County's involvement. The Society will be hosting the NY State Conference of Genealogical Organizations meeting in April. A committee headed by Jerry Davis will be looking at our Bylaws and Constitution with the intention of offering recommendations for the consolidation of committees and chair offices to better suit our needs.

Thanks for reading. I look forward to serving you for the next year,

Larry Corbett, President

Feedback from one of our members

JCNYS, I just wanted you to know that I have received my father's military records. The process was painless and very easy thanks to your 8 February 2016 presentation on "National Personnel Records Center, Military Personnel Records, St. Louis, Missouri". My father was in the Navy and the records were available. My husband's father was in the Army and there were no records available because of the fire in the Archives. It did take about 6 months to get everything so there is a wait involved, even if they notify you that there are records available.

Faye Simmons
 Potsdam, St. Lawrence County, New York.

Faye, thank you for the feedback. We are happy you were able to attend the presentation and we are even happier to know you were able to receive your father's military records. We love to hear and share member success stories.

JCNYS

Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society

Meeting Minutes, October 10, 2016

The October 10, 2016 meeting of the JCNYSGS was called to order. Attending were: Thomas F. LaClair, Nancy Kaul, George Inglehart, Jerry and Marilyn Davis, M. Russell Lee, Tammy and Greg Plantz and Larry Corbett.

Larry Corbett reported that Coughlin Printing was paid \$506.76 for the recent printing of the *Informer*. Also a motion was made and seconded to approve payment to Larry Corbett for reimbursement of up to \$49 for his purchase of supplies in his capacity as President of the organization.

A discussion of the various committees ensued. It was noted that Tom LaClair as Vice-President will oversee the Association's Facebook account. No one as yet has been appointed to the position of Chairman of the Program Committee. Three notebooks of "Inventories of Genealogical Collections in Jefferson County" were taken by Greg Plantz who will attempt during the winter to scan their pages.

Under the agenda item of "Unfinished Business" Tammy Plantz was appointed Corresponding Secretary.

Announcements included:

Next meeting is on Saturday, Nov. 12 at 1 PM at LDS. Program at November 12 meeting is entitled, "Westminster Park, A Tapestry of Tales" which will be presented by Leigh Charron and Linda Twitchell.

The motion to adjourn the business portion of the meeting was made by Jerry Davis and seconded by Marilyn Davis. Motion passed.

Following the business portion of the meeting, Nelson Eddy was introduced. Mr. Eddy presented a very

interesting program on "The Grange." The Grange was originally created in 1867 in Washington, DC for Fredonia, NY. Fredonia Grange #1 was established. There were 6 original Granges established in Jefferson County and there were at one time 33 Granges in Jefferson County. Membership then was as high as 600 members. But, today there are 8 Granges left in our county. During the Grange history, Jefferson County lays claim to having had 2 State Masters and 1 National Overseer.

Mr. Eddy proved a wealth of information. As one might expect, the Grange is very involved in the Jefferson County Fair. Mr. Eddy and Dave Shampine, retired writer for the *Watertown Daily Times*, are presently collaborating on a book on the history of the Jefferson County Fair. The Grange for nearly 150 years helped advance our Nation, particularly in the area of agriculture. Anyone desiring more information regarding the Grange can contact Mr. Eddy through the Grange of Champion in Jefferson County, NY.



President Larry poses for a picture with Nelson Eddy

A couple of Mr. Eddy's many displays



Nelson Eddy presents his program on the Grange



Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society

Meeting Minutes, November 12, 2016

Roberta Calhoun-Eagan, Secretary

The monthly meeting of the JCNYS was held on November 12th. Attendees included Marilyn and Jerry Davis, Connie Barone, Bruce and Mary Erskine-Coyne, Judy Fiorentino, Mary and Bill Dasno, Joan Lewis, Larry Corbett, Tom LaClair, Mary Corboy, Linda and David Twichell, Jean (Tina) Thorp, Robert and Leigh Charron, Jeannie Brennan, and Jim and Roberta Calhoun-Eagan.

President Larry Corbett reported for Treasurer Greg Plantz that our checking account balance is \$5,407.91; other accounts have changed minimally. He reported that Jerry Davis will review our constitution and bylaws, which have remained unchanged for 12-15 years. Starting in February Larry will review one suggested revision monthly, and then vote on these as a unit. In the interim, Larry appointed Tammy Plantz as Corresponding Secretary, and wishes to defer elections for this office as well as for the long-vacant Second VP position until bylaws are revised.

There are only 28 *Informer* issues remaining to be indexed; Larry suggested this as a 2017 group project. Mark Wentling, who professionally indexes area history books, has offered to provide formatting suggestions for consistency. The goal is to have one place to search through 20+ years of *Informers*. Next, Roberta submitted a partial list of upcoming programs. A motion was made and carried to move the final 2017 meeting from November 11 to the 4th due to Veterans Day. After discussion, a motion was made, seconded and approved to reimburse our upcoming Canadian speaker Jim Brownell a \$100.00 honorarium in US dollars for his travel expenses this September.

For Membership, Vice President Tom LaClair reported we have 250 members including 20 organizations. A motion was made and approved to earmark a recent \$50 donation to cover dues for up to 3 members in need. Tom reminded us that JCNYS will host the New York State Council of Genealogical Organizations (NYSCGO) meeting this Spring. He then proposed a Sunday for our Christmas Party, and

the group quickly settled on December 11. All members are invited; details are forthcoming. Jerry Davis expressed a need for a successor to manage the *Informer*. We have had 16 queries already, which may be a record for one issue.



David Twichell assisting the program

Motion and second to close the business portion of the meeting were accepted. Roberta introduced speakers Leigh Charron and Linda Twichell, who discussed, "Westminster Park: A Tapestry of Tales." Located 7 miles from TI Park at the east end of Wellesley Island (also the northern boundary of Jefferson County), Westminster Park was a planned river community of the 1870s under the auspices of the Presbyterian church. An engaging 135-year history was illustrated through family albums and portraits, diaries, letters, logs, legal documents, newspaper articles and published promotional materials. The program closed with a moving virtual tour of the cemetery where the residents we briefly "met" through their photographs and stories now rest.

Fred Inglehart fishing in Poplar Bay, Westminster Park in 1910



Leigh Smith and Linda Twichell

The 12 Important Genealogy Dos and Don'ts You Need to Know

Courtesy of Familyhistorydaily.com

Whether family history research is your newest hobby or a lifelong passion — pitfalls are everywhere and sometimes they're hard to spot. From forgetting to back up your data to limiting your research options, these important dos and don'ts will help you avoid some of the most common issues facing family historians today.

1. DO interview family members while you still have a chance. Many family historians are nervous about asking family members for important information about their family's history or requesting copies of documents and photos — but doing so is a must. Once the information is lost, it is lost forever, so gather it while you can and store it somewhere safely. The interview process can also be a great way to learn new things about those you care about.

2. DON'T store all of your information in one place. Every day we hear stories about people who have lost years of research to a computer crash or some other disaster. Find a secure way to back up your data and do it regularly. Online cloud storage services, such as Amazon Cloud or Google Drive, are great options, or you can purchase an external hard drive or memory card easily online. Another great way to safely store your information *and* share it with others is by starting a family history blog.

3. DO make sure that every single detail in your tree has a reliable source, and preferably two. Take the time to educate yourself about what sources you can usually count on for accurate data and what sources should always be questioned. And, no matter the source, always attempt to back up your findings. It only takes one incorrect fact to send a tree off on the wrong path and, online, these errors can spread like wildfire.

4. DON'T copy other people's family trees. Not only are online trees often inaccurate and poorly sourced, which could lead to major issues with your own tree, but doing your own research will lead you to discover more information and will help you build a larger and more accurate tree. Use the information you find in other trees for reference only and spend your time looking for records.

5. DO share your information with others and ask for help when needed. Family history research is challenging, but it can be nearly impossible at times if researchers are not willing to reach out for help or share what they have. Additionally, connecting with other family historians can be a great way to make



5 Female Officers of the Women's League, Newport, R.I. c1899. Library of Congress

new friends, discover "lost" family members and advance your hobby. Consider joining a local or online research group or emailing others who are researching the same people as you are.

6. DON'T limit yourself to just a few websites. It may be easy to head over to Ancestry or FamilySearch every time you want to look for a new record, and these big sites have a lot to offer, but there are literally hundreds of high quality research sites online and many of them are free of charge. You'll make many new discoveries by taking the time to explore all of your options.

7. DO understand how to use search engines to find what you need. You'll miss a great deal of online information if you simply type in a search and hit go. There are many tips and tricks that can help you uncover buried information and sift through the oodles of possible results you'll encounter.

8. DON'T limit yourself to online records. A trip to a local historical society or library — or even a simple online order of an offline record — can often provide you with the information you need to climb a new branch of your family tree or tear down walls that are standing in your way. Don't be afraid to explore the important offline resources available to you. Local volunteers are usually eager to help.

9. DO be flexible when searching databases. One of the biggest mistakes made by new family historians is searching only for exact names and dates. Very often, these important pieces of information were recorded incorrectly — so always be flexible when using online databases that rely on your search terms to retrieve the correct document. Try name variations and broad date ranges to increase your chances of finding a match. When searches fail, be willing to browse for the information you need. You'll often be

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surprised by how much you missed.

10. DON'T get sidetracked. It is easy to jump from one task to another in family history research — but focusing on one family, person or event will allow you to understand the (often minute) details you need to work through your toughest problems. If you want to build a solid tree and make consistent progress, staying focused on the task at hand is the best way to do it. Of course, we all need to step back sometimes when we get stuck, but don't be afraid to record (in detail) where you left off and come back again to finish the job.

11. DO educate yourself about the location your ancestors lived in. What records are available online and offline? What churches, schools and employers were active during your ancestors' lives? Were there changes to the location's name that you should know about? What major events happened that could have influenced people's movements and life choices? Truly understanding your ancestors' communities will open new doors in your research and help you grow your tree.

12. DON'T give up. There will certainly be times when the task of locating a specific piece of information seems impossible — but creativity, education and persistence can help you overcome most obstacles.



AN EARLY DAIRY DYNASTY

By Lenka Walldroff

F.X. Baumert and Co. introduced Muenster cheese to United States

Article reprinted from the Winter 2015 NNY Living Magazine with permission

From the mid-19th century until about 1930, Jefferson County reigned as the "Cheese Capital of the World." In fact, at the time, more cheese was bought and sold on the Watertown Cheese Exchange than anywhere else in the world. Jefferson County's cheese notoriety came from humble origins, however, with the first dairy farm opening in Rutland in 1834 with 20 cows. As road conditions were often poor, or roads were non-existent, travel took significantly longer in previous centuries than it does today. In pre-refrigeration times, this proved problematic for farmers trading in perishable goods like milk.

American author Clifton Fadiman once quipped, "Cheese is milk's leap toward immortality"— and indeed it is. Cheese making was a solution to a problem north country dairy farmers faced. Cheese became a way for dairy farms in the remote areas of Northern New York to ship their product to more densely populated downstate markets without spoiling. Cheese making also proved to be a profitable home



F. X. and Christine Baumert. Photo courtesy
Watertown Daily Times archives.

industry for small farms that sold their milk locally. The manufacturing of artisan cheeses was so popular in the north country, in fact, that most villages had their own cheese making cooperatives. Cooperatives pooled milk and resources from several neighboring farms, which made the production and marketing of cheese more affordable.

Considering the gender roles and socio-economics of the 19th century it may surprise some to learn that women were front and center in the north country's cheese-making tradition. Perhaps it was because "home industries" fell under the purview of women anyway, or maybe men were occupied with other aspects of farm life, but for whatever reason there is a history of women managing cheese production in Northern New York. Historical accounts abound of women living on and managing cheese cooperatives with their families and even the occasional example of dairy farms and cheese factories run solely by women.

One such "cheese mistress" was Christine Baumert. This dynamic, competent, and determined woman was the second wife of Francis Xavier Baumert, a German immigrant and dairyman who opened a cheese factory in the village of Sanford Corners, now Calcium, in 1857. In addition to his cheese interests, which resulted in the production of the very first Muenster cheese in the United States, Mr. Baumert was also a furniture maker, tobacconist, and real estate speculator. In August 1861, shortly after the death of his first wife, F.X. Baumert married 24-year-old Christine Ackerman. Between 1863 and 1875, Christine gave birth to seven children — six boys and a girl, which, in addition to the children from F.X. Baumert's first marriage, brought the family's grand total to 10 children. Besides running a busy household in Sanford Corners and another home in New York City, Mrs. Baumert also commuted back and forth to New York with her husband to assist with business matters. Within the span of a few years, under the Baumerts' watchful eyes, the small family cheese

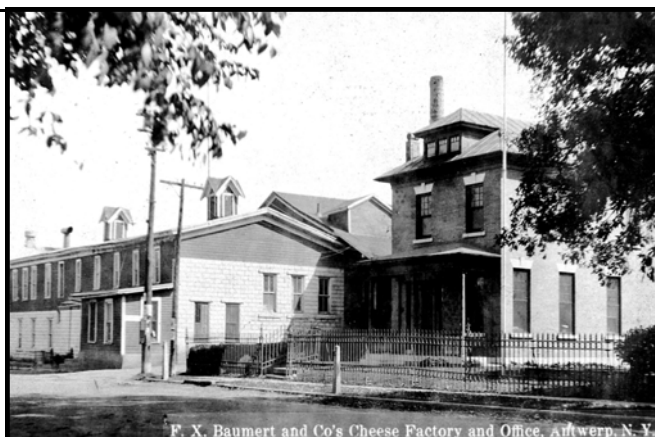
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factory in Sanford Corners flourished and expanded.

In addition to her family and business endeavors, Mrs. Baumert was also a devoutly religious woman. A strong German Catholic, she had a priest come every morning to the Baumert household to celebrate Mass in the family's chapel. She also arranged for Mass to be celebrated regularly at the cheese factory for the convenience of the workers there. Mrs. Baumert's pious and charitable example was not lost on her daughter, Mary Christine Baumert, who eventually made her religious professions and joined a convent in Montreal, Quebec.

When F. X. Baumert died in 1882 at age 60, he left behind six minor children, 11 cheese factories in Northern New York, and one in Quebec. In fact, between the years of 1890 and 1920, the Baumert's Antwerp factory had the distinction of being the largest cheese factory in the United States, employing approximately 100 people. The Baumert family legacy couldn't have been left in more capable hands.

Mrs. Baumert carried on after her husband's passing, deftly managing her large family, multiple households and various business interests. She continued to and from New York City to market the family's cheese and upon her return home didn't hesitate to roll up her sleeves and get back to overseeing cheese making. In addition to the Muenster cheese that her husband introduced to the American markets, in the years after her husband's passing, Christine Baumert herself developed local varieties of Camembert, Neufchatel, and cream cheeses.



The F.X. Baumert and Co. cheese factory and office, Antwerp. At the turn of the 20th century, the factory was the largest of its kind in the country. Photo courtesy Watertown Daily Times archives.

Mrs. Baumert died in 1897 at age 60. After her death, the Baumert cheese empire was successfully run by two of her sons for the following 30 years. In 1928 the company and its holding were sold to Borden Inc., at the time one of the largest producers of dairy and pasta products in the United States.

Christine Baumert's life was a picture of the American Dream, a vivid example of the fruits of hard work and self-determination, both in business and in family life.

Lenka P. Walldroff is former curator of collections for the Jefferson County Historical Museum. She is a former museum specialist and conservator at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. She lives in Jefferson County with her husband and two children. Her column appears in every issue of NNY Living.

Stone Mills had a one room district school

All the scholars for this unidentified year are shown in this picture. First row (left to right): Carl Gailey, Dale Dorr,



Aden Mowers, Earl Graham, Charles Gailey, Thomas Jackson. Second row (left to right): Henry Scoville, Mable Baxter (Mason), Mary Baxter (Dean), Edith Jeffers, Helen Wilder, Rose Scovil (Wilder), Grace LaGraves (Joles), Edith Jackson (Sanford), lone Wilder (Mitchell), Martin Johnson. Third row (left to right): Edna Jeffers (Dixon), Belle Gailey (Ebbilie), Fannie Dorr (Nellis), Mae LaGraves (Braden), Mabel Mitchell (Denison), Elmer Wilder, Nellie Graves (Sloat), Maude Wilder, Lottie Johnson. Fourth row (left to right): Isaac Mitchell, Herbert H. Nelson (teacher), Frank Schram. Names in brackets are the married names. Photo was taken by John Irwin, prominent Stone Mills merchant. The school eventually burned. It occupied the site of the current wood frame schoolhouse at the Agricultural Museum at Stone Mills. Source: Photo from Town of Orleans website.



By JCNYS Vice President Thomas F. LaClair

This spotlight is the third installment among the 22 towns that comprise Jefferson County, New York. Last quarter we shared insight on the Henderson Harbor Historical Society and the Town of Henderson. This quarter my travels took me to the LaFargeville in the Town of Orleans where I was delighted to view their holdings and do some personal research myself. The information in this article comes from two primary sources; a personal visit to the Town of Orleans Historian Kelly Brown Orvis, who also serves as the Town of Orleans Librarian. I also pulled information from the Jefferson County NY GenWeb website.

To set the tone, the following is from Jefferson County New York GenWeb site: "Penet Square is an integral part of the history of the Town of Orleans. In 1788 an Oneida Indian treaty ceded a tract ten miles square to Peter Penet "for services rendered". Penet gave his name to the land, but soon sold it, and it passed through many purchasers before it came into the hands of John LaFarge sometime between 1817 and 1823. Litigation clouded settlers' titles to their farms until 1830. Penet Square, as it is called, lay wholly within the original Town of Orleans, but when the Town of Clayton was formed, the new town included



Kelly Brown Orvis, Town of Orleans Historian, is browsing through a historical binder. Photo by Thomas LaClair, Dec 2016

two fifths of Penet Square.

Settlement began, despite the legal squabbles, around 1806 by squatters, who took the land and developed their farms, knowing they had no real title but hoping for the best. John LaFarge had little sympathy with the squatters, some of whom disputed his ownership. The first of the farmers was Roderick Frazier, who built his log cabin in 1806 about two miles north of what is now Stone Mills. Peter Pratt followed in 1807, making his clearing south of Stone Mills. Word of this "free land" spread in the Mohawk Valley, drawing many penniless settlers from that area. No record has been kept of them, and when LaFarge demanded payment, they left the area.

Dr. Reuben Andrus and Benjamin Page, both Vermonters, settled in 1816, heading a flood of legal settlers. On 3 April 1821, the Towns of Brownville and Le Ray gave birth to the Towns of Alexandria, Philadelphia and Orleans, Orleans being the only one to be created wholly from Brownville. Thus researchers find that people recorded in Brownville in the census of 1820 are found in Orleans in the census of 1825, without ever having moved.

Orleans is located in the northernmost range of towns, with a neck of land giving it access to the St Lawrence River, and cutting Wellesley Island in two pieces. The Town of Clayton is its west boundary; Brownville and Pamela are on the south, while Le Ray, Theresa and Alexandria make up the eastern boundary. The St Lawrence River and the Town of Alexandria lie to the north, giving Orleans a Canadian border, made more important by the international Thousand Islands Bridge.



LaFargeville Map, by S. N. & D. G. Beers and Assistants, C. K. Stone Publisher, 1864

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Orleans House

Back in the 1800's a wooden platform supported by a masonry stone wall extended the whole length of the East side. In those days the traveling salesmen would have their trunks containing sample wares unloaded on this platform. Later this changed to a solid cement platform and finally an ornamental wall was added along the front.

Orleans Hotel, originally the LaFarge House (not to be confused with LaFarge Mansion). This building still stands today. Source: Photo from "LaFarge and His Mansion" by Bessie Walldroff, 1981

The principal village of the Town of Orleans is LaFargeville, named for the early proprietor of the town. Originally called Log Mills, it is the site of a once impressive stone mansion, now in ruins, built by Mr. LaFarge. Stone Mills, originally Collins' Mills, was probably the first settlement in the town. Today, the Northern New York Agricultural Museum in Stone Mills houses extensive exhibits of early farming and housekeeping in the area, as well as a restored church, school and cheese factory. Orleans Four Corners, formerly Shantyville, is a crossroads in the eastern part of the town, today reduced to a church and a cluster of houses. More populous and developed are the later settlements on Wellesley, originally Wells, Island, one of the larger of the Thousand Islands. In the 1870s, a Methodist camp meeting association laid out lots on the upper end of the Island, today known as Thousand Island Park, a summer resort also having a year round population. Grand View Park and Fine View are other communities on the island, which also holds a large state park. Other places on the mainland are Fisher's Landing, De LaFarge Corners, Port Orleans and Collins Landing. Collins Landing is now occupied by the approaches to the Thousand Islands Bridge."

Fun facts from the 1864 Jefferson County Atlas for the Town of Orleans:

Acres of Land: Improved: 13,765 and Unimproved: 15,157

Valuation: Real Estate: 506,788 and Personal Property: 41,445

Population: Males: 1,533; Females: 1,463; Dwellings: 481; Families: 560

Schools: Districts: 20; Children Taught: 1,208

Livestock: Horses: 909; Working Oxen: 1,806; Cows: 2,662; Sheep: 2,269; Swine: 1,262

Agricultural Products: Bushels of Winter Grain: 12,874; Bushels of Spring Grain: 100,261; Tons of Hay: 5,488; Bushels of Potatoes:

7,531; Bushels of Apples: 1,681; Pounds of Butter: 212,975; and Pounds of Cheese: 8,320.
End GenWeb quotes.

Now that you have a basic overview of the region's early history, you might ask what modern day research products are available. During my December 2016 visit, town Historian and Librarian Kelly Orvis shared an overview of her research material. She first talked about having Ancestry.com available for free at the library—compliments of the North Country Library System. She then displayed numerous scrapbooks filled with clippings from the 1940's, miscellaneous election polls from 1854, various yearbooks with class photos from the 1940s and newer, cemetery records for Orleans and Grove cemeteries, assorted family name files from some of the earliest families of the area, assessment rolls from 1857, tax records from the mid-1800s, old business ledgers, High School Alumni News 1919 – 1979; attendance records for the District 14 Union School 1898 – 1907; assorted mortgage & deed papers, Geographical Gazetteer of Jefferson County, 1684 – 1890; information on John LaFarge and his mansion, and much more. All items are available on request and will remain in the library. Of interest, Kelly mentioned that LaFargeville received its official name on 4 July 1825 when it was changed from the earlier name Log Mills. Who changed the name: John LaFarge himself during the 4th of July festivities!

Of particular interest for those having ancestors in the Town of Orleans, you will want to view the "Timmerman Diaries." Sisters Mary and Martha Timmerman religiously wrote in their diary each night for 46 years—beginning 1 January 1870 and ending 31 December 1916. The Timmerman Diary today is a valuable insight into Town of Orleans events as they happened. Ernest Cook, *Watertown Daily Times* writer and historian, had the diary entries printed in the newspaper. Those clippings are what you will find at the library today. Among the clippings you will not only learn of the weather, but funerals, marriages, tragedies of the day, Timmerman family history, and short tidbits on major events in the area—a wealth of information for any historian or individual doing local genealogical research.

Another must review is the "Subjective History of the Town of Orleans" produced by the Town of Orleans Public Library from papers of the "LaFargeville Evening Study Club" collected and organized by Edith Brown, produced 1958 - 1960. Older Town of Orleans history can be easily found on the internet, to include the Jefferson County NY GenWeb. However this study club history captures not only older information, it captures modern history from the early to mid 20th Century. The study club book contains over 30 chapters on subjects such as: People in the Armed Forces, Rural Schools, Village Schools, Country Stores, Old Roads in Orleans, Milk Plants;
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The de LaFarge mansion was the home of one of the French landowners in the Town of Orleans. Source: Photo from Town of Orleans website

Area Churches, Stone Houses and Buildings, 4H and Youth Clubs, The Thousand Islands Bridge, Indian and early White Settlers, Business Before and After the Auto, a Chapter on Memories, and more. This history is personal history of your parents and grandparents. Both of these books (Timmerman Diary and Subjective History) are available on request at the library and can be reviewed during library hours. You can reach the Library by visiting New York State Route 180, LaFargeville, New York 13656 (library is located in the center of the small village) or calling 315-658-2271. The library hours are: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9:00 AM to 12 Noon & 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM, Tuesday 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM, and Saturday 10:00 AM to Noon.

Now for those seeking vital statistics and vital certificates: To obtain Town of Orleans vital statistics, you will want to visit the Town of Orleans Clerk Tammy Donnelly. The town offices are located behind the LaFargeville School, a one minute drive or five minute walk from the library. You can generally expect to find birth and death and marriage records 1882 – 1913 and birth and death records 1914 – 1950. There are also the 1847 – 1849 vitals that are on-line—the link is provided below. Plan to give the office a call before your visit to confirm what is available. The hours are Monday – Friday 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, closed 12:00 Noon to 1:00 PM for lunch. Tammy's mailing address is P. O. Box 103, LaFargeville, New York 13656 and her phone number is 315-658-9950. Her e-mail address is: orleanstownclerk@netscape.net

In conclusion, some 210 years from the first settlers in the area, the Town of Orleans government site reads: "Nestled between Clayton and Alexandria Bay, we are the Outdoor Capital of the 1000 Islands. There is something for everyone! The Town of Orleans boasts of having more campsites than anywhere else in NY State. There are ample opportunities to hike or bird watch, with trails for all seasons. Orleans is also the

home to NY's Northern Most Winery. There is always something to do with its Agricultural Museum, Craft Fair, Blue Grass Festival, Fishing, Boating, Hunting, Dirt Track, Golf Courses, and Cross Country Skiing. And, the 1000 Island Bridge crossing to Canada, Kingston and Ontario, Watertown, Sackets Harbor, Clayton, and Alexandria Bay are all within 30 minutes or less. With Good Food and Friendly Folks, Come Be A Part of Our Family."

Other helpful information and links:

The Town of Orleans, Jefferson County NY GenWeb:

<http://jefferson.nygenweb.net/orleans.htm>

History of Orleans, New York From Our County And Its People A Descriptive Work On Jefferson County New York Edited By: Edgar C. Emerson:

<http://history.rays-place.com/ny/orleans-ny.htm>

Wikipedia's Orleans, New York: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Orleans,_New_York

The Town of Orleans Government Website: <http://www.townoforleans.com/>

Bartlett's Cemetery Inscriptions: <http://jefferson.nygenweb.net/bartorle.htm>

Vital Records 1847, 1848 and 1849: <http://jefferson.nygenweb.net/vrecorle.htm>

Undated post card news photo of the Town Hall and Main Street in LaFargeville. Today this first building on the left is the American Legion Post 1788. Photo from *Watertown Daily Times* files



The Town Hall in LaFargeville. From an old post card submitted by Mrs. Helena Docteur, Rosiere, N. Y.

Stone Mills Cheese Factory Cheese Factory and home of David and Elizabeth Schell near the Stone Mills Church Photo from Town of Orleans website



The Thimble Society and The Old Caswell Cemetery

Condensed from a 1943 article by Ernest G. Cook
Submitted by Secretary Roberta Calhoun-Eagan

A small Theresa burial ground now known as Chauflys Corners cemetery originally went by the name of Caswell. Now surrounded by a chain link fence, the original fence was carefully planned and funded by a church group that oversaw the grounds during the 1920s with loving care. This is their story.

It is just a scant quarter mile from Chauflys Corners, on the west side of the Chauflys Corners-Evans Mills road, near the Theresa-LeRay town line. You climb up several stone steps as you leave the highway and enter through an iron gate to plunge at once into thick growth of rose bushes. The bushes, in places almost hide the tombstones. More than that, they hide dozens of woodchuck holes that one has to be on his guard to avoid lest he wrench a leg.

There is a neat fence around the lot which is probably about an acre of land, and this fence has a history. That is, the manner in which money was raised for it makes a story.

The women of Perch Lake-Pink Schoolhouse Methodist church did a lot of sewing and cooking to provide the funds for this fence. The society is known as the Thimble Society and the members were justly proud when they completed their work some years ago.

But now about the name. People today speak of it as the Chauflys Corners cemetery, but not old timers. They stick to the correct name of Caswell cemetery. When the town of Theresa was organized 102 years ago, the first town meeting was held in the public house of Marcius B. Ashley in the village of Theresa. The officers elected included three justices of the peace.... [one being] Osmyn Caswell... [who] resided in the Chauflys Corners section, a community of considerable importance on the old Military road, now the state Watertown-Ogdensburg highway.

When the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Pease died in 1835 it was Mr. Caswell who suggested that the community should have a burial ground of its own. And he gave the community this land on the rise of ground bordering the highway, and from his own farm, for burial purposes. The first grave was that of the Pease child. Thus it became known and properly so as the Caswell Cemetery.

The original article, "Caswell Cemetery's History is Reviewed," appeared in the July 24, 1943 edition of the Watertown Daily Times.

Captions: The last known time this cemetery was

identified by its original name was in the 1922 obituary of Stuart E. Scott.



Caswell (Chauflys) Cemetery in 2016



“Life may not be a party we hoped for; but while we’re here, we should dance.”

– Unknown

**THE VISION OF BEMAN BROCKWAY
LED TO THE CREATION
OF THE WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES**

Watertown Daily Times
150th Anniversary 1861 – 2011
Reprinted from the *Watertown Daily Times*
Thursday, Sep. 22, 2011

A breezy and snowy month of March in 1860 greeted the arrival of Beman Brockway in the village of Watertown. He found a bustling community of about 6,600 people that had rebounded from a devastating fire 11 years earlier.

The weekends were particularly busy, with farmers leaving their toils at home to carry on their business affairs. Perhaps after a stop at one of the two livery stables in town, they might stock up on feed at the Union Mills, Eli Farwell & Co., at River and Mill streets.

There were six banks in town. To mail a three-cent letter, pick up a telegraph message or place a notice in the local paper, the *Watertown Weekly Reformer*, all one had to do was stroll into the new Paddock Arcade. There, Ma and the little ones could treat on baked goods or ice cream in Chases Bazaar, while Pa might slip into nearby George's Saloon for a quick thirst-quencher. Or there was Copeland's Saloon on Court Street.

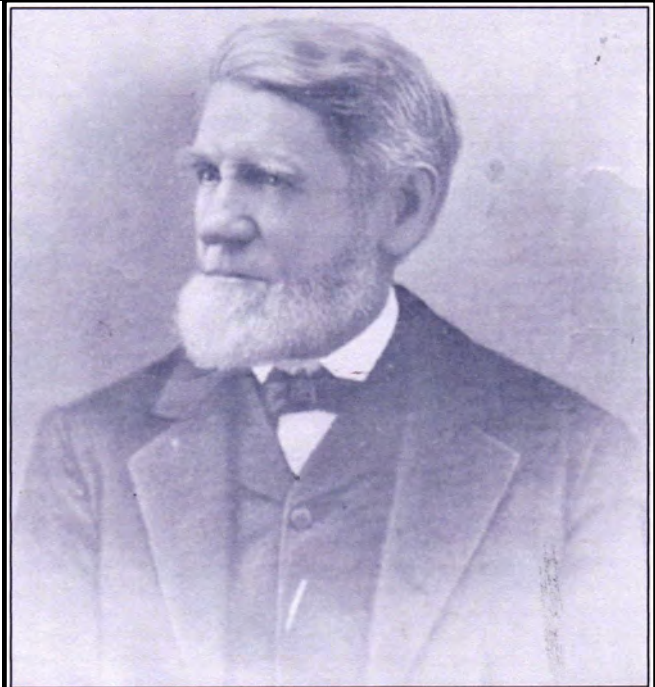
Dr. H. G. P. Spencer on Stone Street, a surgeon, was among the six doctors in Watertown. Eight law firms tended to legal issues in the growing county seat. Chief Fred Emerson headed the volunteers of the five fire companies in a village boasting five schools. After a night's stay in the Woodruff House, a visitor could express his faith in any of nine churches on the day of rest.

A trustee at the Universalist Church, located on the southeast corner of Public Square, was Lotus Ingalls, owner of *The Reformer*. It was he whom Mr. Brockway was coming to visit, to join in his business.

Mr. Brockway had been in Albany a month earlier when he met John A. Haddock, who held interest in *The Reformer* and who was an assistant clerk in the state Assembly. Mr. Brockway, with his 45th birthday approaching, and having been involved in journalism for most of his past 30 years, was looking to purchase a newspaper.

"Go to Watertown," Mr. Haddock suggested. "There is room enough in *The Reformer* for Ingalls, yourself and me. We would make a strong team and a great paper."

Mr. Haddock promised, "I will write to Ingalls at once, and if he consents, as I have no doubt he will, we will sell you a third of the concern."



Beman Brockway created the *Watertown Daily Times* to meet the demands of readers during the U.S. Civil War.

"There is no better location than Watertown, and no better newspaper establishment than *The Reformer*."

Mr. Ingalls was receptive to the idea, so "I came to Watertown, looked over the books and business as well as I could, and decided to purchase a third interest," Mr. Brockway wrote in his autobiography, *Fifty Years in Journalism*.

A page two paragraph in *The Reformer* on March 22, 1860, announced, "The Hon. Beman Brockway, late of Oswego County, will henceforth be associated with the undersigned in the publication and editorial management of this paper ... Ingalls & Haddock."

Lotus Ingalls had entered the newspaper field in 1850, having tired of teaching and the practice of law. The great temperance wave interested him, and this, along with work to reform school systems and assessment laws, were motivations as he established *The Reformer*.

"He was emphatically a man of all work, very conscientious, honest and industrious," wrote one of his contemporaries with the paper, Byron D. Adsit. Mr. Ingalls, he continued, "wrote well, but too hastily, and unquestionably was a better judge of presses and engines than Brockway."

Mr. Ingalls, born in 1818 in Rodman, took classical courses at the Black River Institute, paying his way by teaching during the winter at the Factory Street School. Turning to the study of law, he entered the Watertown firm of Lansing & Sherman, and in 1845 was admitted to the state bar.

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The demands of that profession seemed hardly suited to his tastes," Mr. Haddock said in his 1894 *Centennial History of Jefferson County*. "He saw among his fellow members some who had been lawyers for scores of years and yet had not materially advanced in social position or in worldly goods."

Also, Mr. Haddock wrote, "he discovered that his voice was too feminine and nasal for him to be ever counted an impressive advocate before a jury. To pass a whole life waiting for the professional standing which only came with age was not a prospect that appeared very inviting."

With \$200 in savings and \$500 borrowed, Mr. Ingalls teamed with a local printer, L.M. Stowell, to start a newspaper to compete with the *Democratic Union*, an advocate of the liquor interests. *The Reformer* made its debut with an issue on Thursday, Aug. 29, 1850.

Mr. Ingalls was "a quiet, dignified, purposeful man" who "was a strong bold writer," wrote the man who would succeed as owner of the paper eventually called *The Watertown Daily Times*, Harold B. Johnson.

"He must have had the town in turmoil most of the time for he struck out with force that knew little restraint," Mr. Johnson wrote.

The paper, an advocate of educational, moral and government reforms, and strongly opposed to liquor interest and slavery, was a success from the start. Its weekly circulation had grown to 8,000 by 1858 when the 35-year-old Mr. Haddock came aboard.

A Sulphur Springs native, Mr. Haddock had been the proprietor of *The Union* when *The Reformer* first hit the streets of Watertown, and remained with *The Union* until November 1851. Returning to the publication three years later, he changed it to the *Jefferson County Union*, which he sold in 1856.

Mr. Brockway had worked under Horace Greeley at the *New York Tribune*. He had left that employ of two years out of grief over the death of his wife of 14 years, Elizabeth.

Born April 12, 1815, the son of a western Massachusetts farmer, Mr. Brockway started his trade as an apprentice printer in Northampton, Mass. He moved on to the *Mayville Weekly Sentinel* in Chautauqua County, and within a year, at the age of 21, became the paper's owner. Saving \$5,000 from that enterprise, he purchased the *Oswego Weekly Palladium* 10 years later.

"I thought of Cooperstown, Ithaca, Watertown, Ogdensburg and other places," Mr. Brockway wrote. "Finally, being in Albany, I ran against two Oswego gentlemen who spoke in such glowing terms" of Oswego.

He converted the Oswego paper to a daily, then sold it in 1853.

"I did not experience the satisfaction I had hoped to derive from conducting a journal in a county a majority of whose voters accorded with me in political sentiment," he wrote.

He took a copy-editing job with Mr. Greeley, but "I never felt at home in the metropolis," he wrote.

He resigned after two years and moved to Pulaski, where he invested in a milling business. His election in 1858 to the state Assembly set the stage for his encounter with Mr. Haddock.

About six weeks after an agreement was struck for his anticipated one-third share purchase of *The Reformer*, Mr. Brockway found Mr. Haddock having second thoughts about the arrangement. The newcomer had to accept an office job at \$10 per week, but only briefly. Mr. Haddock resigned in August 1860 after he and Mr. Ingalls argued, leaving Mr. Brockway as Mr. Ingalls' partner.

The Reformer, Mr. Haddock wrote, became a newspaper which "appealed to the better class of readers." The paper "said things, always in a respectable way, that the older plodding political organs did not care to meddle with."

The coming of the Civil War left the weekly paper facing a challenge and losing subscribers.

"Everyone was eager for the news, and the latest," Mr. Brockway recalled. "Daily papers were in great demand. The weekly was of no account; it was too slow. So there was a rush for the daily issue, and as a consequence, the weekly paper suffered."

Mr. Brockway had reservations about change, seeing the daily as a project for "those who had money to fool away and who were prepared to do any amount of hard work for small compensation."

On April 22, 1861, the *Watertown Daily Reformer* was published, beginning a 150-year run which eventually continued under the name *Watertown Daily Times*.

"The proprietors performed a great deal of severe labor upon (the daily)," Mr. Brockway reported, "and at the end of 15 years, stood about where they were when the paper was commenced."

The Reformer office of the Civil War era, as described by Charles E. Holbrook, who later became a publisher, was a small three-story brick building on Arcade Street partially surrounded by pastures. To its Stone Street side, tents were pitched during the circus
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summer visit, and on the north side was a two-story 60 -square-foot building. That wood structure in 1864 housed the "Invalid Corps," soldiers of the war who had been sick or wounded.

"In pleasant weather, the corps had daily drills on Arcade Street in front of their barracks and the Times office," Mr. Haddock wrote.

"In those days," he continued, "the daily telegraphic reports were a novelty for Watertown. The news was recorded on a tape. Mr. Brockway would go to the telegraph office each day and would write out the report as Edwin Pope, the telegrapher, would read it from the tape.

"I well remember the morning of the 15th of April, 1865, when Mr. Ingalls, with tears in his eyes, came into the composing room bearing a press dispatch and announced in a broken voice that President Lincoln had been killed by an assassin. From that hour until the forms went to press, the dispatches came continuously, giving the particulars of the awful tragedy."

During the early years of that turbulent decade, Mr. Brockway spent much of his time in Albany, serving as a delegate to the state convention. His stay in Albany was extended after the 1864 election, when his boyhood friend, Reuben E. Fenton, was elected governor.

Becoming the governor's private secretary, Mr. Brockway resigned from his position on the Reformer, but returned in the spring of 1870. He bought a one-third share of the business for \$10,000.

By then, the newspaper had made a change. With the beginning of the new year, the front page masthead read Watertown Daily Times.

Another third-interest in the concern was sold to Charles R. Skinner, a 26-year-old former teacher from Oswego County, who was taken on for his skills as an accountant.

"On June 1, these gentlemen assumed command of the good ship," staff member Byron D. Adsit wrote. "At that time, Ingalls practically retired. Brockway became the editor in chief, and Skinner became master of the front office."

Mr. Skinner and Mr. Brockway improved the type, ink, paper and press work, and they realized a rebound in their circulation, which had dipped to 700.

"We gave to it new life," Mr. Brockway wrote. Disenchantment between Mr. Ingalls and Mr. Brockway developed in 1872 when the latter supported the presidential candidacy of his old boss, Horace Greeley, a liberal Republican. Mr. Ingalls

considered that an affront to his Republican philosophies, particularly since Mr. Brockway sought Congressional election - unsuccessfully - on the Greeley ticket.

At the same time, Mr. Ingalls was going bankrupt, according to Mr. Haddock's history. Mr. Ingalls' holdings in the newspaper were placed on public auction, and on Dec. 12, 1873, Mr. Brockway submitted the high bid, \$4,000.

Until he could recover his financial losses, Mr. Ingalls remained an employee of the evolving company, Brockway & Skinner. He made a quick comeback, commencing in 1874 an 18-year run as publisher of the Watertown Post.

Mr. Adsit and "Major" Andrew W. Munk were two staff members hired by Mr. Ingalls who served the newspaper prominently for several years.

"By" Adsit, of South Rutland, apparently became the first Times' reporter, and among his early stories were a cockfight at Dexter patronized by well-known Watertown citizens, and a charivari at Carthage, "where the groom scattered a mob with buckshot."

"Although Ingalls had never told me so in words," Mr. Adsit wrote, "I was aware that he was also pleased with what I was doing. My weekly pay had gradually mounted upwards 'til I was getting \$10."

Major Munk, another Oswego man, became the Times' expert market reporter. Having been an apprentice in a printing shop in 1864, he earned his nickname while serving three years as a drummer boy with the 17th U.S. Regiment. Returning to the newspaper in 1869, he became a reporter with a bit of advice from Mr. Brockway: "Be a good listener, but don't do much talking."

He had a laboratory in the office which contributed and "interesting" aroma, Mr. Adsit wrote. "Besides the many varieties of pure creams, half creams, no creams and other brands that he kept on exhibition, there was never a moment that he could not point with pride to various samples of good old Jefferson County Limburger."

Mr. Brockway hired in 1870 a man with whom he had been apprenticed 40 years earlier in Massachusetts. Levi L. Pratt founded the Times' weather department in August 1871, and as the "Times Weather Prophet," gave the newspaper the distinction of being one of the nation's first publications to feature a forecast column.

A peek into the average publishing day in 1873 was provided years later by Charles M. Redfield, then an

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office boy, later to publish his own paper in Malone.

"We went to press at 4 o'clock and believe me, on the tick of the clock those chases went downstairs. Along about 2:30, the editors all came out and joined the composing room force. Beman Brockway generally had some little belated editorial comment that he put into type and Levi Pratt 'struck type' if the weather did not bother him too much.

"Mr. Pratt made some change in his weather forecast a half dozen times between three and four o'clock. By then Adsit could not set type, but he contributed his bit by pulling proofs."

If Mr. Pratt found errors in the setting of type, "he denounced the poor work of the compositors," Mr. Redfield said, and "invariably sent (the responsible person) down to the *Times* office to learn to set type. Despite his cussing, Mr. Pratt was never profane."

Not long after Mr. Ingalls departed the company, Mr. Brockway purchased Mr. Skinner's one-third interest.

Between 1874 and 1876, three men took turns occupying the city editor's desk. First came William H. Cole, a native of England who arrived in Watertown in 1870.

"He was a hustler and readily recognized what was news," said a contemporary, James F. Pappa.

Then came two short-termers, Charles J. Bellinger from Oneida County, and George C. Bragdon, son of a Revolutionary War soldier.

"Both were gentlemen of high literary attainments," Mr. Adsit wrote, "and while taking time to clothe some little happening in beautiful language, they allowed to escape notice many good things that were occurring all around them." Mr. Bragdon was succeeded in 1876 by Mr. Adsit.

"By this time, the value of spicy local news was better appreciated than it was during my first employment, and having confidence that I could supply the demand, I was given the right of way," Mr. Adsit wrote.

"Nearly everything that was true 'went,' and the only weapon I ever carried was a sharp pencil, though this fact may not have been generally known. Amusing features were always best appreciated. Watertown people certainly liked fun in those days. Most of the local work I performed alone, the exception being when emergencies arose requiring help, and then I was generally assisted by Frank Horth or Will Cole, who were both very clever performers."

Harry E. Devendorf became city editor in 1881, and

did practically all the local reporting, with assistance from Charles S. Adams. The two combined efforts in getting out a special edition in the July 2, 1881, shooting and Sept. 19 death of President James Garfield.

Mr. Horth, who was often summoned from the compositors' room by Mr. Adsit and Mr. Devendorf to fill in as a reporter, later served briefly as city editor. He "caused a little flurry," wrote William H. Bechert, then the foreman of the *Times* job-printing department, when "he set up a column about a murder up north that never happened."

Mr. Brockway brought to his newspaper in 1886 Willard D. McKinstry, his cousin, naming him the telegraph editor. Mr. McKinstry, then 36, had operated newspapers in Fredonia and Dunkirk.

In his new job, Mr. McKinstry would run from the *Times*' building to the telegraph office to obtain skeletonized dispatches, and then he would fill in missing words to create a readable story. Within a year, he was promoted to assistant editorial writer. "I am the editor-in-chief, and McKinstry is the chief editor," quipped Mr. Brockway, now becoming blind.

Jere Coughlin, a Canadian who worked in Carthage at the weekly *Republican*, was hired in 1882 as *Times* managing editor.

"Mr. Brockway recognized the exceptional ability of the country editor," said James Pappa. "He had a gift of saying the best or the most sarcastic things in three or four lines of any man I ever knew."

Mr. Coughlin four years later started his own paper, the *Watertown Herald*.

Blindness prevented Mr. Brockway from completing his autobiography, and the finishing touches were placed by Mr. McKinstry.

Mr. Brockway, Harold Johnson wrote, had excellent judgment about what should be published and what was unworthy. "That piece makes an interesting read" was the standard he applied.

Despite his failing health, the 78 year-old Mr. Brockway, who resembled President Lincoln, faithfully appeared at his office daily up until two weeks before the day of his death, Dec. 16, 1892.

"He was a strong, careful writer, and he could tell unerringly at a glance the value of an article or printed page," Mr. Adsit wrote. "He knew what a good newspaper was and fully appreciated the great effort necessary to make one."

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A Bicentennial Tribute to Veterans of 1776

A Reprinting of *Watertown Daily Times*
Articles from 1976

Original biographies researched and written by
Members of the LeRay De Chaumont Chapter
NSDAR Watertown, NY
Bicentennial Tribute to Veterans of 1776

JCNYGS acquired the full collection of Veteran tribute articles and is reprinting the series in this and subsequent *Informers* until all tributes are reprinted. The articles all originated from the *Watertown Daily Times* over a six-month period in 1976—during the 200 year anniversary celebrations. The reprinting project is continued from page 15 of the October 2016 *Informer*.

David I Andrus.

David Ira Andrus, born in 1766 in Connecticut, served as a fifer in the 6th Company of the 4th Connecticut Regiment commanded by Col. Zebulon Butler having enlisted at Southington, Jan 1, 1781. He transferred to Captain Robertson's 2nd Connecticut Regiment commanded by Col. Heman Swift and served as a private until (bottom line cut off) ... appeared on the rolls until May 6, 1783. He first married Sally Ranney at Middle Upper House, Connecticut. Following her death July 22, 1818, in the Town of Ellisburg, he married Mrs. Esther Hinman. David I. Andrus came to Black River country with Daniel Fox about 1800 and in 1805 he settled at Ellisburg, and became an agent for Samuel Wardwell of Rhode Island. He built the first sawmill at Mannsville and the first dwelling at that place. He was elected a member of the Assembly in 1809 and 1812, served as sheriff in 1812 – 1813 and 1815 – 1818, and was the father of four daughters and four sons. He died August 21 or 22, 1831, and is buried in the Giddingsville Cemetery, Town of Ellisburg.

Henry Anstead.

Henry Anstead enlisted in September, 1781, in New Jersey in Capt. Thomas' Co. of Colonel Lamb's regiment of the New York Line. He was in the battle of New Brunswick, N. J., and was discharged at West Point, Nov 1, 1781. He was born in 1750 and married Elizabeth Ritter in Herkimer County. The couple had seven children. Henry and Elizabeth Anstead are probably buried at Evans Mills where members of the Anstead family are to be found, although the location of their graves is not known. Mr. Anstead died in the Town of LeRay, April 24, 1838.

Amasa Allen.

Revolutionary War veteran Amasa Allen, born March 7, 1753, died December 22, 1820. He is buried in Old Theresa cemetery, Town of Theresa. His wife was the former Alice Lord.

Elijah Allen.

Elijah Allen, a Revolutionary War veteran, is buried in Three Mile Creek Cemetery, Town of Clayton.

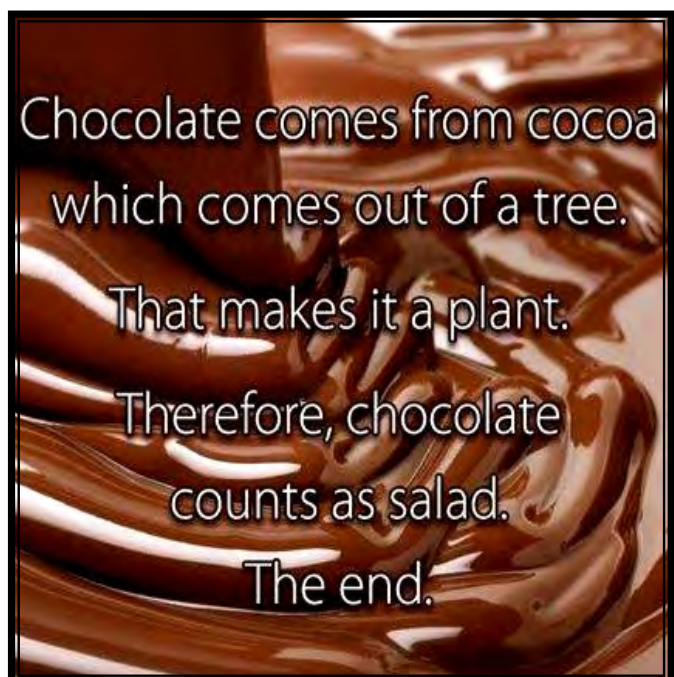
Mrs. Sybbel Bacon.

Mrs. Sybbel Parker Bacon received a pension for several years as the widow of Timothy Bacon, a Revolutionary soldier. She was the mother of 12 children, among them Deacon Issac Bacon of the Baptist Church of Watertown, and Moses Bacon, long-time sexton of First Presbyterian Church, Watertown. Franklin Hough's *Gazetteer of New York State* noted "The first birth (in the Town of Watertown) was in the family of Moses Bacon." The village of Watertown was settled in 1800 and Moses, could have been born about 1777, and therefore could have been the settler whose child was the first to be born in the village.

Nathan Baker.

Nathan Baker, born in 1758 in Killingworth, Conn., a son of George Baker, he served as a private in the Connecticut Line in the Revolution and was pensioned in the Act of 1819 as a resident of Jefferson County. He was on the Muster Roll June 25, 1778, of "nine months men" mustered in Massachusetts, Town of Marlborough. He lived in Cheshire, Mass., before going to Deerfield. He was one of the pioneers of Hounsfield, coming to Jefferson County from Oneida County about 1807 and settling near the south line of the Town of Hounsfield near Stoel's Corners. He and his wife, Abigail Wescott, daughter of Gardner and Mary King Wescott of Cranston, R. I., had eight children including a child named Freeborn, born in 1805. The grave of Nathan and his wife have not been found.

The *Watertown Daily Times* tribute series will continue in the April 2017 *Informer*.



A Look Back at The History and Genealogy Fair

Last October the Annual History and Genealogy Fair was held at the Paddock Mansion or as we know it now, Jefferson County Historical Society Museum. We have copied here the program of agencies represented with a few pictures and on the following page are the guest speakers and their programs. Perhaps it will bring back some memories or help relate people and names to some connections you forgot about. We hope also that they may whet your appetite for next year's program as the organizers do plan to have the fair again next year.

~ **Second Annual History and Genealogy Fair** ~
Saturday, 8 October 2016 from 10AM to 3PM
**As you walk around today, look for representatives
from the following agencies...**

Historical Association of South Jefferson, Debbie Quick

LeRay de Chaumont Chapter Daughters/Children of the American Revolution, *Tammy Plantz*

LeRay de Chaumont Chapter Children of the American Revolution, Anne Davis

General Jacob Brown Chapter Daughters of the War of 1812, *Anne Davis*
Thousand Islands Chapter Sons of the American Revolution, Parks Honeywell

Flower Memorial Library and Genealogy Department, *Yvonne Reff*

Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society, Larry Corbett

Jefferson County GenWeb Site Coordinator, *Nancy Dixon*

Sandy Creek and Lacona area Historian – Display Only, Charlene Cole

Alexandria Town Historical Society, *Suzanne Kimmett*

Redwood Historical Society, David Brandt

Adams Town and Village Historian, *Sue Herse*

Lyme Heritage Center, Phyllis Putman

Railway Historical Society of Northern New York, *Laurie Halladay*

Town of Croghan Historians Office, Laurie Halladay

Stone Mills Agricultural Society and Museum, *Donna Eisele*

Historian's Office of the Village of Dexter, John Stano

Dexter Area Historical Society, *John Stano*

Town of Clayton Historian, Lois Seybert

Henderson Historical Society and Museum, *Elaine Scott*

Central New York Genealogical Society, Joyce Cook

10th Mountain Division and Fort Drum Museum's display, *Doug Schmidt*

Watertown's Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints research librarian, Mary Ransome

War of 1812 Enthusiast, Battle of Cranberry Creek, *Paul Beers*

Family of Dave Kendall, author of *When Descendants Become Ancestors*

Walter H. French Camp 17 Sons of Civil War Veterans, *Bill Bamann*, located on the front lawn

Ann Fillhart and students from H. T. Wiley Intermediate School, Ann Fillhart, located in the Pink Schoolhouse presenting interactive youth activity

For your appetite, Rivergate Wheelers will sell BBQ meals for \$10.00 Starting at 11AM and going until they're gone

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Society

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Historical Association of South Jefferson
Cheney Tire

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Pepsi Beverage Company

**Barbara Monette, Joyce Cook
and Diana Law**



Sue Herse (Adams)



Maureen Bartlett



Debbie Quick (South Jefferson)



THE GUEST SPEAKERS AND SUBJECTS



Mrs. Ann Fillhart: “Using Technology as a Time Machine.” Ann is a sixth grade teacher at H.T. Wiley Intermediate School in Watertown and for the past few years has taught students to research family history and to build family trees online. Utilizing the resources on Ancestry.com, Northern New York Historic Newspapers, and other websites, students use their research skills to gather sources and information on the immigration, everyday life, and fascinating facts about their heritage. Along the way, students learn to appreciate how the people who came before them built the foundation for the lives they live today.



Mr. Don Whitney: “War of 1812 – The Battle of Big Sandy.” Donald Whitney was a reading teacher and school administrator for over 40 years. Presently Mr. Whitney serves as the President and Trustee of the Daisy Marquis Jones Foundation in Rochester, New York. Don resides on the North Harbor Road in Adams Center with his wife Linda and daughter. He has three daughters, two sons in laws, and three grandsons.



Dr. Joshua Canale: “Why History Matters.” Dr. Canale received his Ph.D. in U.S. History from Binghamton University in 2014. Currently, he is a tenure-track professor of History at Jefferson Community College. His dissertation, “American Dictators: Committees for Public Safety during the American Revolution, 1775-1784” examines disaffection, loyalty, and police powers during the Revolution.



Mr. Mark A. Wentling: “Identifying Early Family Photographs.” Mark is the owner of Ancestor Introductions Genealogy Research & Indexing Service. He is a professional genealogist with more than 20 years of experience researching Jefferson County families. Most will know Mark primarily for his various Jefferson County genealogy websites, including the Jefferson County, New York Pioneer Portraits Project. Mark holds a Master of Library Science degree from the University of Maryland at College Park, and is a candidate this year for Boston University’s Certificate in Genealogical Research. He is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists.

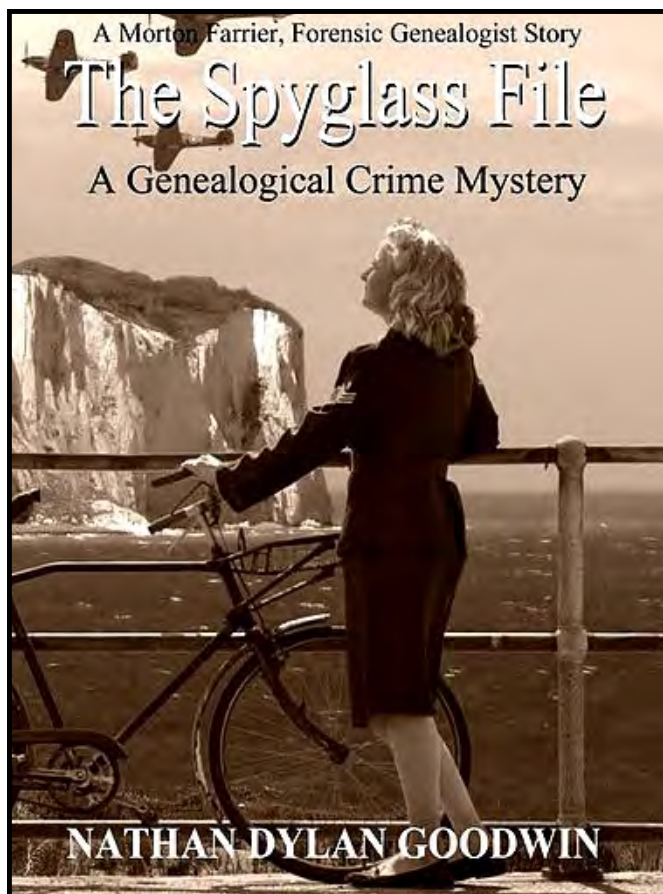


Mrs. Roberta Calhoun-Eagan: “The story of John and Loveland Paddock of Watertown, New York.” Roberta Calhoun-Eagan is a descendant of early Watertown settlers Chauncey Calhoun and Sarah Edwards Paddock, and has researched family history and genealogy since 1998. She is a member of Watertown's LeRay de Chaumont Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. She is a long-time oncology social worker and a public speaker in the field of neuro-oncology.



Dr. Laurie Rush: “Geology and Genealogy: Natural Resources and Immigration to Northern New York.” Dr. Rush is an Anthropologist and Archaeologist who has lived, worked and studied in northern New York for over thirty years. Her area of research focuses on the ancestors of the Native Americans of Northeastern North America. She has a BA from Indiana University Bloomington, an MA and PhD from Northwestern University, and is a fellow of the National Science Foundation and the American Academy in Rome. Dr. Rush was the military liaison for return of Ur to the Iraqi People and has represented the US DoD for heritage issues in Kabul and across the Middle East.

Review of *The Spyglass File* by Nathan Dylan Goodwin



Genealogy, at its most basic, is nothing more than a whole series of mysteries waiting to be solved. Every name, date and place we find is one more clue to solving that great mystery, "Who am I and where did I come from?" While those clues are sometimes elusive, it's not often that we run up against someone who is actively trying to keep us from finding them out.

Not so for Morton Farrier, the hero of the genealogical mysteries of Nathan Dylan Goodwin. Farrier is a fictional English genealogist whose brick walls often conceal someone with a sinister reason to keep the past from being uncovered.

The Spyglass File is the fourth novel in the Morton Farrier Genealogical Crime Mystery Series, and to me, the best one yet.

In this latest tale, Morton Farrier has been engaged by a Barbara Springett, who has recently discovered that she was given up for adoption during the early years of World War II in England and is seeking information about her biological parents and the circumstances surrounding her birth.

Through a series of well-written narrative flashbacks, the reader stays a few steps ahead of Farrier as he

painstakingly pieces together the details of Barbara's mother's war years, searches for information about Barbara's father, and uncovers a criminal conspiracy that stretches over 100 years.

He soon discovers that there are sinister forces attempting to thwart his research. Each flashback provides enough clues to enable the reader to duplicate Morton's deductive process with true genealogist logic, both you and he arriving at a very satisfying conclusion simultaneously.

The Spyglass File and its predecessors, *Hiding the Past*, *The Lost Ancestor*, and *The America Ground* are all self-published by Nathan Dylan Goodwin and are available in both paperback and Kindle editions on amazon.com.

Larry Corbett



In the photo, left to right: Patricia Crandall, Yvonne Reff (Library Director), Terry Mandigo, Suzie Renzi-Falge (Reference Librarian), Diana Horning and Eleanor Ebbighausen. Several volunteers could not make the recognition event.
Photo by JCNYGS VP Tom LaClair.

Congratulations to Terry Mandigo, Flower Memorial Library, Genealogy Department, Watertown, Jefferson County, New York.

Terry was recognized 14 October 2016 for over two decades of volunteer service at the genealogy department. He first started with the library in 1995. Today Terry volunteers at the library four to five hours a day, six days a week! Several community members came out to personally thank Terry for his dedicated and knowledgeable service. Several other volunteers were recognized as well!

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF UNITED STATES INVOLVEMENT IN WORLD WAR I

The United States declared war on the German Empire on April 6, 1917, during World War I. The U.S. was an independent power and did not officially join the Allies. It closely cooperated with them militarily but acted alone in diplomacy. The U.S. made its major contributions in terms of supplies, raw material and money, starting in 1917.


American soldiers under General John Pershing, Commander-in-Chief (C-in-C) of the American Expeditionary Force (AEF), arrived in large numbers on the Western Front in the summer of 1918. They played a major role until victory was achieved on November 11, 1918 at 11:00 AM. Before entering the war, the U.S. had remained neutral, though it had been an important supplier to Great Britain and the other Allied powers. During the war, the U.S. mobilized over 4 million military personnel and suffered 110,000 deaths, including 43,000 due to the influenza pandemic.

The war saw a dramatic expansion of the United States government in an effort to harness the war effort and a significant increase in the size of the U.S. Armed Forces. After a relatively slow start in mobilizing the economy and labor force, by spring 1918 the nation was poised to play a role in the conflict. Under the leadership of President Woodrow Wilson, the war represented the climax of the Progressive Era as it sought to bring reform and democracy to the world, although there was substantial public opposition to U.S. entry into the war.

JCNYGS will do a series highlighting or "Spotlighting" WWI soldiers. Our president Larry Corbett has expressed an interest in working on such a series for the *Informer*. Larry has some information on his web site (corbettconnections.net) but some research is

needed for a series to be presented.


We included a few of his Honor Roll for WWI who made the supreme sacrifice in WWI.



HONOR ROLL
JEFFERSON COUNTY MEN
WHO MADE THE SUPREME SACRIFICE
IN WORLD WAR I


(from the book "Jefferson County in the World War" by G.W. Reeves)

Carl Ador




Watertown NY
Army, U.S. Co 26, 153 D.B.
Died - January 25, 1919, Camp Meade, Maryland

Carl W. Allen




Brownville NY
Army, A.E.F. 310th Infantry, Co A, 78th Division
Killed in action, October 18, 1918

Martin Bass




Clayton NY
Army, U.S. Battery B, 7th Regiment, F.A.R.D.
Died, October 5, 1918, Camp Jackson, SC

Ralph F. Bassett



West Carthage NY
Army, A.E.F. 310th Infantry, Co A, 78th Division
Killed in action, September 21, 1918

Oscar Countryman



Theresa NY
Army, A.E.F. 325th Infantry, Co D
Killed in action, October 15, 1918, Argonne Forest, France

Jefferson County Queries

Use the "ONLINE QUERY" on www.jncygs.com or mail queries to:
Jerry Davis, P. O. Box 275, Clayton, NY 13624; maridavis@aol.com

Subject: Jefferson County Informer Query

(Some readers don't have internet access. Please include mailing address &/or phone numbers as well as email.)

CORNWELL, HUGHES, HERZOG

Helen **CORNWELL** was born about 1818 in New Hampshire or New York (mixed responses, but most likely NH). I am interested in her son William **CORNWALL** too, born about 1844. I never saw Helen with her husband, who I believe is Daniel **CORNWELL**. Helen's maiden name could be **HUGHES**. She listed herself as a widow in 1855, but had children until 1857. She was a tailoress. William had military service with the 6th Calvary, Co K to 2nd NY Provisional. Helen's children were: Mary Elizabeth (**HERZOG**) 1842, William 1844, George 1849, Fred 1850 & Charles 1857. I believe Helen died in Chicago, IL in 1898. She is buried in Manitowoc, WI with her daughter Mary Elizabeth **HERZOG's** family. I last found Helen alive during the 1870 US Census, living in Watertown, NY with her 3 youngest sons. The **HERZOG's** arrived in Manitowoc, WI right before the Civil War and I believe William came sometime after the war. I think the younger sons stayed in Watertown.

*Margaret Eck
margareteck@msn.com*

Editors note: We decided to put these first 2 queries next to each other as they appear to be asking for about the same information.

CORNWELL, CORNWALL, WELSH, HUGHES, HERZOG

Helen P. Cornwell was born about 1818 in New Hampshire or possibly NY (census data varies). Helen first appears in 1850 census in Watertown, NY with 3 children: Elizabeth, William W and George W, no husband. Her husband's name could be Fred or Daniel **CORNWELL** or **CORNWALL**. Helen's maiden name could be **WELSH** or **HUGHES**. She died 1898 in Chicago. While Helen had no military service, it seems her son William W. **CORNWELL** served in the Civil War enlisting Jan 11, 1865 and mustering out Aug 9, 1965. Helen's children include Mary Elizabeth **HERZOG** 4/11/1842, William 1/14/1844, George 1849, Fred 11/1850 and Charles A(?) 1857. Helen is my 4th great grandmother and my oldest ancestor in the United States. She is buried in Wisconsin. She was a tailoress in Watertown between 1850 and 1870. Her daughter Mary Elizabeth (my 3rd great) may have married in NY to William **HERZOG**. Mary or Mary Elizabeth or maybe just Elizabeth was born in Watertown or in Jefferson County on April 11, 1844.

*Darin Early
Darin.early@gmail.com*

LITTLEFIELD, COOK

Abigail **LITTLEFIELD** was born 23 Sep 1774 in VT to parents Josiah and Mehitabel **LITTLEFIELD**. She married John **COOK** 16 Jan 1816 in Ellisburg. She died 24 Nov 1870 in Clayton, NY and buried in Clayton Center Cemetery. Abigail and John were

Baptists. Osiah died 20 Jun 1833 and Mehitabel died 29 Dec 1831. Both are buried in Old Bigelow Cemetery. I am looking for anything that lists Abigail and John's parents. Josiah served in the Revolution and is listed in the book of Revolutionary Soldiers in Jefferson County. Unfortunately no sources are listed. I'm working on my DAR app and the only proof missing is either Abigail's or John's connection to their parents.

*Kay Swenningsen
K_e_swenningsen@yahoo.com*

BAKER, DENNIS

I am looking for information for Joseph L. **BAKER**. According to my great grandfather's Civil War papers he was born in Jefferson County, New York about 1817 to 1820 and married there in 1844 to Elizabeth **DENNIS** of England. I have been unable to find out his parentage of confirm that he was actually married there. His children were Mary, Albert, Grant and Joseph. They were in Illinois in 1850 where Mary was born and in Iowa in 1860 where the boys were born. Joseph L. died in 1878 in Iowa and Elizabeth had evidently divorced him as she had married twice before his death. She died in Minnesota.

*Sharon Rauworth
slrauworth@gmail.com*

SCHUYLER, CAMPBELL, SCHWARZ

George D. **SCHUYLER**, my 3rd Great Grandfather, was born on February 19, 1850, in Canton, New York. His father, John, was 26 and his mother, Malvina, was 20. He married Christina **CAMPBELL** on March 12, 1872. George died on July 3, 1909 in Watertown, New York, at the age of 59. His children were Minnie (**SCHWARZ**), George L., Charles and Maud. I have come to a brick wall while researching George's father, John **SCHUYLER**. John and his wife Malvina I know were divorced (according to US census) but they are both buried together in Fowler, NY. I am hopeful that uncovering more about George will unlock more information about his parents and grandparents.

*Michelle Kinney
michellekinney@me.com*

PIERCE

I am looking for any information, birth, marriage, death or property related to Moraldus and Lucy **PIERCE**, son of George N. **PIERCE** born Nov 22, 1845. I have them in Clayton on the 1850 Census and on the 1855 New York Census. I believe Moraldus to have been born Circa 1799 in Rhode Island and that he lived for a time in the Oneida, NY area before relocating in Clayton. I have Lucy born in New York about 1809 but I don't have her maiden name. Other than George, there were nine other children.

*Carri Bevard
perrybevard@aol.com*

GRENIER, GREENEY, HALL

Louis **GRENIER** immigrated to the US between 1835-1839. According to 1850 Census: Louis (b. 1814 Canada) married Josephine (b. 1815 Canada) in Canada. They were in Alexandria, Jefferson County, NY. By 1855 the family had moved to Door County, Wisconsin. Wisconsin citizenship application indicated the family arrived through the port Redford, NY in February. Louis (Lewis **GREENEY**) died in Forestville, WI in 1874 and Josephine died in ND abt. 1900. Their children were: Sophia (b. 1833) and Josephine (b. 1835) born in Canada; Phebe "Flavie" (b. 1839), Marguerite (b. 1843), Rosalie (b. 1848) and Mary (b. 1852) born in New York; Joseph (b. 1854) and Ann (b. 1858) born in Wisconsin. Sophia married John **HALL** (b. 1830 NY) according to the 1850 census. I am trying to determine where in Canada the family originated and the mother's last name by locating a birth record and/or Sophia's marriage record.

*Jane Cumber
jcumber@gmail.com*

SALISBURY, MARSH, BROWN, RAHM

Esther **SALISBURY** was born about 1830 in Jefferson County, NY according to "The Ancestry of George Josiah **MARSH** - his great great grandfather, David **SALISBURY**, including his grandfather, Richard **SALISBURY**, and his family". I know Esther as wife/widow of William Henry **BROWN** 1820-1864 through his pension. He is my 2nd great grandfather, son of Lorin **BROWN**. Children's names include Calvin Americus, Ida Mary (Mary Ida), Charles Henry and Columbia Nellie. Esther died on 27 Oct 1884. she had also remarried a George Jacob **RAHM** but was annulled three years later due to his having another wife.

*Suzie Cancio
genealogy@cancios.com*

PEPPER, COLGROVE

I strongly suspect that Hiram **PEPPER**, b. 1815 and his brother, Stephen O. **PEPPER**, b. 1816 are the children of William **PEPPER** and his wife, Mary. Mary is buried in Brookside Cemetery in Watertown. Her DOB is 1766 and death 23 Sept 1845. Mary's maiden name may be **COLGROVE**. I need to find an obit or will which may list William or Mary's children. I have now Hiram and Stephen as children. Stephen O. **PEPPER**'s military record lists Jefferson Co. as birth place. Both he and Hiram **PEPPER** lived in Cuyahoga, Ohio. Census records lists both as being born in NY. Stephen died in the Civil War and Hiram moved to Michigan. The Census records for 1800, 1810 and 1820 have a William **PEPPER** living in Jefferson County. He seems a likely candidate.

*Colleen Wells
wellsbrook@gmail.com*

KESLER

William B **KESLER** was born 27 Sept 1821 in New York, possibly Lyme. The 1850 census has him in Lyme with spouse, Sally Ann. A possible brother is Albert d. 6 Mar 1883 in Cape Vincent, Jefferson, NY. Child's Gazetteer of Jefferson County said Frederick and Margaret reared 7 children, William and Albert are on the list. I would like to confirm the birth location for William, the parents names, the death location for the parents and marriage date. After William and Albert, I

have found five children: Charles, Ellen, Lorenzo, James and Clinton.

*Pat Kessler
patikedee@comcast.net*

RIXON, RICKSON, LECLAIR

Israel Frank **RIXON** or possibly Frank I. **RIXON** was born in Watertown, NY on October 13, 1851. I am looking for any birth or baptism record for him. His parents were probably Israel **RIXON** and Eliza **LECLAIR**. Note that **RIXON** may be spelled **RICKSON**.

*Susan Harris
sharris4000@gmail.com*

BENTLEY, BAXTER, HICKS, DENTON

James **BENTLEY** was born about 1781 in CT and married on 13 July 1801 in Hebron, Tolland, CT, Mercy **BAXTER** who was born about 1781 in CT. They were in the Jefferson Co. censuses 1810-1860. James was apparently in the War of 1812. I have children as: Lucinda, Barnabus L., Louisa, Eunice, Hiram and Clarinda. I believe Hiram married Permelia (**HICKS** ?) and Clarinda married Ephraim H. **DENTON** before he married Permelia **BENTLEY**, widow of Hiram Bentley.

*Edwin Bentley
daodob@gmail.com*

SEAMAN, BUTTERFIELD, CUSHING

Mary Polly **SEAMAN** was born April 14, 1791. She married Elijah **BUTTERFIELD** March 1, 1817. Elijah died in 1827 and was buried in Plessis, NY. Mary and Elijah had four children: Mary Elizabeth, Stephen S., Nathaniel and Elijah Stewart. Mary Polly then married Dexter **CUSHING** approximately 1828 in Jefferson County. Dexter and Mary Polly had one child Minerva in 1830 in NY. Mary gave her brother Stephen **SEAMAN** guardianship of her first four children in 1836 at Alexandria, Jefferson, NY.

*Linda Watts
lindawatts@cableone.net*

DONALDSON, CLEWELL

Charles Nelson **DONALDSON** was born in either 1844 or 1849. His father may have been John **DONALDSON**. He was orphaned and went to live with friends in Canada. He returned to New York to join the Tenth New York Artillery on August 8, 1862 in Adams, NY and served to 1865. After the war he married Catherine **CLEWELL** on November 9, 1875 in Decatur, Iowa. They lived in Illinois and Iowa where he died in 1917. They had several children born in Illinois and Iowa.

*Dave Bradley
bradleydv@yahoo.com*

PERKINS, CATLIN

William **PERKINS** was born in Jefferson County about 1807 and lived in the county until about the late 1850s when the family moved to Corning, NY. I don't know his parents. He married Lucinda (married name unknown) b. 1807 from Jefferson county about 1826. They had several children: Harriet, Orville, Horace and Eveline. The papers we have on Horace mention only William. Horace married Mary **CATLIN**.

*Mark Troutman
markt2518@att.net*

JCNYGS MATERIALS FOR PURCHASE

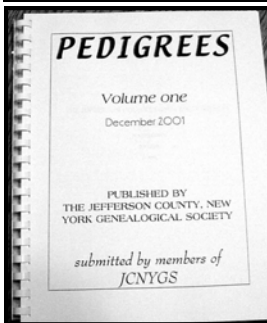
Contact: Greg or Tammy Plantz, 21787 Reed Road, Watertown, NY 13601
Or email tplantz1@twcny.rr.com

**PEDIGREE BOOK I
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JEFFERSON COUNTY NEW YORK WILL ABSTRACTS 1830 – 1850

The Will Book contains will abstracts dating from 1830 to 1850. The book contains 194 pages, two maps, and a chart showing the formation of Jefferson County Towns. \$15.00 + \$5.00 for postage.
Checks made out to **JCNYGS**

**A DVD of the Births-
Marriages-Deaths
from *The Watertown
Herald* 1886-1915**
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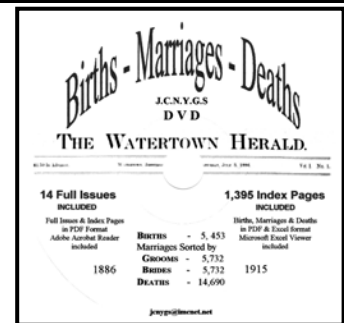


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Jefferson County Queries

Use the "ONLINE QUERY" on www.jcnygs.com or mail queries to:
Jerry Davis, P. O. Box 275, Clayton, NY 13624; maridavis@aol.com
Subject: Jefferson County Informer Query

(Some readers don't have internet access. Please include mailing address &/or phone numbers as well as email.)

LINSTRUTH

Florence was erroneously listed in the 1925 Census! The correct person should be Clarence James **LINSTRUTH** born 13 Sept 1917 who was a twin to Clara Ann **LINSTRUTH**. The Federal 1920 Census for Florence is incorrect also. Refer to the Federal 1930 and 1940 Censuses. To my knowledge, there are no marriage or death records for Florence.

Bradley G. Sigler
bradsigler@mhcable.com

MERRILL, KILBORN

Data shows that Ransom **MERRILL** and wife Anna **KILBORN** are buried in the Thurso Cemetery; but Find-A-Grave lists them as being buried at Grindstone Island Cemetery. Are Thurso and Grindstone Island Cemetery one and the same? Or two different cemeteries? I checked GNIS and it shows Thurso at 44.2808702, -76.1454993 while Grindstone is at 44.2750459, -76.1163348. I have their children as: Angeline, Merinda, Truman, Caroline, Lester and Emeretta.

Barbara Lewellen
bjlewellen@comcast.net

FREEMAN

My 4th Great-grandfather, Alfred **FREEMAN**, wa born abt. 1777 in Vermont and is called a 'pioneer settler of Wilna, NY.' Does anyone know who his wife was? Or does anyone know anything about "the Checkered House" mentioned in my 3rd Great-grandfather, Erastus B. **FREEMAN**'s entry in "The Growth of a Century...History of Jefferson County, NY, 1793-1894?"

Christopher Drake Rice
112 Sugar Tree Circle
Rochester, NY 14420

SHAVOR, WERT, HOSFORD

David Sydney **SHAVOR** whom I believe may be the son of William J and Catherine Wert was born in Mountain Twp Canada about 1837 or 1838. He came to MN and married Hannah Melissa **HOSFORD**. I know that he is my great grandfather who fought in the Civil War and never recorded his parents in any of the records.

Francis Passe
3242 60th Ave SW
Rochester, MN 55902
francispasse@gmail.com

INFORMER

Jefferson County NY Genealogical Society
(JCNYGS)
P.O. Box 6453
Watertown, NY 13601

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JCNYGS PROGRAMS FOR 2017

Monday, February 13 at 6:00 PM, "1890 Census - The Rest of The Story" by Tom LaClair

Monday, March 13 at 6:00 PM, "Black River Cemetery and Its People" by Bill Reichard, Town Historian

Monday, April 10 at 6:00 PM, Visit to the Local History Collection at the new John W. Deans Collaborative Learning Center (Building #15), Jefferson Community College, Host: John Taylor

Monday, May 8 at 6:00 PM, "Resources Held by the Sandy Creek Historian", by Charlene Cole

Note 1: Lectures begin at 6 PM. Come 30 minutes early to get to know other members and share new finds and experiences.

Note 2: Thank you George Inglehart, church liaison, and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints local leadership for the free use of the building for JCNYGS programs.

Directions to LDS Church where we are presently holding our meetings: From Rt. 81, take exit 44 to Rt. 232 towards Watertown. Drive 1.1 miles and take the second left hand turn on to Ives Street Road. Continue straight into the city. The LDS chapel is the second building on the right, across from IHC, as you enter the city limits.

From Watertown, it is on Ives Street, across from IHC. Take Washington Street to Barben Avenue. Turn on to Barben and take it until it ends at a T. Turn left and the LDS will be 300 yards on the left.

Or, from Watertown take Massey street south, veer right onto South Massey, left on to Ives.

OUR DECEMBER HOLIDAY PARTY



We would like to thank Greg and Tammy Plantz for hosting the 2016 JCNYGS Christmas party as well as a thank you to all those that brought gifts for the "Toys For Tots" program. Front row: Nan Dixon, Steven Guy, Larry Corbett, Ed Davis. Back row: Tracy Robertson, Janine LaClair, Kathy Handschuh, Tom LaClair, Marilyn Davis, Jerry Davis, Anne Davis, Jean Coyne, Bruce Coyne, Greg Plantz and Tammy Plantz.

INFORMER

Volume 24, Issue 2

Annual Dues \$18 Individual \$20 Family

April 2017



From our JCNYS secretary Roberta Calhoun-Eagan: "My cousin Marianne Smith Bailey is donating this photograph of her grandmother Jennie Mariette DeYoung, (1902-1994) who was born and raised in Theresa. The buildings in the background appear strikingly similar to one of the J. P. Douglas farms as identified by the late Gerald Desormeau. Jennie's father Will managed one of these farms and the family lived there in the early 1900s."

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5 ---	The Parentage of Darwin Dyer	16---	Visit with "Gus" Rogers
7 ---	Theresa & Alexandria War Vets	17---	Civil War Impacts Felt in Northern NY
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7 ---	Nan Dixon's GenWeb Site	19---	WW1 Spotlight on Walter Barben
7 ---	Lost Villages Tour	22---	Queries
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		24---	Future JCNYS Programs

INFORMER APRIL 2017

Correspondence about dues, memberships, and lost *Informers* should be directed to:
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E-mail: use ONLINE CONTACT PAGE on *Web site:* www.jcnygs.com

President: Larry Corbett, 520 Binsse St., Watertown, NY 13601,
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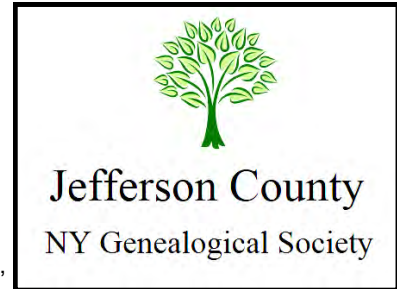
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The *Informers* is published quarterly in the months of January, April, July, and October. The *Informers* can be "searched" on our internet site using Optical Character Recognition technology. Open an *Informers*, save it to your desktop and type a name or word in the search box. If the name or word is in that *Informers*, the cursor should go to that page.



**Letters to the editor use the "contact page" on
www.jcnygs.com or: Editor, JCNYS
P.O. Box 6453
Watertown, NY 13601**

JANUARY INFORMER CORRECTION

"On page 12 of the July 2016 *Informers* there is a correction. In the second column, last paragraph, it is mentioned that "The stone house was occupied in 2010 by Beverly White Mason and her husband". The correction is for my name Beverly White Grant and my husband is Michael William Grant - we purchased the home from my parents, John and Doris White, and we have lived here since 1989, after extensive repairs were completed. My parents owned the Judah H. Ainsworth farm just north of our home on state route 12E towards the village of Cape Vincent."

JCNYS Note: Beverly, we apologize for the error and thank you for the correction.

In honor of the **100th anniversary of women's suffrage in NYS**, the Jefferson County Historical Society, the Jefferson County Branch of AAUW and WPBS-DT will open an exhibit this March with a focus on suffragette, author, and famed American humorist: **Marietta Holley** (1836-1926). Often referred to as **the female Mark Twain**, Holley sold millions of novels that used humor and wit to highlight gender inequalities. The exhibit is scheduled to be up through June 2017.

DUES ARE DUE ON JULY 1

Dues for the July 2017 – June 2018 calendar year are nearly upon us—due 1 July 2017. Annual membership rates remain \$18.00 for individuals and \$20.00 for families (or two adult persons in the same household). Please write your check to "JCNYS" and mail your payment to "JCNYS, P. O. Box 6453, Watertown, New York 13601." Please include your phone number and e-mail with your payment. You may pay for one or more than one year. We apologize that we cannot accept payment by credit card.

Membership dues primarily cover two aspects—the society website and mailing of the quarterly newsletter, the *Informers*. JCNYS leadership is made up of volunteers and no one receives monetary payments. General access to www.jcnygs.com is not password protected and we encourage all to visit the site. However, access to all digital *Informers* since the society formed in 1994 is password protected. Please take note that the password will change effective 1 July 2017. This is the first change since the site came on line in 2014. The new password will be provided with your dues receipt. Members already paid through 2018 will automatically receive the new password this coming June.

The third annual **Jefferson County History and Genealogy Fair** in 2017 will be Friday and Saturday, 22 and 23 September. Friday's gathering will be a social event for county-wide history and genealogical organizational leadership who wish to attend. Saturday's events are open to the public. Please save the dates. More information will follow in June's *Informers*.

Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society

Meeting Minutes, February 13, 2017
Roberta Calhoun-Eagan, Secretary

The monthly meeting of the JCNYSGS was held on February 13th. Our 16 attendees included Larry Corbett, Janine and Tom LaClair, Nan Dixon, Jon Holcombe, George Inglehart, Derryl Johnson, Paul Beers, Marilyn and Jerry Davis, Bruce and Mary Erskine-Coyne, Kathie Compeau, Joanne Woodward, and Jim and Roberta Calhoun-Eagan.

The November minutes, published in the January 2017 Informer, were approved. Vice-President Tom LaClair reported for Treasurer Greg Plantz that our checking account balance is \$4,639.17. We have \$403.25 in savings and our CD holds \$2,426.70. A motion to approve a check for \$86 to the USPS for our post office box was made and carried. There was no report on our financial audit.

Tom LaClair checks our Facebook page daily, and has been sending out occasional email reminders for publicity. Regarding membership, he alerted the group it is time to change passwords for online access to the *Informer* this year. Jerry Davis is starting work on the April 2017 *Informer*.

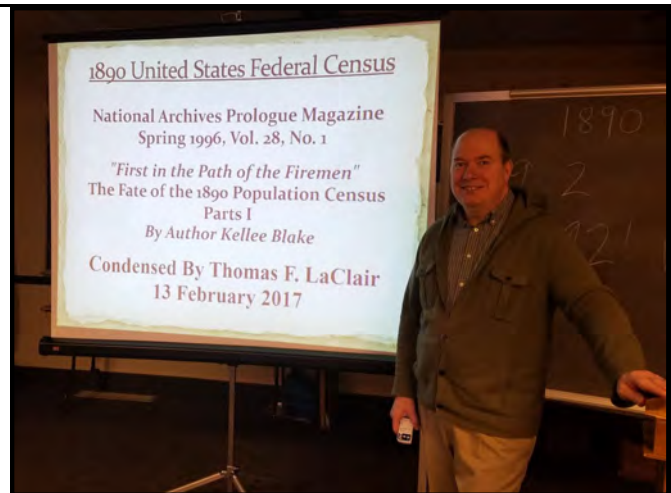
The upcoming program schedule was reviewed by Roberta Calhoun-Eagan, and President Larry Corbett highlighted the change in date of our final 2017 meeting from November 11th to the 4th, a Saturday. Larry shared two books, "Penet Square" written by Tom Powell in 1976, and "Black River and the North Country," by Howard Thomas, 1962. Several local history books and city directories are available at low or no cost due to the Flower Library's renovation. Per Tom, JCNYSGS will host the April New York State Council of Genealogical Organizations (NYSCOGO) meeting, where Don Whitney from Adams will speak.

Motion and second to close the business portion of the meeting were accepted. Roberta introduced speaker Tom LaClair, who spoke on the loss of the 1890 census based on the article, "First in the Path of the Firemen: The Fate of the 1890 Population Census, Part 1," from the *National Archives Prologue Magazine*, Spring 1996, Vol. 28 No. 1.

As it was the first census to use electronic tabulation, enumerators were not required to file transcripts of this census with their county clerk—meaning there was no backup copy. The only records were housed outside the watertight vault in the basement of Washington DC's Commerce Building. When fire broke out on January 10, 1921, more files were damaged by flood than fire. Thoroughly soaked and not properly dried, most of the census was not actually destroyed by fire, but by an act of Congress on 21 February 1933.

Although the 1890 veterans schedule remains intact and available, only .000098 percent of the original general schedule remains..

On the Web: <http://www.jcnysgs.com>



JCNYSGS Vice-President Tom LaClair Presented his 1890 Census program



Storage area inside the Commerce Building after the 1921 fire (from the National Archives)



The Archives Building, Washington D.C. May 1, 1934 (from the National Archives)

Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society

Meeting Minutes, March 13, 2017
Minutes taken by Tom LaClair for
Roberta Calhoun-Eagan, Secretary

The 13 March 2017 meeting was called to order at 6PM. Attending were George Inglehart, Joanne Woodward, Jynna W. Brown, Hollis Dorr, Phyllis Putnam, Donald and Rose Dillenbeck, Nan Dixon, Bruce and Mary Erskine Coyne, Anne Davis, Mary Hoover, William Reichard, Greg and Tammy Plantz, Tracy Robertson, and Tom LaClair. President Larry Corbett was excused for a death of a sibling; in this we all express our deepest sympathy for him and his family. Secretary & Programs Chair Roberta Calhoun-Eagan was excused due to incoming weather, and newsletter editor, Jerry Davis, was excused as he was ill.

Vice President Tom LaClair conducted. Treasurer Greg Plantz noted that the checking balance was \$4,677.17; the savings account was \$403.25 and the society's CD balance was \$2,426.76. Two motions were approved. Bruce Coyne made a motion that Harborside Services (Beverly Sterling-Affinati) be compensated \$150.00 annually for maintaining the society's Go Daddy website at www.jcnygs.com. This was seconded by Tracy Robertson and all approved. Harborside manages site security, background scripts, numerous links, as well as securing the quarterly *Informers*. The second motion, from Nan Dixon, was a one-time donation of \$300.00 to Tom Tryniski of the Fulton History Newspaper site www.fultonhistory.com. The motion was seconded by Greg Plantz and all approved. Lastly, the April 2017 newsletter, the *Informer*, is in draft format and looks to be in member homes by early April. The meeting's business portion concluded at 6:12 P.M.

Tom then welcomed the evening's speaker Bill Reichard. Bill, the Black River town historian, and cemetery caretaker, spoke on the Black River Cemetery and the long term process he has been going through to accurately capture who is buried there, and where. Although once known by older families and previous cemetery workers, older stones crack and fade over time—losing vital details. On top of that, older cemetery



JCNYGS members listen to Bill Reichard present his Black River Cemetery program

logbooks are nonexistent or difficult to locate. He has worked to identify details on as many burials as possible (with marker or no marker), re-stand stones, and connect with families and local officials to continually build on his knowledge. His 20 years of work is a blessing for descendants and Town of Rutland researchers. Bill's documented information is now finding its way to the Sally Ploof Hunter Memorial Library, for digitalization and long term preservation. Library staff is taking significant time and effort to capture and build upon the information. If you wish to talk to Bill, he meets at the library every Thursday from 2 to 4 to answer any questions about local history. Visit or call 315-773-5163 to set up an appointment. The society meeting concluded at 7:30.

Note: Our next meeting is Monday, April 10 at 6PM at the Jefferson Community College building 15, the new John W. Deans Collaborative Learning Center, hosted by John Thomas.



Bill Reichard, Black River Town Historian presents his talk on the Black River Cemetery History



Bill Reichard talks with JCNYGS member Bruce Coyne

THE PARENTAGE OF DARWIN DYER

Bridging the Generations and Finding His Real Name
By JCNYS Members Alice Dyer Finley and Julie
Dyer Teplis

At one end of a bridge is Darwin Dyer, our third great grandfather. For 30 years we have been trying to find a record that proves that Darwin's parents are Samuel Dyer and Prudence Ackley of Shaftsbury, Bennington County, Vermont and Rodman, Jefferson County, New York. We have also been looking for a record that states that his legal name was Darwin Erasmus or Erasmus Darwin Dyer, as is believed by many Darwin researchers.

A descendant of Darwin, Fern Redman, noted names, birth and marriage dates in what is known as Fern Redman's Birthday book. It begins with Darwin Dyer (no E. or Erasmus), born 1 Oct 1805, Shaftsbury, Vermont. It names his wife, Eliza Fisher, and son, Charles Franklin and his wife Jane Barge. It then names Charles's children and Jane's second marriage. It gives birth, marriage and death dates that correspond to those given by other sources and researchers. This book is the keystone in establishing Darwin's line down to us through his Charles's and Jane's son Frank.

At the other end of the bridge is a Charles Dyer, alleged grandfather of Darwin, who was a Revolutionary War Patriot. In 1846 in Shaftsbury, Bennington County, Vermont, his son Isaac applied for his father's war pension. In the application, Isaac named all of Charles's children including the daughters' married names and their spouses and the locations where each child lived. *It reads, "That the said Isaac Dyer, Benjamin Dyer, Franklin Dyer, Susan Spenser, wife of Seth Spenser, Freelove Sly, wife of James Sly, all of Shaftsbury, Bennington County State of Vermont, Peter W. Dyer, & Samuel Dyer, both of the Town of Rodman, Jefferson County, New York, Sarah Tillinghast, widow of Henry Tillinghast, Abigail Howlett, wife of William Howlett, both of Herkimer County, New York, Elizabeth Sunderland, widow of David Sunderland in the state of N. York Herkimer County, William Dyer of Hanover, Shelby County Indiana, Charles Dyer of Burlington, Racine County Wisconsin, ... The above named are the only children and heirs at Law of said Charles Dyer late of said Shaftsbury, deceased, who died on the twenty seventh day of October Eighteen hundred and forty-five and who served as a Lieutenant and Captain in the War of the Revolution...."* In 1850, Charles wrote his will and named the same children as in the pension application. The Will was received 10 June 1850 and recorded by Hiram Bartow, Town clerk.

Standing in the middle of the bridge is the Samuel Dyer mentioned in the pension application. Is he the

father of Darwin? The 1830 Federal Census of Rodman, Jefferson County, New York lists Samuel Dyre and Darwin E. Dyre. From this one cannot conclude that Samuel is the father of Darwin only that a Charles and a Darwin lived near each other. No other records have been found to establish the parentage of Darwin.

An index card is located in Shaftsbury, Bennington County, Vermont that states that Samuel Dyer married Prudence Ackley there on 13 Apr 1806. Using the birthdates attributed to Samuel and Prudence by other researchers Samuel would have been 20 years of age and Prudence 24. All Darwin researchers give his birthdate to be 1 Oct 1805, Shaftsbury, five and a half months before his parents' marriage date. Not impossible, of course.

Samuel died in 1847 and seems to have left no will or other document so nicely naming his children as his father did. He is buried in Isham Cemetery, Rodman, Jefferson County, New York.



Darwin E. Dyer, died
8 May 1871; buried
Old Brighton Cemetery
Brighton, Lorain Co., Ohio
66 years old

Two other sons of Samuel and Prudence Ackley, Lemuel and Simeon, migrated west into Stark County, Illinois and can be traced through records there. We have not found records for them that prove their parentage. A daughter, Susan Arvilla Dyer married a first cousin, Peter W. Dyer. They were enumerated on the 1855, 1865 and 1875 New York State censuses. Prudence lived with them in the 1855 and 1865. However, she is listed as "Mother" to the head of the household, Peter, not "Mother-in-Law". Susan may have answered the door and gave the information on the family to the census taker, incorrectly naming Prudence as her mother and not Peter's mother-in-law. Additional research is needed on the alleged children of Samuel Dyer and Prudence Ackley.

When we can bridge these generations, the Dyer line can be traced back to 1630 to William and Mary Barrett Dyer. Mary was the only woman in America to be hanged for her beliefs in and efforts for religious liberty.

(Continued on Page 6)

(Continued From Page 5)

As to the matter of Darwin's legal name, one might expect that a person serving in official capacities in civil matters might use his legally given name. After the 1830 census where the initial E appears in his name, the next records for Darwin Dyer are in Hanover, Shelby County, Indiana. In 1838 Darwin Dyer purchased land from Able R. Blood. On 22 Feb 1838 when Darwin Dyer, Justice of the Peace, officiated in marriage of Laura Ann Dyer to Eddy R Cole. (Laura Ann might be the daughter of the William Dyer named in the pension application discussed above.) In 1845 Darwin Dyer, again as Justice of the Peace witnessed and signed an indenture in the matter of an apprenticeship of a poor boy of the community. He was Justice of the Peace in other Shelby County legal matters. Darwin and family are found in the 1850 Federal Census of Lorain County, Ohio. An 1862 article in the Elyria Independent Democrat Darwin Dyer is cited as a County Commissioner. A later article states he served in that capacity from 1857 to 1866. Darwin never gives an initial E or Erasmus in census records.

The Elyria Democrat.

ED. G. WASHBURN, ... Editor

ELYRIA, OHIO:

Wednesday, June 28, - - - 1865.

LORAIN COUNTY CELEBRATION
4th of July, 1865.

The coming anniversary of our National Independence will be celebrated in the old fashion style at Elyria by the ringing of the bells, firing of cannon, oration, toasts, music, fire-works, &c., &c. The Lorain National Guards will be out on that day.

The veterans of Lorain county are invited to be present to join in the celebration, and to partake of a free repast.

COL. W. H. GIBSON, of Tiffin,
ORATOR OF THE DAY.

L. D. Griswold, President of the Day, assisted by the following Vice Presidents:

Joseph Swift, Jr.,	Joseph Barnard,
Col. Moses Fuller,	Wm. P. Harris,
Reuben Eddy,	H. D. Cornwall,
Darwin Dyer,	Wm. Jones,
John Wheeler,	Wm. H. Root,
E. S. Warner,	John Booth,
F. M. Hamlin,	N. P. Johnson,
Wm. Andrews,	S. H. Brown,
Wm. D. Mead,	Laurel Beebe,
George Clifton,	Thomas Churchward.

Marshals.—F. Parmely, assisted by Geo. B. Nichols, D. A. Stocking and J. B. Humphrey.

Marshal of Veterans.—Capt. G. W. Dorsey.

A grand Pyrotechnic display in the evening.

N. B. GATES,
I. S. MERCALE,
JOHN A. TOPLIFE,
A. M. PARMELY,
MEZART GALLEP,
Com. of Arrangements.

The Convention and its Candidates.
The Union State Convention which was held in Columbus, last Wednesday, was

A death record exists in Lorain County, Ohio that gives his name as Darwin Dyer. No will has been found for Darwin. Only on his tombstone does the initial E appear for the final time.

We would love to discover that rare Bible record, birth record, any record that records Darwin's parents (and all the rest of his siblings) and his full name.

Children attributed to Samuel and Prudence Ackley Dyer: Darwin (E.) Dyer, 1805 – 1871; Leman Wright Dyer, 1808 – 1854; Simeon A. Dyer, 1820 – 1859; Susan Arvilla Dyer, 1820 – 1886; Mary Ann and Abigail Dyer

Sources:

www.fold3.com/image/1/16959317?xid=1945 for Revolutionary War Pension Application for Charles Dyer

"*Fern Redman's Birthday Book*" for Darwin Dyer

Federal Census Year: 1830; Census Place: Rodman, Jefferson, New York; Series: M19; Roll: 92; Page: 166; for Samuel Dyer and Darwin E. Dyer

Federal Census Year: 1840; Census Place: Hanover, Shelby, Indiana; Roll: 93; Page: 330; Image: 668; for Darwin Dyer

Federal Census Year: 1850; Census Place: Brighton, Lorain, Ohio; Roll: M432_705; Page: 300A; Image: 121, for Darwin Dyer

Federal Census Year: 1850; Census Place: Groton, New London, Connecticut; Roll: M432_49; Page: 329B; Image: 18, for Leman Wright Dyer

Federal Census Year: 1860; Census Place: Toulon, Stark, Illinois; Roll: M653_229; Page: 882; Image: 116; Family History Library Film: 803229, for Simeon A. Dyer

Census of the state of New York, for 1855. Microfilm. New York State Archives, Albany, New York, for Peter W Dyer, Susan A. Dyer, Prudence A. Dyer

Ancestry.com. *The Independent Democrat* (Elyria, Ohio) [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2006.

Original data: *The Independent Democrat*. Elyria, Ohio, USA. Database created from microfilm copies of the newspaper.

Jamieson, Charles T., *Souvenir history of Wellington, Ohio*: Home-coming Week, August 20, 21, 22, 1930. Wellington, Ohio: Published under the auspices of the King's Daughters of Wellington, 1930, for Darwin Dyer

THE LOST VILLAGES CEMETERIES TOUR

This Memorial Day, Monday, 29 May 2017 will be your opportunity to visit one or more of the thirteen “Lost Villages” cemeteries on Fort Drum. You have read about them in past issues of the *Informer*—now see them in person. Every Memorial Day, training stops on Fort Drum and families and friends can visit the graves. If interested, e-mail JCNYS President Larry Corbett at lcorbet@gisco.net and Vice President Tom LaClair at tomlaclair624@yahoo.com BEFORE Wednesday, 17 May 2017. Once we received your e-mail, we will let you know what information is required so we can pre-arrange the group’s visit on Fort Drum. Specific times on Memorial Day will be set based on group feedback however generally plan on an all afternoon activity.

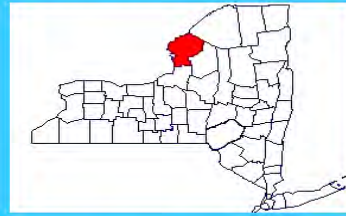
THERESA & ALEXANDRIA WAR VETERANS

Timothy S. Minnick is compiling a list of Revolutionary War through the Spanish-American War veterans from the Town of Theresa and the Town of Alexandria. He is also looking for a photograph of the old Theodore W. Seymour Post 6655 building on Commercial Street in Theresa during its heyday. The building was razed in 2008. If you can offer any veterans names, or help on the building, contact Tim at minnick13691@yahoo.com. For awareness, Tim recently completed making a book on Theresa's Great Fire of 1890—a book of newspaper articles, photographs, etc.—and took two copies to the Theresa Free Library in February.

JOHN & CATHERINE DOXTATER GOUTREMONT FAMILY PHOTOS

Kelly Townsend recently sent Bruce Coyne, of Jefferson County GenWeb, 48 old photos of the John and Catherine Doxtater Goutremont family of Felts Mills, Town of Rutland, Jefferson County, New York. The originals are about 2x2 inside a family album Kelly has. She says all but 5 are identified in the index. If you have Goutremont ancestors, e-mail Bruce Coyne at coynegen@aol.com or Tom LaClair at tomlaclair624@yahoo.com. We will make sure you get a copy of the CD with the scanned photos. You can then get with Kelly and work toward identifying the remaining photos together.

WELCOME TO
JEFFERSON COUNTY, NEW YORK



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NEW What's New in 2017 NEW

JEFFERSON COUNTY NEW YORK GENWEB



Nan Dixon hosted a Jefferson County New York GenWeb meeting in her Dixon Road home in January 2017. In the meeting, she led a discussion about submitting fresh articles and items on the GenWeb site. Nan has amassed a wealth of information over the years and she has a personal goal of seeing the information placed on the site for all to see. Attending the meeting were Nan Dixon, Bruce Coyne, Larry Corbett and Tom LaClair. All are members of JCNYS and co-coordinate the Jefferson County GenWeb. Nan’s site continues to be accessible from the JCNYS home page and offers a wealth of research possibilities.

In the photo above are Larry Corbett, Nan Dixon and Bruce Coyne posing for the camera. The photo was taken by Tom LaClair.

Nan’s site address is
<http://www.jefferson.nygenweb.net>



By JCNYS Vice President Thomas F. LaClair

This spotlight is the fourth installment among the 22 towns that comprise Jefferson County, New York. Last quarter we shared the spotlight on the Town of Orleans. This quarter my adventure takes me to the Town and Village of Clayton where I dropped in on the Thousand Island Museum. The information in this article comes from three primary sources: my personal interview, the museum's website, and history files located within the museum itself.

Let's start by reviewing the many communities in the Town of Clayton. They include: Clayton, Clayton Center, Grindstone Island, Depauville, Aunt Janes Bay, Bartlett's Point, Blind Bay, Chaumont River, Deferno, Delaney Bay, Flynn Bay, French Creek, French Creek Bay, Frontenac, Frontenac Springs, Grenell Island, Grenell, Gunns Corners, Murray Isle, Reynolds Corners, Round Island, Little Round Island, Schnauber Hill, South Corners, Thousand Islands Park and Washington Island. Although each has a history of their own; united, they comprise the Town of Clayton.



Lois Huntley-Seybert on the left is Town and Village Historian. Sharon Bourquin on the right is Membership and Research Librarian.

During this focused visit, I met with Sharon D. (Hill) Bourquin, Membership and Research Librarian, and Lois M. Huntley-Seybert, Town and Village Historian. Lois has been the Historian since February 2016, when she replaced long standing Town and Village Historian Norm H. Wagner. Norm passed away suddenly in October 2015 after serving as Historian since 1999—16 years in all.

Norm, through his previous writings, noted that the "Town of Clayton was organized from the Towns of Orleans and Lyme by an act of State Legislature on 27 April 1833. (The formal signing occurred at Clayton Center—then known as Carter's Corners). At the suggestion of the Postmaster, General William H. Angel, a Whig himself, the name was chosen in honor of John Middleton Clayton, United States Senator from Delaware and a prominent Whig, a fitting political selection since most of the voters in the area were Whigs themselves.



Residence in Clayton Center where act of State Legislature on 27 April 1833, creating the Town of Clayton, was signed. Photo taken 2012. The home today is owned by Tony and Cathy Pisarski.

The Village of Clayton was incorporated on 17 April 1872 by a vote of the citizens, as provided in an act passed by the State Legislature, 20 April 1870. The vote stood 140 for and 51 against the assumption of corporate honors. The first known name given to the area around the present day village was Weteringhera -Guentere, an Indian term for "Fallen Fort", referring to an ancient fort on the banks of French Creek captured from the Algonquin tribe by the Iroquois. In the early 1820s the area around French Creek Bay was being settled by the French. In 1823 the post office and the village was called Cornelia. In 1831 they were both changed to Clayton. By 1835 the village consisted of 93 buildings and 426 people.

The other major settlement in the town is the hamlet of Depauville, originally called Cat Fish Falls. The hamlet is located in a valley along the Chaumont River. The area was being settled by 1816 utilizing the Chaumont river as its navigable waterway for transportation of timber, goods and people. Catfish Falls was an excellent source of water power to operate a saw mill and grist mill.

(Continued on Page 9)

(Continued From Page 8)

Due to its favorable positioning on the St. Lawrence River and an ample supply of lumber, the first major industry in Clayton was timber. Trees were lashed together to form rafts and then sent down the St. Lawrence River to Montreal and surrounding areas. There, the logs were cut into usable lumber.

Depauville also had a substantial lumber industry. The local economy was dominated by this industry until the railroad made its way to the North Country in the 1870's. Its location on the river and supply of lumber was a natural fit for the shipbuilding industry. Simon Johnston owned one of the prominent shipyards in the Village. The Town Hall is located on the site of his shipyard. Clayton is also known as the home of the St. Lawrence Skiff. These skiffs were first build as fishing guide boats starting around 1868. The schooners financed and built here sailed the St. Lawrence and the Great Lakes in the shipping trade well into the era of steamships. They also, periodically, were overhauled, repaired, and sometimes enlarged to carry more goods to and from the ports. Tradesmen with many skills were drawn to the area to build and maintain all boats on the River.

In 1873, the railroad was brought to Clayton and with it came people seeking time away from the city life. As a result, hotels, restaurants, boat liverys, fishing guides and tourist related services began to flourish and a new industry was born, tourism. Grindstone, Picton, Bluff, Murray and other smaller islands began to become settled by local residents and tourists. Luxury hotels were built to accommodate this influx of vacationers: The Windsor, The Walton, The Riverview, The Hubbard House, The Frontenac on Round Island, The Clayton Hotel and the Herald House. The Clayton Hotel is now O'Briens and the Herald House is the T. I. Inn: all of the other old hotels have either burned or were torn down. The influx of people during this period brought money, built houses and created an increase in small privately owned boats. The small boat trade and repair business quickly became lucrative for many entrepreneurs. This period of growth lasted until the advent of the car as a family vehicle. It became easier to travel where ever you wanted and not just where the train would take you.

Agriculture was an important industry in the Town. The number of active farms has been steadily decreasing, a trend that is occurring all across the State and Country. The Town has a history of mining that includes quarries on Picton and Grindstone Islands that were active in the mid 1800's. High quality granite from Grindstone and Picton Islands was widely used for paving blocks and prominent buildings such as the New York State Capitol Building. There are a number of active sand and gravel operations located on County Route 4, the Crystal Springs Road. Like any other community over the last 177 years, Clayton has undergone many social and economic changes.

Today, Clayton remains as a reflection of the small shops and restaurants, recreational opportunities and marinas that existed in the early years." (This concludes one of Norm's written histories.)

As I further talked to Sharon and Lois, I learned more about the museum itself. Per the museum's history, "the story began during the winter of 1963 - 64 when a group of residents gathered at McCormick's Restaurant on Riverside Drive. Vince Dee, Gordon Cerow, Helene Cobb, Jackie Vrooman and Larry Balcom recognized the importance of preserving local history and took the initial steps to make the museum a reality. On 24 April 1964, the New York State Education Department issued a provisional charter for the organization. On 4 July 1964, the Thousand Islands Museum opened its doors at the Town Hall.

Over the next several years an Art Show and an Antique Show & Sale were added to the annual Antique Boat Show. Vince Dee became the first museum president and the T.I. Museum Craft School opened on the second floor under the direction of Emily Post and Jean Holt. On 24 February 1967 (just noted their 50th anniversary); the NYS Education Department issued an absolute charter, making the museum fully accredited. In 1968 a special exhibit put on by Gordon Bennett and Harold Herrick would lead to the annual Decoy and Wildlife Art Show. In 1970, the Muskie Hall of Fame opened under the leadership of Ed Bannister.

To accommodate its varied and growing exhibits, the Museum set up divisions, including the Craft School and the Shipyard Museum in the late 1960's. Each division ultimately became an independent entity. An absolute charter was granted to the Shipyard, now the Antique Boat Museum in 1986. The Craft School, now the Thousand Islands Art Center, home of the Handweaving Museum, was granted a charter in 1990. Each year thousands are drawn to Clayton as these organizations host annual shows."

I asked Sharon and Lois what brought visitors into the museum. To sum up their responses, the museum is a welcomed gathering spot—where many come to enjoy each other's company and learn more about the community. Specifically, they mentioned a few better known reasons people come:

History and Genealogy Research: The ground floor of the Museum houses an extensive research library. The library includes documents, clippings, scrapbooks, photos, maps, books and printed local histories. Nearly 400 "family files" and several hundred "historical subjects" fill the shelves of the research area. Each family or subject matter has a binder and these binders are filled with clippings and information.

Wildlife Displays: The museum has a wide range of displays spanning well over a century, covering the area's earliest sport fishing of the world famous

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muskelunge and many duck decoys carved by renowned artists. The second floor houses older decoys. One room is dedicated to carver Sam Denny. The large room houses many local area carvers. In the Muskie Hall of Fame you will find both skin mounts as well as the more modern fiberglass mounts and turn of the century tackle used by anglers as far back as the late 1800s.

The Museum Artifacts: Today the museum presents a modern gallery of permanent and rotating exhibits on the first floor along with a research library. Stop by to visit, and be prepared to stay awhile. The Grindstone Island School has on display items from area one room schools in Clayton. Grindstone Island one room schoolhouse was the last such schoolhouse to close in New York State—it closed in 1989.



The Military Hallway honors our veterans.

Military Hallway: A display honoring local servicemen and servicewomen. From the Civil War, through the Persian Gulf War, many veterans are highlighted for their achievements. As a retired military person myself, my retirement shadow box hangs on a wall in the museum. The museum's military display is a valuable resource for students, professionals, historians and scholars. Local teachers and students have "adopted" veterans and taken time to learn more about the veteran's service to the nation.

Annual Events: The museum hosts continual ongoing events. From Sunset History Boat Cruises, to Hashing Over History, and History at Noon gatherings, to hosting the Annual Decoy/Wildlife Art and Sporting

Collectibles Show (48th Annual), to hosting the T. I. Museum's Juried Craft Show, holding a popular Roast Pork Dinner fundraiser, hosting Saturday programs, giving the community the Annual Festival of Trees (22nd Annual), and so much more. The museum covers the past, enjoys the present, and looks toward tomorrow.



Wilbur and Wheelock's boat livery in Clayton. Undated photo.

Please plan your visit today!

The Thousand Island Museum is 312 James Street (P. O. Box 27), Clayton, New York 13624.

Phone: 315-686-5794



General Inquiries:

info@timuseum.org. Sharon Bourquin, Membership and Research Library, e-mail: sharon@timuseum.org. Lois Huntley-Seybert, Clayton Historian, email historian@townofclayton.com. Gallery Hours: Summer Hours, (Memorial Day through Labor Day) Tuesday - Saturday 10am to 4 pm. Labor Day - December, Tuesday - Saturday 10am to 4pm. Resource Room Hours: January - May: Hours are Tuesday & Wednesday 10am to 4pm. May - December hours are Tuesday - Friday 10am to 4pm. Weekends available by appointment. Visit the museum's website at <http://www.timuseum.org/>

Additional information is located within these recommended sites:

<http://jefferson.nygenweb.net/clayton.htm>

<http://www.villageofclayton.com/history/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clayton,_New_York

The nation's oldest fair: 196th annual event set for July at Coffeen Street grounds

Northern New York Living Magazine, 27 June 2013

By Lenka P. Waldroff

Printed with permission by the *Watertown Daily Times*

(JCNYGS Note: In July 2017 the Jefferson County Fair—the longest consecutively running fair in the USA—will celebrate its 200th Anniversary. Although this article is from June 2013, the information is applicable on the heels of this bicentenary anniversary.)

After the long, grueling North Country winters there are few Northern New Yorkers who don't look forward to summer. Warmer months bring barbecues, days on the river and, perhaps, the most famous harbinger of summer: the Jefferson County Fair. Lauded as the longest continually operating fair in the country, the fairgrounds along Coffeen Street in Watertown is transformed each July into a teeming gathering of people, young and old, who come to enjoy food, rides, crafts, exhibits and farm animals.

Many local fairs are, or were at some point, connected with an agricultural society. Agricultural societies were initially developed in Europe during the Enlightenment, a period during the 18th century of intense scientific discovery and intellectual growth in the Western world. The expressed common goal of agricultural societies was the promotion and development of agricultural techniques. With the scientific spirit of the age, early society members conducted experiments in soil rejuvenation, crop rotation and breeding, animal husbandry and the study of weather patterns. The results of these experiments were then disseminated among local farmers in the hopes of improving farming techniques, technology and crop yields. As a forerunner to the agricultural fair, early agricultural societies offered premiums for new research on field topics, such as innovative methods for eradicating pests that threatened crops.

By the late 1700s, the agricultural society concept had already been imported to North America and was quickly adopted. Because of its local nature, it is difficult to determine when the first agricultural society was established in North America. One of the earliest, however, was the Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture, founded in 1792.

The first settlements in Jefferson County began to appear just before 1800. In 1808, \$80 (approximately \$1,000 in today's currency) was offered for the best



An aerial view of the Jefferson County Fair, ca. 1950s, at the present-day Alex T. Duffy Fairgrounds on Coffeen Street, Watertown. Photo from *Watertown Daily Times* Archives.

quality woolen cloth produced in Jefferson County. The premium was funded by the county in an attempt to encourage agricultural production as well as the settlement of more farmers in the area. Less than 10 years later, in 1817, the Jefferson County Agricultural Society was formed. It was only the second agricultural society formed in the state; the first was the Otsego Agricultural Society located in the Southern Tier. Membership in the JCAS could be obtained for \$1 per year and was held by some of Jefferson County's most well-known citizens, including James LeRay de Chaumont, Jacob Brown, Egbert TenEyck, Hart Massey, Noadiah Hubbard and Roswell Woodruff. Former Presidents Thomas Jefferson and James Madison, both southern plantation owners and agriculturalists, also were members. The presidents were awarded membership to the JCAS by its members in recognition of their support and passion for American agriculture.

A year after the JCAS was formed in 1817, the first Jefferson County Fair was held. As dependable roads were mostly non-existent and the trip into Watertown could be long and arduous, a traveling viewing committee was formed. This group of five men visited nine towns in the county in order to examine entries and award prizes in a number of categories. All manner of livestock, domestic and farm products and even entire farms themselves were included in the judging. Prizes took the form of engraved cups, goblets and spoons.

The first fair was a modest affair, lasting only two days in September 1818. The first day was reserved for the exhibition of prize-winning livestock and domestic goods. The second day featured a plowing match between teams of horses and oxen and a subsequent parade. The fair of 1818 came to be known as the Jefferson County Fair and was held annually thereafter.

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An aerial view of the Jefferson County Fair, 2015.
Photo from the Jefferson County Fair facebook page.

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In August 1851, the executive board of the JCAS resolved to purchase 10 acres of land on the Brownville Road, known today as Coffeen Street. The area was fenced and a building was built to house fair exhibitions. This lot has been home to the Jefferson County Fair since.

Lenka P. Walldroff is former curator of collections for the Jefferson County Historical Museum. She is a former museum specialist and conservator at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. She lives in Jefferson County with her husband and daughter.

Pool School children in Theresa ca 1913. The students that year included Earl J., Florence, Charlie & Marion Kelsey; John, Nellie & James Kaveney; Raymond, Isaac, Nellie & Elma Buker; August Simpson, Lois Stone, Mabel Brown, Gertrude Robinson, Clarke Bowen and Estella Waite. So these are probably some of the children pictured here. The teacher and photographer was Mabel S. DeYoung. (From Roberta Calhoun-Eagan)



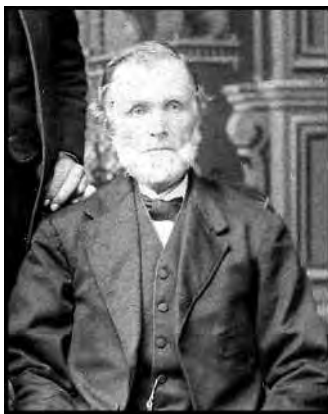
On the Web: <http://www.jcnygs.com>

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My Civil War Grandfathers

Part I of IV: Private Shadrach Allen Jr.

By JCNYS Member: Colonel Steven C. Guy (USA, Retired)



Shadrach Allen Jr.

Shadrach Allen Jr. was one of ten children born to Shadrach Allen Sr. (1783-1851) and Frances Loftin (1783-1845). Shadrach was born in 1819. His birthplace has not been determined with certainty, but it was either in Guilford County, North Carolina or Wythe County, Virginia. On three of four U.S. Censuses where birthplace was recorded, Shadrach Jr. lists his birthplace as North Carolina. His father, Shadrach Sr., was born in Craven County, North Carolina and migrated westward until he eventually settled in southwest Virginia. He migrated from Guilford County, North Carolina to Evansham (aka Wytheville) in Wythe County prior to 1820 and later moved to Grayson County by 1830. Shadrach Jr. appears on the 1820 Wythe County Census as one of two males under the age of 10 years living in the household of Shadrach Allen Sr. Both father and son were still living in Grayson County in 1842 when a portion of it was split off to form Carroll County.

Shadrach Allen Jr. married Nancy McCracken on August 8, 1844. Nancy was the daughter of Stephen H. and Ann (Jessop) McCracken, Quakers from Orange County, North Carolina who had also migrated westward to Guilford County and later Surry County, North Carolina. Shadrach Jr. and Nancy had nine children: Frances "Bird" (1824-1901), Alverta (1848-1880), Barren Daniel (1850-1926), James Albert (1853-1919), Kimbro Montero "Monte" (1855-1936), Elena Emry "Ellen" (1858-1901), Estella Alice (1861-1946), Floyd Vandoran "Van" (1864-1934), and George Wyley (1867-1898). The two elder daughters married local Carroll County Confederate veterans; Frances married Eli Jones and Alverta married John Wesley McGee, both marriages occurring in 1865.

Carroll County land records indicate that Shadrach Allen Jr. purchased about 400 acres along Crooked Creek and Wolf Glade Creek in 1856 and 1858. He earned a living as both a blacksmith and a farmer.

Shadrach Allen's military service included enlistment in infantry, artillery, and reserve regiments. Shortly following the outbreak of hostilities at Fort Sumter early in the Civil War, Shadrach Allen Jr. enlisted as a Private in Hillsville, Virginia on June 1, 1861. He was enlisted for a period of one year in Company D, 29th



Shadrach, wife and son

Virginia Infantry. At the time of his enlistment, Shadrach Jr. would have been about 43-44 years of age - rather old for an infantryman and unlikely to be subject to conscription. Fortunately for Shadrach, the 29th Virginia Infantry regiment only participated in one battle and he emerged unscathed. This was the Battle of Middle Creek, Kentucky, fought on January 10, 1862. The battle was interesting in that both armies retreated and declared victory. Confederate Brigadier General Humphrey Marshall claimed victory because he said Union General James A. Garfield (later the 20th President of the United States) retreated first, but Garfield claimed victory because he said Marshall had retreated farther.

On April 16, 1862, Shadrach received \$50 in bounty money and started his furlough. On May 1, 1862 he transferred/enlisted in Capt. Jeffress' Battery of the Virginia Light Artillery for a period of 3 years. This unit was also known as the Nottoway Light Artillery. Shortly after his transfer to the artillery, Jeffress' Battery saw action as part of the Army of Eastern Kentucky on May 16, 1862 during the Battle of Princeton, or Pigeon Roost (as it is occasionally called), Virginia. For the next eighteen months,

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Jeffress' Company advanced and retreated in eastern Kentucky and western Virginia under the command of Brigadier Humphrey Marshall, a political general from Kentucky. In September 1863, Jeffress' Battery advanced into northern Georgia with Brigadier William Preston's division as part of General Bragg's Army of Tennessee. During the next three months, Jeffress' Battery participated in the Battle of Chickamauga, the Battle of Lookout Mountain, and the Siege of Chattanooga. Shadrach Allen Jr. deserted Jeffress' Battery on December 20, 1863.



Post card of the Battle of Chickamauga



Post card of the Battle of Lookout Mountain

To his credit, Shadrach Allen Jr. returned to the Confederate Army several months following his desertion and next appears on the muster rolls of the 4th Virginia Reserves, also known as the Wythe Reserves or Preston's Battalion Virginia Reserves. On April 16, 1864 he enlisted at the age of 47 years in Company E of the 4th Reserves "for the duration of the war." Members of Company E were later transferred to form Company G. On August 31, 1864, Shadrach

was detailed to work as a collier at the lead mines in Wytheville, Virginia. These mines were responsible for the manufacture of much of the lead shot used by the Confederacy during the Civil War. On January 27, 1865, records indicate that Shadrach and eight other men were contracted to provide 3600 bushels of coal, presumably for use either at the lead smelter or shot tower. When I first learned that Shadrach had been detailed to "the lead mines," I assumed that it was some sort of punishment. Further research revealed that the 4th Reserves "detailed" men for any number of reasons. Soldiers were detailed as farmers, millers, coopers, blacksmiths, wheelwrights, shoemakers, police duty, enrolling guard, Provost Guard, to arrest deserters, and to the Quartermaster, Medical, Commissary, and Ordnance Departments. A considerable number of men were also detailed for "Personal Necessity."

Following the end of the Civil War, Shadrach Allen Jr. remained in Carroll County for several more years and eventually migrated to Orange County, Indiana about 1868-1869. Shadrach's youngest son, George Wyley Allen, was born in Carroll County on September 1, 1867, shortly before the family departed Virginia. Shadrach and his family appear in the 1870 census for Greenfield Township in Orange County, Indiana on July 22, 1870. Shadrach's wife, Nancy (McCracken) Allen, died later that year and was buried in Elon Cemetery in Jackson Township. When Patoka Lake was created in the 1960's, approximately 24 cemeteries and burial sites that would eventually be covered by the lake were moved to what is now known as Patoka Memorial Cemetery. Although many

(CONFEDERATE.)

A | 29 | Va.

Shadrach Allen
Private, Reg't

for Aug 31 to Nov 30
dated 25/1864

Enlisted: June 1, 1864
When
Where: Newville, Carroll Co. Va.
Capt. E. L. Hale
One year

Last paid: None
By whom: none
To what time: none 1864

Present

*This company subsequently became Company E, 25th Regt. Va. Infantry.

(CONFEDERATE.)

A | Va.

Shadrach Allen
Private

appears on

for May June 1864
(Note July 1864)

Enlisted: May 1, 1864
When
By whom: W. L. Jeffress
Period: 3 yrs
Last paid: None
By whom: May Fisher
May 1, 1864

Present or absent present

Remarks:

*This company subsequently became Company E, 25th Regt. Va. Infantry.

(CONFEDERATE.)

A | Va.

Shadrach Allen
Private

appears on

County: Orange
for Sept 1864
Enlisted: Sept 1, 1864
Period: the war

Remarks: Detail to work at the lead mines in Wytheville, Va. for 3 months. He was detailed to work at the lead mines in Wytheville, Va. for 3 months. He was detailed to work at the lead mines in Wytheville, Va. for 3 months.

Book mark:

1864

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headstones were relocated to Patoka Memorial Cemetery, Nancy (McCracken) Allen's was not among them. Her unmarked grave now lies at the bottom of Patoka Lake. It wasn't until February 11, 1873 that Shadrach purchased land in Orange County, Indiana.

It was another ten years before Shadrach Allen Jr. was remarried to Mary Morgan on February 22, 1880 in adjacent Daviess County, Indiana. Shadrach did not purchase land in Daviess County until March 31, 1894.



Just one year later, it was reported in the Daviess County Democrat newspaper that "Shedrick" Allen had died of pneumonia on March 29, 1895. Shadrach was buried at Mt. Olive Cemetery in Barr Township, a relatively short distance from his home near Montgomery. My 2nd great grandparents, James A. and Mary (McDonald) Allen are buried in the same cemetery.

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Editor's note: While we make an attempt to present only Jefferson County, New York related genealogical information in our publication, this article submitted by Steven Guy presents a great example of research that we all can emulate in our own research. And after all, Steve and his wife Sue are JCNYS members and they live in Watertown. Being so, they themselves have become "genealogical information" from Jefferson County, New York.

A Bicentennial Tribute to Veterans of 1776

A Reprinting of *Watertown Daily Times*
Articles from 1976

Original biographies researched and written by
Members of the LeRay De Chaumont Chapter
NSDAR Watertown, NY

Bicentennial Tribute to Veterans of 1776

JCNYGS acquired the full collection of Veteran tribute articles and is reprinting the series in this and subsequent *Informers* until all tributes are reprinted. The articles all originated from the *Watertown Daily Times* over a six-month period in 1976—during the 200 year anniversary celebrations. The reprinting project is continued from page 16 of the January 2017 *Informer*.

Edward Barney. Edward Barney served as a private in the Cumberland County (now Vermont) regiment of the New York State Militia in Capt. Asa Rice's Company under the command of Col. William Williams. He was born 12 or 18 August 1749 in Rehobeth, Massachusetts, and was a doctor, practicing in Guilford, Vermont and in Ellisburg, (New York) where he moved in 1804. He first married Elizabeth Brown, daughter of Benni and Mable Porter Brown at Leyden, Massachusetts, 29 October 1770. She died 5 March 1793, in childbirth, and was buried with the couple's 12th child, Mabel, who died at birth. Dr. Barney married Phoebe Bennett 4 December 1793. The couple had six children. Dr. Barney died 9 August 1835 in Ellisburg. His grave has not been located.

John Baxter. John Baxter was the son of Timothy and Sarah (Kilburn) Baxter, born 19 August 1757 in Weathersfield, Connecticut. He enlisted at Sanderfield, Berkshire County, Massachusetts, in November 1775, in Capt. Sorles' Company under Col. Asa Whitcomb, serving for 13 months. He re-enlisted in April 1777 in Capt. Elijah Denning's Company, and served one and a half months, and re-enlisted again in June 1778 as a gunner on a privateer sailing from New London, Connecticut. In June or July 1780 he was a private in Capt. Noah Allen's and Capt. John Kilby Smith's company under Col. Shepard, serving for five months. He applied for a pension on 11 September 1832 and it was granted. About 1785 he married Ann Bowdy, born 1764. After his first wife sometime after 1792, he married Candace Emerson in July 1806, in Brownville. John Baxter died 18 April 1847 and was buried in the Perch River Cemetery, Town of Brownville. His second wife died in the west.

Jonas Benjamin. Canterbury, Massachusetts, was the birthplace of Jonas Benjamin on 6 April 1760. He enlisted in March or April 1781, at White Plains, the headquarters of General Washington. He was placed under the command of Col. Jackson of the 9th Regiment of the Massachusetts Line, and was later transferred to a company in the 2nd Massachusetts Line. Serving for close to three years, he was discharged in December 1783. Jonas Benjamin married Mercy Ann Saulters about 1800. She died in Hounsfield in 1834 at the age of 70, and Jonas was remarried in 1839 to Mrs. Polly Wilder Hunt. There is no record of his second wife's death, but it is thought

she is buried with him in Muscalonge cemetery, Town of Hounsfield. He died 6 June 1854 at the age of 94.

William Bentley. Capt. William Bentley was born 25 April 1765 probably in Rhode Island. He entered the service of the colonies at Lyingham, Massachusetts, in 1781, when he was 16 years of age, and marched to Springfield, where he was mustered in by Capt. Bannister. At Verplank's Point he joined the company commanded by Capt. Bridgit, Col. Hall's third Massachusetts regiment, Continental Army. Afterwards he joined the company commanded by Capt. Thomas Hunt, Col. Henry Jackson's continentals (or First American Regiment), and was discharged in June 1784, having served one year as a private and two years as a first corporal. On 18 January 1785 he married Anna Matthews. They had a family of seven sons and four daughters. The daughters all married in Montgomery County; the sons were William G., Elisha, John, Thomas, James E.; and Bartnett H., all born in Montgomery County. William G. and his wife died in 1811, leaving a son, William Jason Bentley. William Bentley died 2 May 1850, in Antwerp, and his wife preceded him by 15 years. Both are buried in a private family plot on the Champion – Great Bend road in the Town of Champion.

A Visit with "Gus" Rogers

From our vice president Tom LaClair: I had the chance to visit A. E. Rogers (Augustus Edwin Rogers) at his home in Baldwinsville today, 3 March 2017. At age 94 he continues to watch for obituaries online and he then updates his personal cemetery files. He loves knowing his cemetery inscription books are still being used by researchers today.

Taken from GenWeb: "This cemetery inscription project began (in 1993) as a labor of love on the part of Mr. A. E. "Gus" Rogers, who started out to record one cemetery in the Town of Clayton, and ended up spending his summers on his hands and knees in cemetery after cemetery, recording names, resurrecting fallen stones, and unearthing forgotten cemeteries all over Jefferson County. For many of us, researching Jefferson County family history, the Bartlett books of epitaph inscription have been the first book to reach for."

Gus is doing very well and he lives with his wife Marion. The two have been married some 70 years. It was a great visit.



Civil War Impacts Felt in Northern New York History

Northern New York Living Magazine, Winter 2017
By Lenka P. Waldroff
Printed with permission by Brian Kelly of the
Watertown Daily Times

Last year marked the 155 anniversary of the beginning of the American Civil War. While most people associate the Civil War with Gettysburg or other points south, the effects and repercussions of the war were felt throughout the nation- even in our little corner of New York State.

In April of 1861, Jefferson County had a population of around 70,000 people- about that of modern day Sydney, Australia. Many people were employed in agriculture, which was the county's biggest economic driver - particularly the dairy industry. At that point in history, dairy was king and Jefferson County dominated the market for butter and cheese. That same year the concept of dairy cooperatives was introduced and it strengthened the local dairy industry that much more. There was also a good amount of manufacturing happening in Watertown. The textile industry, which at one point provided many local jobs, unfortunately succumbed to the mighty New England textile mills that had the advantage of the railroad. While the building of railroad infrastructure had begun locally, the extensive network that would eventually crisscross the county was put on hold during the Civil War and only completed in the years following it.

During the war years of 1861-1865, Watertown didn't change much at all from an industry standpoint with the notable exception of the establishment of a new local newspaper - the *Daily Reformer*, which later became the *Watertown Daily Times*, and the building of a new (now "the old") courthouse.



WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES
This picture, taken during the 1860s, shows the Watertown Daily Times and Reformer building, which was then located on Arcade Street. The newspaper didn't have Adobe Photoshop in those days but apparently a photographer mortised this photo of the building, street and trees, gluing it on top of another photo of a cloudy sky, something which would be frowned upon in today's newsroom.

Photo scanned from NNY Living column

This was the state of Jefferson County on April 12, 1861 when Confederate forces fired upon Fort Sumter.

The Civil War marked the first time in American history when not one, but two, large armies needed to be raised. In the war's initial, optimistic months, it was believed that this could be accomplished on a largely volunteer basis, and so it was. However, as the war dragged on, with no end in sight, the patriotic fervor that fueled the initial surge in volunteers waned.

Money was another point of discouragement. The Union Army paid its soldiers \$8 a month - approximately \$200 in today's currency, a sufficient amount for the support of a single man at the time, but not enough for a family of dependents. To solve the problem, local governments were authorized to use taxpayer dollars to fund bounties, which were then paid to men to volunteer - usually \$300 per man - approximately \$8,100 in today's currency. All told, by the end of the war, Jefferson County paid out nearly \$330,000 in bounties (just over \$8.9 million today); while an astounding figure, it is far below the \$1 million (\$27 million) paid out by St. Lawrence County and nearly \$2 million (\$54 million) paid by Oswego County!

Recruitment was typically accomplished with the help of prominent citizens who were given officer commissions in exchange for enlisting a sufficient amount of men to fill their company. In Jefferson County's case, some of the more prominent men in charge of enlistment were George Flower - the first mayor of Watertown, Bradley Winslow - another future mayor, Byron B. Taggart - yet another future mayor and owner of a large local paper mill, and John Haddock, who closed his cotton mill to serve in the Civil War.

Before the Conscription Act of 1863, Jefferson County had already contributed three volunteer regiments to the war effort and hundreds of other men for various other units. But in 1863, the draft began.

The quota for each county was based upon the total population of the state which was then broken down by county and town. When each town's turn came to be drafted, the list of eligible males, aged 20 to 45, was brought out, each name copied onto a separate card and then the cards were dropped into a wooden drum. The town supervisor would spin the drum, and a blindfolded boy would reach in to pull one card at a time until the quota had been met. As an aside, the drum used for this process was donated to the Jefferson County Historical Society and is still on display in the museum's Civil War display.

Not everyone favored the Conscription Act. As a matter of fact, when the legislation was passed, New

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York City erupted into violent draft riots. The law was viewed as undemocratic because the man whose name was pulled had the option of hiring a substitute to take his place, or bypassing the whole business entirely by paying the government \$300 (approximately \$8,000 today.) This was seen as elitist and unfair to all but the wealthiest families who could afford the expense.

Back in Northern New York, the Conscription Act's option of hiring a substitute spurred on the creation of an interesting war industry: that of substitutes for hire. Many Canadians and other foreign nationals made themselves available during draft time to offer their substitute services to the highest bidder. While many served well and honorably, there were those who deserted at the first opportunity. Among the latter were men who made a business of it - hiring themselves out as a substitute, collecting their money, enlisting, then deserting, only to start the whole business over again at the next draft call. The man who hired the substitute not only lost his money, but was then on the hook to either replace the substitute or go to war himself.

While the valor and patriotism of the men who served in defense of the Union is certainly to be applauded and honored, it is important also to remember the sacrifice of those left at home. With so much of the able bodied male population away at war, there was a labor shortage in Jefferson County. With few men to work the farms, dairies, and factories, there was a marked decrease in farm and manufactured products. Without a rationing and price control system in place, prices of goods violently inflated, which often led to profiteering and black markets. Additionally, in order to make up for the volunteer bounties that were paid out from public funds, taxes were raised. Rare was the Jefferson County household that didn't have at least one member away at war, and with the casualties so high, many families lived daily with the fear of receiving bad news.

It was against this backdrop then, that news of General Lee's surrender in Virginia in April of 1865 reached the north country. So elated was the population that an old cannon was brought into Public Square where it was fired continuously in celebration throughout the night. It was reported that the concussions of the blasts broke every store front window along the Square!

In the summer of 1865, the regiments returned to Watertown. They were welcomed home with cheering, flowers, breakfast, speeches, and a marching band that accompanied the regiments as they marched into the Square and eventually onto Sackets Harbor where they were mustered out at Madison Barracks.

WPBS-TV PRESENTS DISCOVERING WATERTOWN

WPBS-TV, the North Country's public broadcasting station, recently released a high definition docu-series about Watertown, New York. This multi-episode documentary chronicled the fascinating and rich history of Watertown, New York. The docu-series is available on DVD and can be purchased by visiting <http://www.wpbstv.org/discoveringwatertown>

Part One of Discovering Watertown covers the prehistoric ice age through the founding of Watertown and into the 1840s. Both the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 influenced the North Country. Surveyor Benjamin Wright explored Jefferson County in 1796, and shortly thereafter, early American settlers decided to make Watertown their home. Learn about the Native Americans who were here prior to the American Settlers, and uncover the key players whose courage and ambition helped build the foundation for Watertown to become a successful community. Gain insight into founding father Henry Coffeen and his efforts to make Watertown a place of prominence in the new frontier.

Part Two of Discovering Watertown covers the Industrial boom in the 1850s through the end of World War II in 1945. The city transformed from a rugged wilderness in to an industrial powerhouse. The textile and manufacturing industry grew, jettisoning Watertown into an era of wealth and prosperity during the mid-1800s and into the twentieth century. The landscape of Watertown changed as immigrant workers came to fill the factories, and brought with them their culture and religions. A class of new wealth was created in Watertown, making it a beacon of hope throughout the North East. Hardships such as harsh winters, natural disasters, and wars challenged Watertown throughout its development.

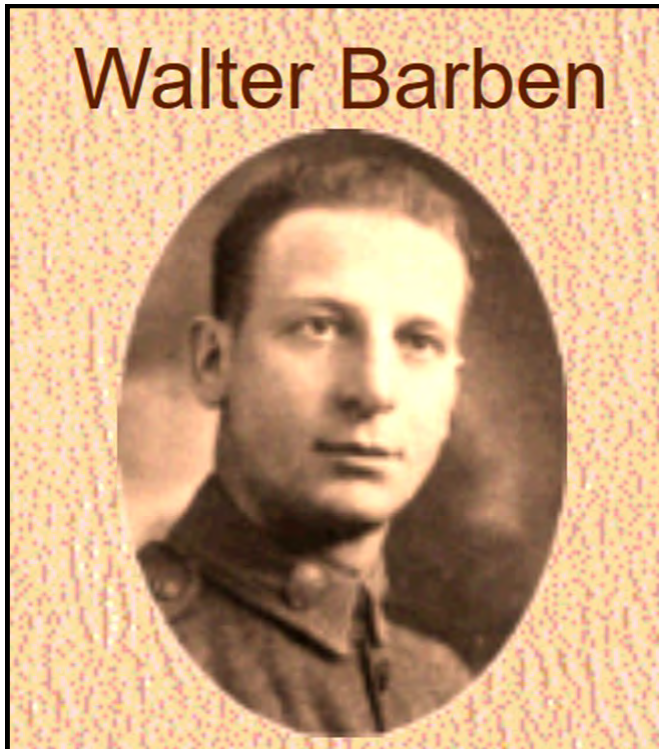
Part Three of Discovering Watertown covers from post-World War II through present day. Watertown adjusts to a world after World War II and faces new challenges, including the controversial Urban Renewal movement under President Johnson, and the departure of the manufacturing infrastructure. Fort Drum becomes a major economic influence in Watertown's development. Watertown has a rich history of local sports, from boxing with Sugar Ray Robinson, to hosting the oldest semi pro football team in the United States. Through it all, Watertown has adapted in order to succeed in the modern era. The undefeatable spirit of Watertown is still alive and well today.

“A pessimist is someone who complains about the noise when opportunity knocks.” – Oscar Wilde

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF UNITED STATES INVOLVEMENT IN WORLD WAR I

By JCNYS President Larry Corbett

SPOTLIGHT - WALTER ALBERT BARBEN



"We deeply regret to inform you that your son, Walter A. Barben, was killed in action June 7."

The telegram from Adjutant General Henry Pinckney McCain brought the dreaded news to Kate Barben and her family. One of the first group of Watertown men drafted into the service, Barben, 26, had left Watertown with the first contingent for Camp Dix, NJ in September, 1917.

At Camp Dix, Walter demonstrated great skill in operating a machine gun and was selected by his superiors Company A, Machine Gun Battalion, First Brigade, First Division and chosen to be one of the first of the draftees ordered to France. After four months of strenuous training, broken only by a three-day pass for Christmas before sailing for France on a troopship in January of 1918.

Five months later, in the first major American offensive of the Great War, Walter Barben was dead.

His was the first of more than 100 families in Jefferson County who would receive the terrible news before the hostilities of World War 1 were over.

Walt Barben was born in Watertown on Washington's



Birthday, 1891, the seventh son of David and Katharine Lortscher Barben. David and Kate immigrated from Switzerland in about 1869 and were married in Rochester, NY in about 1872.

Two sons were born in Rochester before the couple moved to Evans Mills, Jefferson County about 1876. In 1880, they moved to Watertown after purchasing a two-room house at the corner of Sherman and Elm streets which David would enlarge to make room for a growing family.

Walt's eldest brother, Henry, eighteen years his senior, partnered with Farmer to start Watertown's first bicycle shop during the bicycle craze of the 1890s. Brother John became an attorney and moved to Brooklyn, NY where he continued to practice law until his death in 1932. Sister Katherine lived at home until her marriage to John M. Kiechle in 1908, returning there with a baby in 1910 after the sudden death of her husband from peritonitis. Brother George became a dentist and practiced in Pennsylvania until his death. Brother Fred had enlisted early in the War, and was serving in Hawaii at the time of his brother's death. Baby brother Ernest was employed as a motorcycle mechanic at the Barben and Farmer Bicycle shop.

Walter Barben had started school in about 1897 and was graduated in the Class of 1906 from Mullin Street School. Any plans for high school and beyond were dashed with the death of his father in the previous December.

At age 16 and just out of grammar school, he found employment at Bushnell & Co. Public Square, Watertown's primary dry-goods store, where brothers William and Christopher were salesmen, starting as an errand boy and then promoted to salesman.

(Continued on Page 20)

(Continued From Page 19)

In 1912, Walt attended World Series games at the Polo Grounds between the Giants and the Red Sox, probably at the invitation of his brother John. After watching Red Sox fireballer "Smoky Joe" Wood take the second of his three wins in the Series, Walt telegraphed the Watertown Daily Times with his assessment of the game, just three words: "Some Joe Wood."

Walt had a busy social life as a young man. He was an active member and booster of the Watertown YMCA, then under the directorship of General Secretary Frederick Bugbee. He served as a Democratic party poll worker in 1914 and 1915. An avid baseball player himself, Walter played on the Bushnell Company and Harmon team and was elected president of the six-team City Baseball League, a position he held when drafted into the Army.

Before he left Watertown, Barben's fellow workers from Bushnell's presented him with a watch and held a dinner in his honor.

Walt wrote many letters from the front to his family and friends in Watertown. A letter received by Fred Bugbee in early June spoke highly of the YMCA and of the United States Army.

After his death, the Watertown Daily Times speculated that Walter had been killed in the Marne region of France, where, on June 7, American soldiers and Marines had captured the village of Torcy from the

Germans and had driven their way into fierce resistance and street to street fighting in the village of Bourresches, northwest of Chateau-Thierry.



At the conclusion of the War, Walter's remains were returned to the United States and interred in the family plot at Brookside Cemetery.

The Watertown City Council renamed Elm Street Barben Avenue in honor of Walter Barben. Watertown's Veterans of Foreign Wars Post, which formed following the war was named

Barben-Jones Post 1400 in remembrance of Walter Barben and John Hiram Jones, two of the first to fall.

Following his death, the Reverend Allen Macey Dulles, father of future Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, CIA Chief Allen Dulles, and State Department Economist Eleanor Lansing Dulles gave tribute to Walter Barben when he delivered a guest sermon at First Presbyterian Church in Watertown. He said, in part:

(Continued on Page 21)

Form 1 / 611 REGISTRATION CARD ³³³ No. 86

1 Name in full Walter Albert Barben ^{Age in yrs} 26

2 Home address 201 Elm St. Watertown NY

3 Date of birth Feb. 22 1891

4 Are you (1) a natural born citizen, (2) a naturalized citizen, (3) an alien, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which) Natural born

5 Where born Watertown NY USA

6 (If not a citizen, at what country you are a citizen or subject?)

7 What is your present trade, occupation, or office? Clerk 29

8 By whom employed? A Bushnell Co

9 Where employed? Watertown NY

10 Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 18, or a sister or brother under 18, wholly dependent on you for support (specify which)? no

11 Married or single (which)? single Race (specify which) Caucasian

12 What military service have you had? Rank Private branch

13 Do you claim exemption from draft (specify grounds)? no

I certify that I have verified above answers and that they are true.

C.A. Walter A. Barben

31-3-31-A REGISTRAR'S REPORT

1 Tall, medium, or short (specify which)? Tall Head: medium, or great (which)? medium

2 Color of eyes? Blue Color of hair? Brown Build? no

3 Has person lost arm, leg, hand, foot, or both (specify)? no

I certify that my answers are true, that the person registered has read his own answers, that I have witnessed his signature, and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:

(Signature of registrar)

Precinct 1-5th ward

City or County Watertown, Jeff. Co.

State New York 6/5/17

(Date of registration)

(Continued From Page 20)

"I have known Walter Barben since he was a boy, when he attended the church while I was pastor. I have always had the greatest affection for him. He made the supreme sacrifice in the same way he had always shown himself to be, loyal and courageous. He will have everlasting honor as the first member of Watertown's drafted men to make the supreme sacrifice in this great war."

**WALTER A. BARBEN
KILLED IN ACTION**

TELEGRAM IS RECEIVED BY HIS
MOTHER

IS THE FIRST NATIONALIST

Left Watertown for Camp Dix, Sept. 6—Went to France in January—in the Machine Gun Battalion.

A telegram was received by Mrs Katherine Barben, 201 Elm street, at noon today, announcing the death of her son, Private Walter A. Barben, who was killed in action in France. The telegram came from Adjutant General McCain of the army. Barben is the first Watertown man of the National Army who has been killed, and as far as is known, is the first Nationalist from here to be in action.

"World War I was the most colossal, murderous, mismanaged butchery that has ever taken place on earth. Any writer who said otherwise lied. So the writers either wrote propaganda, shut up, or fought." — Ernest Hemingway

Family Group Sheet

David Barben

b. 1843, Spiez, Bern, Switzerland
d. 16 Dec 1905, Watertown, NY
married 1872

Katharina Lortscher

b. 13 Sep 1851, Spiez, Bern, Switzerland
d. 1936, Watertown, NY

Children:

1. **Henry S. Barben**, (b. 30 Dec 1873, Rochester, NY, d. 1948, Watertown, NY)
married: **Thurzie Belle Signor**, (b. 1880, Hounsfield, NY, d. 1964, Watertown, NY)
2. **John Dewitt Barben**, (b. 8 Apr 1875, Rochester, NY, d. 14 Jan 1932, Brooklyn, NY)
married: **Sadie (???)**
3. **Katherine Barben**, (b. 1876, Evans Mills, NY, d. 1951)
married 6 Oct 1908 **John Michael Kiechle**, (b. 1880, Germany, d. 8 Nov 1910)
4. **George Theodore Barben** (b. 4 Mar 1879, d. 1968, Pennsylvania)
married **Elizabeth Wood Rice**
5. **Fred M. Barben**, (b. 29 Mar 1881, Watertown, NY, d. 31 Jul 1954)
married 21 Apr 1924 **Ada C Murphy** (b. 1887, Carthage, NY)
6. **William Francis Barben**, (b. 17 Apr 1883, d. 1936)
7. **Christopher Charles Barben** (b. 7 Dec 1884, Watertown, NY, d. 1951, Watertown, NY)
married **Marguerite Ames**, (b. 1898, d. 1984)
8. **Walter Albert Barben**, (b. 22 Feb 1891, Watertown, NY, d. 7 Jun, 1918, France)
9. **Ernest Barben** (b. 21 Aug 1894, Watertown, NY, d. Feb 1972)
married **Margaret Allard**

"The wood of the walnut - *Juglans regia* L. - is reckoned among the finest there is. It is used for furniture and floors and, alas, it is also very suitable for making rifle butts. During the First World War many of the old walnut forests in Europe were cut down for the production of these rifle butts."
- Dutch biologist Wouter de Herder, in a book on trees in Europe

Jefferson County Queries

Use the "ONLINE QUERY" on www.jncygs.com or mail queries to:
Jerry Davis, P. O. Box 275, Clayton, NY 13624; maridavis@aol.com
Subject: Jefferson County Informer Query

(Some readers don't have internet access. Please include mailing address &/or phone numbers as well as email.)

BRADT, OSTRANDER

Thomas D. **BRADT** was born in Schenectady. His wife is listed as Eliza, Louisa and Elisa. I believe his wife was Eliza **OSTRANDER**. Thomas was in Watertown until his death in 1892. It looks as though he might have been married twice. Complete death date is 3 September 1892 but I can find no death or marriage records for these folks. They are always listed in directories. Their street address was 41 Meadow St. Their children were Elizabeth Ann and William. From details on census records, Thomas was a cordwinder and worked with leather. Elizabeth **OSTRANDER**, who I assume is the mother of the wife of Thomas, is enumerated with them in the census in 1855, 1860, 1865 and 1870. I would appreciate any help.

*Deborah Cooper
cooperdeb1107@gmail.com*

WETMORE, KING

John **WETMORE** died on August 28, 1829 in Clayton, Jefferson County, NY. I am trying to find where and if there are any other family members there. His wife was Cynthia **KING** who is said to have died in Troy, Michigan. I don't know of any military service. I have Orlando **WETMORE** as their child.

*Mary Anderson
mjmahl3224@hotmail.com*

SIMPSON, COLTON

Elwood Byron **SIMPSON** was born in Watertown, New York on April 21, 1865. He is the son of Reuben Byron **SIMPSON** and Mary Rozalthe **COLTON**. He died April 24, 1919 in Michigan. I am inquiring about how to get a birth certificate for him. Children are Margaret Lucy, Gerald Francis, Myron and Frances Elizabeth.

*Steve Poole
poolesa@midlandps.org*

NOYES, JOHNSTON, MCKINZEE, MANVILLE, HOOVER

Ernest Carl **NOYES** parents were Frederick **MANVILLE** and Augusta Adelia **HOOVER**. Earliest record found in the 1870 census at 7/12 months old in Orleans / LaFargeville. He also had an older brother Lewis Clarence around the same time frame. Previous census records show both parents in the same area. I am trying to find proof of birth, a birth registry, a birth record but cannot. He was born about 18 October 1869 and married first, 18 September 1908 in Detroit, Maud **JOHNSTON** and second, 1 February 1913, Caroline **McKINZEE**. He died 12 May 1918 in Eloise, MI. I have his children as Fred William, Margaret Elizabeth, Ernest Nelson, Curtis and Frank Louis.

*Phillip Noyes
pnoyesjr@gmail.com*

FERGUSON, HOGAN

Franklin **FERGUSON** is my 3x great-grandfather. I am doing genealogy research. He was in Rutland, Jefferson

County, New York. How many times was he married? His son was Orlando Charles. I found in census info that Mary was Orlando's mother but also that Franklin was married to Catherine **HOGAN**. I would love to come to research birth certificates etc. but distance and poor health prevent travel to Jefferson County. Can I find NY death certificates on line?

*Eileen Drummy
edrummy@hotmail.com*

DAVIS, ARCHER

I am looking for information on the Amos **DAVIS** family, originally from the Boxford/Topsfield area of Massachusetts. The children were Wm. Buckminster, John Woodman, Lucy Almira, Francis Henry, Greenleaf Page, Almira Melissa and Amos. The 1850 census lists them in the Town of Wilna, Jefferson County. This lists an additional son Lewis. I would like information about when Amos Sr. and his wife Elizabeth died and where they are buried. I recently discovered that Almira Melissa married a Mr. **ARCHER**. I have traced several John Woodman **DAVISES** and feel uncertain of the accuracy of my findings. I have had good luck following most of them but would welcome verification of my research or additional info about their families.

*Joyce Dubert Everingham
4580 Forest Hill Irene Rd Apt 317
Memphis, TN 38125
castilianaz@aol.com*

JAMES

Seeking to find out the whereabouts of Patricia R. **JAMES**, last known location in March 1997 was 10746 West Goldenrod, Boise, ID 83713. Patricia was behind the creation of the Jefferson County NY Genealogical Society. If you can assist locating her, please e-mail Tom LaClair at tomlaclair624@yahoo.com.

*Tom LaClair
tomlaclair624@yahoo.com*

HADSELL, HADSALL, GOODWIN, CRAWFORD

Olive **HADSELL/HADSALL** married Joseph Worth **GOODWIN** around 1805 and had 5 children: Lydia, Martha, William, Sarah and Hiram. She died in 1828. I believe she died in Watertown, NY. Joseph married Sarah **CRAWFORD** after Olive's death and had 4 children with her. He died in 1848 in Morristown, NY and is buried at Greenwood Cemetery. Joseph and Olive's 5 children are buried in Wilmington, IL. I am hoping to find Olive's obituary.

*Beth Frederick
beth283702@yahoo.com*

JCNYGS MATERIALS FOR PURCHASE

Contact: Greg or Tammy Plantz, 21787 Reed Road, Watertown, NY 13601
Or email tplantz1@twcny.rr.com

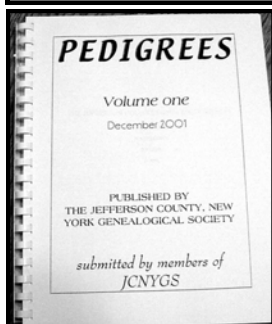
**PEDIGREE BOOK I
&
PEDIGREE BOOK II**
Each Book \$20.00 plus
\$5.00 for postage

A collection of pedigrees
Submitted by members
of the JCNYGS
with an every name index
Checks made out to JCNYGS

**JEFFERSON COUNTY
NEW YORK
WILL ABSTRACTS 1830 – 1850**

The Will Book contains will abstracts
dating from 1830 to 1850. The book
contains 194 pages, two maps, and a chart
showing the formation of Jefferson County
Towns. \$15.00 + \$5.00 for postage.
Checks made out to JCNYGS

**A DVD of the Births-
Marriages-Deaths
from *The Watertown
Herald* 1886-1915**
\$25 plus \$5 for
postage
Checks made out to
JCNYGS

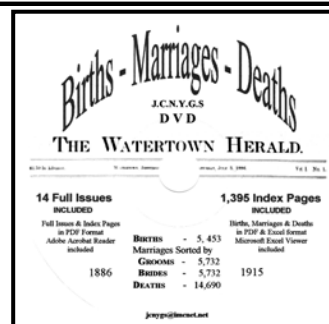


**All our
Informer
Newsletters
Are now on
Our website!**

Jcnygs.com



**Check with
Greg or
Tammy Plantz
(above) for
availability
and hard copy
INFORMERS**



NEW MEMBERS AND THEIR COUNTY NAMES

We would like to welcome our newest member. She is **Patricia Lashomb** of Virginia Beach, Virginia, the daughter of Norm Wagner, long time Town and Village of Clayton Historian. She researches the following family Jefferson and Lewis County names: **WAGNER, LONGTON, MCKINEY, DWYER, LASHOMB, SPENCE AND PAGE**. If you similar research interests, contact Patti at mrs.patti.lashomb@gmail.com

We also welcome **Joyce Manning** of Redwood, New York. She researches the following family names: **BECKSTEAD, DENNER, HUNTER, SHINDLER, SHIMEL, FIKES, MANNING, BROWN and JEPSON**. If you similar research interests, contact Joyce at joycejan@castletv.com

A recently new member, **Kevin Subra**, joins us from Des Moines, Iowa. If you research Lyme and Cape Vincent area names such as: **SUBRA, BILLEREY, MARSHALL OR VORCE**, contact Kevin at kevin.subra@gmail.com

We also have **Barbara Monette** from Oswego, New York. She researches Jefferson County names such as: **MONETTE, THOMPSON, CAVANAUGH, BURNS, BALDWIN, TIFFANY and LERO**, contact Barbara at bmone14159@aol.com

We also have **Alice Dyer Finley** from New Brighton, Minnesota, researches these Southern Jefferson County names: **DYER, ACKLEY, FISHER, BARGE, and WRIGHT**. If you have similar research interests, contact Alice at alicedfinley@gmail.com

Flower Memorial Library

**2nd FLOOR REFERENCE DEPARTMENT
CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC**



Beginning Friday March 10th, 2017 the 2nd floor Reference Department, including the Teen Space and the Genealogy Department will be closed to the public for the duration of the construction project. Estimated reopening will be July 2017.

INFORMER

Jefferson County NY Genealogical Society
(JCNYGS)
P.O. Box 6453
Watertown, NY 13601

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JCNYGS PROGRAMS FOR 2017

Monday, April 10 at 6:00 PM, Visit to the **Local History Collection** at the new **John W. Deans Collaborative Learning Center** (Building #15), **Jefferson Community College**, Host: John Thomas

Monday, May 8 at 6:00 PM, “**Resources Held by the Sandy Creek Historian**”, by Charlene Cole

Monday, June 12 at 6:00 PM, A program by Lois Huntley-Seybert, Clayton Town and Village Historian

Monday, July 10 at 6:00 PM, “**Food for Thought**” by Hallie Bond, Co-Sponsored and held at the Picnic Pavilion, Sackets Harbor Battlefield Site; optional box lunches. Food-Ways in the Adirondacks and the North Country.

Monday, August 14 at 6:00 PM, “**Restoration of Strader, West Martinsburg and Maple Ridge Cemeteries**” by Bette Lathan

Monday, September 11 at 6:00 PM, “**The Lost Villages Historical Society & Museum**” , Long Sault, Ontario, by Jim Brownell (Related to the flooding of villages to open up the St. Lawrence Seaway)

Note 1: Lectures begin at 6 PM. Come 30 minutes early to get to know other members and share new finds and experiences.

Note 2: Thank you George Inglehart, church liaison, and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints local leadership for the free use of the building for JCNYGS programs.

Directions to LDS Church where we are presently holding our meetings: From Rt. 81, take exit 44 to Rt. 232 towards Watertown. Drive 1.1 miles and take the second left hand turn on to Ives Street Road. Continue straight into the city. The LDS chapel is the second building on the right, across from IHC, as you enter the city limits.

From Watertown, it is on Ives Street, across from IHC. Take Washington Street to Barben Avenue. Turn on to Barben and take it until it ends at a T. Turn left and the LDS will be 300 yards on the left.

Or, from Watertown take Massey street south, veer right onto South Massey, left on to Ives.

INFORMER

Volume 24, Issue 3

Annual Dues \$18 Individual \$20 Family

July 2017

"Giving History A Future"

~ 3rd Annual History & Genealogy Fair ~



- ✓ Family event open to the public
- ✓ 25+ organizations exhibiting
- ✓ Meet historians & genealogists
- ✓ Six guest speakers on topics
- ✓ Networking opportunities
- ✓ Visit inside Paddock Mansion
- ✓ Join various research groups
- ✓ Purchase delicious BBQ meals

Jefferson County Historical Society

"The Paddock Mansion"

228 Washington St., Watertown

Saturday, 23 September, 2017

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

\$5.00 donation requested at the door - 100 percent of funds raised to directly support JCHS's preservation of your county's rich history

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INFORMER JULY 2017

Correspondence about dues, memberships, and lost *Informers* should be directed to:
 Jefferson County Genealogical Society, P. O. Box 6453, Watertown, NY 13601
E-mail: use ONLINE CONTACT PAGE on *Web site:* www.jcnygs.com

President: Larry Corbett, 520 Binsse St., Watertown, NY 13601,
lrcorbet@gisco.net, 315-323-3118

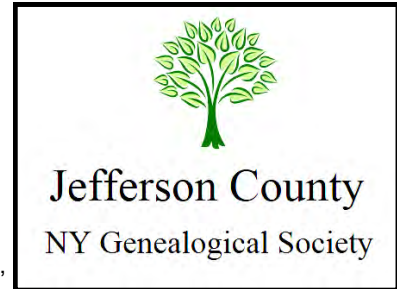
Vice President: Thomas LaClair, 17696 Co. Route 181, Clayton, NY 13624,
tomlaclair624@yahoo.com, 315-285-5032

Recording Secretary: Roberta Calhoun-Eagan, 345 Gibson Street,
 Canandaigua, NY 14424, dioncalhoun@yahoo.com, 585-269-9223

Treasurer: Greg Plantz, 21787 Reed Road,
 Watertown, NY 13601, tplantz1@twcny.rr.com, 315-788-5324

The *Informers* Committee: (alphabetically) are Roberta Calhoun-Eagan, dioncalhoun@yahoo.com; Anne Davis, davisa24@verizon.net; Jerry and Marilyn Davis, maridavis@aol.com; Nan Dixon, nandixon001@gmail.com; David and Cynie Kendall, davek@cynergyintl.com; Thomas LaClair, tomlaclair624@yahoo.com, (publisher); Greg and Tammy Plantz, tplantz1@twcny.rr.com; Beverly Sterling-Affinati, harborsideservices@gmail.com.

The *Informers* is published quarterly in the months of January, April, July, and October. The *Informers* can be "searched" on our internet site using Optical Character Recognition technology. Open an *Informers*, save it to your desktop and type a name or word in the search box. If the name or word is in that *Informers*, the cursor should go to that page.



Letters to the editor use the "contact page" on www.jcnygs.com or: Editor, JCNYS
 P.O. Box 6453
 Watertown, NY 13601

Give History A Future: 3rd Annual History and Genealogy Fair

The cover photo of the July 2017 *Informers* tells of the upcoming 3rd annual History and Genealogy Fair. As many as one hundred and fifty people seeking their roots plan to bring history alive this Fall inside the 130 year old Paddock Mansion. Event organizers say, we have held the History and Genealogy Fair two years running and we are excited to once again bring together people who love history, with people who are curious about genealogy. The history and genealogy event, Give History A Future, is Saturday, September 23rd. County-wide historical and genealogical societies will be set up at tables next to one another, to develop more synergy between the very different groups. There will be chances to trace your recent lineage, as well as historical displays, pamphlets, books, even cemetery listings. There will be six speakers lined up to speak on various Jefferson County heritage related topics. If in the Northern New York area, plan to attend.

Timely Message On Dues

Dues for the July 2017 – June 2018 calendar year are upon us—due 1 July 2017. We mail the

Informers to 230 plus addresses across 32 states and Canada. Of that 172 are individual subscriptions, 34 are family subscriptions, and 29 are organizational mailings such as museums, libraries and genealogy societies. To learn the status of your dues, please see the address label on the back cover of the *Informers*. Annual membership rates remain \$18.00 for individuals and \$20.00 for families (or two adult persons in the same household). Please write your check out to "JCNYS" and mail your payment to "JCNYS, P. O. Box 6453, Watertown, New York 13601." You may pay for one, two or three years. We apologize that we cannot accept payment by credit card. Membership dues primarily cover two aspects—the society website and mailing of the quarterly newsletter, the *Informers*. Please note that the members only password will change effective 1 July 2017. This is the first change since the site came on-line in 2014. The new password has been provided to all those who paid up through 25 June 2017 when this newsletter was sent to the publisher.

Donation to Newspaper Website

In March 2017 a motion was made and unanimously approved to donate \$300.00 to Tom Tryniski who owns and manages www.fultonhistory.com, a historic newspaper website containing archives of over 1,000 New York newspapers; some from other states and Canada. The site contains over 37 million newspaper pages. In recognition of our donation, Tom posted to our Facebook page the following: "A big thank you to the Jefferson County Genealogical Society with its 200 plus members for their recent donation to help with the running cost of this site... much appreciated....Tom T."

Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society

Meeting Minutes, April 10, 2017
Roberta Calhoun-Eagan, Secretary

On 10 Apr 2017, John Thomas led a tour of the Local History Collection at the new **John W. Deans Collaborative Learning Center**, Building #15 at Jefferson Community College.

He started with a review of the library's holdings, including the following:

- The Harold Sanderson Civil War card catalog
- The Frank P. Augustus papers on Italian immigration to the North Country
- *Watertown Daily Times* on microfilm 1973-1988 (JCC has a microfilm machine!!)
- Fort Drum Steering Council records
- Charles Shaw (Lewis County Civil War veteran) collection
- Many books and periodicals on the Adirondacks
- Information on historic architecture



JCC Assistant Librarian and Media Center Coordinator John Thomas as he talks to the members of JCNyGS during the April 10, 2017 site visit to JCC

John directed us to the main desk for forms to become community patrons. As a community patron one cannot access holdings remotely, such as from home. It is important to know that Internet access is available for community patrons *at the library only*. (Two free online resources you can use from home include Open World Cat and NOVELny, an online virtual electronic library for NY state residents).

Community patrons access 80 SUNY databases via the Internet at the library itself. When visiting, campus parking is difficult during the day, so check with the security office for options. Evenings after 5 pm are best. The center is open until 9 pm and John Thomas is there late on Wednesdays.

Our group first toured the **Archives Reference Room**. County history books include the only digitized version of *Drummed Out*, the history of a community that vanished during the Pine Camp expansion. The room also contains old JCC Yearbooks. We next visited an

open classroom/larger group study area at the JCC library and tutoring center, where John described Internet access at the Library.

During your visit to the library, to access resources only available there, go to www.sunyjefferson.edu/academics/library. (If starting from the JCC home page, find the Library by holding your cursor over **Academics**).

Directly under the Welcome Message in the center of the Library page, you will find:

Search Almost Everything: **Cannoncat**, the library catalog, **Databases** (see below), and **Journals A-Z**.

After clicking the **Databases** box, for history you will select JSTOR (Journal Storage). John's example for our demonstration was Farms Jefferson Co NY. You can limit your search to history journals.

On the left side of the Library page, you will find several links, including (a partial list):

- **Articles – JCC databases**
- **Books**
- **Research and subject guides** (Search under Local History – Archives) NYS Archives links
- **Interlibrary Loan** (Free!) Use the ILLiad self-service portal to make requests
- **Alumni and Community**

John is very willing to address any questions to help you get started and make your visit a success! Several members remained afterwards to discuss individual needs. There was no formal JCNyGS business meeting held until the following month.

The screenshot shows the Jefferson Community College Library website. The header includes the college logo and navigation links for Academics, Admissions, Tuition & Financial Aid, Student Life, Community & Business, News & Events, and About JCC. The main content area features a search bar with the text "Search Almost Everything" and "CannonCat (Library Catalog)". Below the search bar are tabs for "Databases" and "Journals A-Z". A search input field is visible with a "Search" button. To the right, there is a "Social JCC" section with links to Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter. A "General Information" section provides contact details: Phone Number: 315-786-2225, and Spring 2017 hours: Monday - Thursday: 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m., Friday: 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Saturday: Closed, Sunday: 12:00 noon - 5:00 p.m. A note states: "(We are open weather permitting on Sundays. If driving conditions are questionable, please call Campus)".

Jefferson Community College Library
At <http://www.sunyjefferson.edu/academics/library>. JCC can also be found on Facebook, YouTube, Instagram and Twitter.

Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society

Meeting Minutes, May 8, 2017
Roberta Calhoun-Eagan, Secretary

Present: Bob Hensel, Jynna Brown, Tom LaClair, Jim & Roberta Calhoun-Eagan, George Inglehart, Charlene Cole, Anne Davis, Tammy & Greg Plantz, Nan Dixon, Jerry Davis, Bruce & Mary Erskine-Coyne, Sydney M. Stearns (?), Theresa Getter, Larry Corbett, Kathie Compeau, Joanne Woodward, Wally Keeler, Jon Holcombe, Donald E. Dillenbeck, Rose A. Dillenbeck

The meeting was called to order at 6 pm. Anne Davis moved that we accept prior minutes as published in the *Informer*, Jim Eagan seconded, and the motion carried.

Greg Plantz reported that we started the month with \$4,263.17 in checking, and after a \$90 deposit and bill to Coughlin Printing for \$514.73, our current balance is \$3,838.44. In savings we have \$403.57, and the CD has \$2,448.88. There was no unresolved old business.

Under new business, Tom is the point person for the Memorial Day visit to Fort Drum cemeteries (the only day they are open to the public), and asked members to alert him right away if they planned to participate.



Next, Robert Hensel displayed an elaborately framed Civil War memorial to William J. Brown of the 186th NY that he found at a Saratoga garage sale; he hopes to donate this to a museum, historical society or descendant. Brown enlisted at Sackets Harbor and was thought to perhaps be related to Jacob Brown of Brownville. Tom offered to show this item to Connie Barone later in the week for additional input.

Jon Holcombe suggested the Society transcribe the 1835 census housed at the Flower Library; this will be discussed further next month along with the idea of indexing the remainder of the *Informers*. The meeting was adjourned for Ms. Cole's presentation.

Charlene Cole, who discussed "Resources Held by the Sandy Creek Historian," actually serves both Sandy Creek town and village as well as the village of Lacona, and is a registered public historian.

First settlers William Skinner, Stephen Lindsey and the Noyes family arrived in 1803 to the area that was first called Washingtonville. According to local legends as well as numerous artifacts found in surrounding farmland, the Sandy Pond shores were temporary campgrounds for Indians prior to 1800.

Collection of historical records began in the mid 1920s; these were stored at the town hall but then dispersed. It took two years to re-house them again. (Charlene reported that "old family sketches" held at the center were abstracted from an 1845 census that was lost and later found as insulation in the walls of a local residence). The Sandy Creek NY History Center is not an historical society per se, as it has always been supported by taxpayers and has also received nine government grants.



Charlene Cole and John Holcombe talk about her presentation

Current newspaper holdings include the *Sandy Creek Times* 1862-1864 and *Sandy Creek News* 1871-1987 on microfilm. The Center gathered information for 6 abandoned and 2 active cemeteries, records that are now available in book form. Other local history books cover subjects such as the Revolutionary War, 1812, Civil War, World Wars I & II and subsequent eras; local farming, physicians, one room schoolhouses, and memories. For the local 4th grade curriculum Charlene has acquired *Colonel Meacham's Great Cheese* and *The Great Rope*. Charlene also writes the "Historical Corner" available on the Center's web page.

Charlene has acquired historical markers for Lacona Depot (the hub of the village), Salisbury House, and the California Block (once well known for having been built with gold rush money). See her web site at www.sandycreeknhistory.com.

Sandy Creek's vanished California Block was built with money from the 1849 Gold Rush



Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society

Meeting Minutes, June 12, 2017
Roberta Calhoun-Eagan, Secretary

The monthly meeting of the JCNYS was held on June 12. Our 16 attendees included Tom LaClair, George Inglehart, Dave Kendall, Larry Corbett, Jerry Davis, Nan Dixon, Bruce and Mary Erskine-Coyne, Hollis Dorr, Kathie Compeau, Joanne Woodward, Mary and Bill Dasno, Tracy Negus Robertson, and Jim and Roberta Calhoun-Eagan.

Minutes for this past quarter will be published in the July Informer. Jim moved that we waive the reading of last month's minutes, and the motion carried. Tom reported for Treasurer Greg Plantz that we have \$4,066.44 in checking, and dues for six members for about \$200 will be deposited shortly. There was no change in savings. Mary Erskine-Coyne moved that we accept this report pending our annual audit; Kathie Compeau seconded, and the motion carried.

Under old business, Tom reported that he had canceled the Memorial Day event at Fort Drum due to weather. Jerry Davis reported that the July Informer is ready for review except for tonight's minutes, and reiterated his request for someone to take over his role. Jon Holcombe's suggestion from last month regarding transcribing the 1835 state census will be discussed at the next executive committee meeting; Larry put out a call for volunteers.

Under New Business, the 3rd Annual History and Genealogy Fair will be held Saturday, September 23. Tom proposed that JCNYS provide a Gold Sponsorship for the 2017 event; Tracy and Nan seconded. Mary Dasno asked for clarification about what the sponsorship provides. Tom replied that our banner is displayed, our symbol is included in the publicity flier, and it shows that we are united with the Historical Society. Larry added that we have occasionally supported such projects through the years, and that we have picked up 10-12 new members after the previous two fairs. The motion carried with the provision suggested by Jim that the sponsorship is specifically in the amount of \$250, specifically for a Gold Sponsorship. The meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm so that Lois Huntley-Seybert could give her presentation.

This is the second year that Lois is serving as Clayton Historian. Her office is housed at the Thousand Islands Museum with hours on Wednesdays 10-3; the museum itself is open daily 10-4 except for Mondays. They now have a lift available to enable all visitors to reach the second floor. A main attraction for visitors is the museum's large collection of 3-ring binders with family newspaper articles and histories. The museum offers many additional notebooks for research



JCNYS President Larry Corbett with Clayton Historian Lois Huntley-Seybert

purposes, with subjects from old businesses such as Frink Snow Plow, to streets, churches and various military topics.

Lois provided the 2017 History Boat Tour schedule, with the notation that because in many areas boat speeds are limited to 5 mph due to severe flooding, some events may be canceled. After Lois completed her presentation, which generated much discussion, Tom suggested that the annual picnic date be set for Saturday, August 26 at Thompson Park.



HOW I FOUND MY MAYFLOWER ANCESTORS

By JCNYGS Member Marion Tait of Dunnville, Ontario, Canada
Member of the United Empire Loyalist and Daughters of the American Revolution
Originally written in 1993 – submitted to JCNYGS in April 2017



It was January 1992 – middle of winter. By now I'd been successful in tracing my SMITH ancestors back to my 4th great grandfather Elias SMITH Sr. Elias was a Loyalist and came to Canada in 1787 with a wife and 8 children. He was married to Catherine SECORD, daughter of John SECORD Sr. Their son Elias SMITH Jr. married Ann (Nancy) SECORD, daughter of Lt. Solomon SECORD; granddaughter of James SECORD Sr. John SECORD Sr. and James SECORD Sr. were brothers, sons of Daniel SECORD Jr. and Catherine MABIE. The SECORDS and MABIES have been well documented, so I've been fortunate enough to gather a lot of information. I had also decided to apply for my first Loyalist Certificate as a direct descendant of John SECORD Sr.

But what about my mother's family! I knew about the GIFFORDS and WINDECKERS, the MILLERS and the HOOVERS. I was now curious about my great grandfather Ambrose GLOYD. He was born in 1816 in Lowville, Lewis County, New York – and came to Canada in 1843. Two years later, in 1845 at Beamsville, Ontario, Canada, he married Frances MILLER – a great granddaughter of pioneer Jacob HOOVER. The HOOVERS came to Canada from Pennsylvania in the late 1700's. Ambrose went on to own land once owned by the MILLER ancestors. He died in Rainham, Haldimand (on Lake Erie), Canada, in 1884.

The first thing I did was write to the Chamber of Commerce in Lowville for addresses of the Town Clerk, and the Newspaper. I wrote to the Town Clerk, sent a U. S. Money Order, and asked them to do a search. They couldn't tell me anything about Ambrose – but they did have two old Deeds. One was dated 1806 where James GLOYD and his wife Mary, James GLOYD Jr. and his wife Esther, had purchased land in Stow Square. (Although I didn't know it at the time, I had correctly assumed these people were my 2nd and 3rd great grandparents). The Chamber of Commerce also sent my name and address to the Historian who sent me a page from the HISTORY OF OXFORD, MA., showing the names of James and Mary (Snow) GLOYD.

Then I found the name and address of a lady named Marilyn GLOYD in Massachusetts from an old newsletter sent to one of my GLOYD cousins. Marilyn's husband was a GLOYD, and she had done a lot of research on the family, going back to Salem, Massachusetts during the Witchcraft Trials, and several generations in England. My GLOYD cousin wasn't interested in family research, so I asked if I could have the newsletter—"he said yes, and if I research thoroughly that I might end up finding a horse thief." All I needed to do was to connect my great grandfather to this line! Marilyn kept sending me all kinds of information. Meanwhile I had placed an ad in the Lowville Journal and Republican – but had no response. About the same time Marilyn informed me that the GLOYDs had moved from Lewis County to Jefferson County, and she sent me more Census and Vital Records information. I could put a family together, but couldn't prove a connection for Ambrose.

By now it was September, and my next step was to place an ad in the Watertown Daily Times. Within days I had a phone call from Gus Rogers, plus letters from two other people, each with a bit of information. Gus couldn't tell me anything about Ambrose but he knew the family name since there was a connection with his family. He would put me in touch with his daughter Ellen in Syracuse, New York, who is a professional researcher. Within a few weeks Ellen had located an old will (1911) – one of the beneficiaries was my grandfather in Rainham, Ontario; a Death Certificate showing my great great-grandparents as James GLOYD and Esther PRENTIS. And as luck would have it, Bible Records for my 3rd great grandparents, James and Mary GLOYD, with 10 children, complete with birth dates, all of whom were born in Massachusetts. Bible Records were found in Onondaga County Public Library, Syracuse, New York.

Marilyn in Massachusetts also sent me a copy of Pension Papers (American Revolution) for my 3rd great grandfather, showing his movement Abington to Cummington to Hatfield, Massachusetts, then to Lowville and Watertown, New York.

I now had my GLOYD family together, along with names of their spouses. I knew that my 3rd great grandfather was a Minuteman in the American Revolution. That was pretty exciting, and in less than one year. And now I knew that my 2nd great grandmother was Esther PRENTIS – my 3rd great grandmother was Mary SNOW, whose father was Captain Nathan Snow – also a Minuteman, so I would be eligible to join the Daughters of the American Revolution.

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I was still working on my Loyalist application, and by now it was February 1993, with my copy of Ontario Genealogical Society Families arrived. I always looked at the queries first, and found: PRENTICE: Oliver, b.? lvd US Albany dist New York in 1790's. MAR Lydia DELONG USA in Etobicoke Twp by 1805 poss Markham 1802. CH. Jacob 1799 – 1867 mar. Hannah DEVINS: Hannah: Hiram: Alvey: Benjamin: Lydia: Oliver: Solomon: David. Who were Oliver & Lydia & prnts? Birthplace & origins (UEL?) info re above to CarolAnne E. Prentice Chepurney, Holland Landing, Ontario, Canada; a town north of Toronto.

Thinking Oliver PRENTICE might have been a relative, I wrote to CarolAnne. By return mail I had several pages copied from "VALENTINE PRENTICE – His origins – Desc. of his Grandsons John, Jonathan, Stephen and Thomas, from 1514 to 1992", and there on page 38 was my Esther PRENTIS/PRENTICE, b. 1784 Westfield, Massachusetts. CarolAnne suggested that I contact Joe, an Attorney in California, who had written two volumes on the PRENTICES. I immediately ordered the books, and now I had my PRENTICE line back to the 1500's in England. That was really exciting.

Esther's parents Nathaniel and Mercy (Green) PRENTICE were both born in Preston, New London, Connecticut. Joe tells me that our common ancestor is Joseph PRENTICE who married Hannah CHESEBROUGH, who has an interesting ancestry. Joe has traced her roots back 1,000 years. I am waiting for his book to be printed.

Now I not only had my GLOYDS, but PRENTICES as well. Then within a few weeks I had a phone call from Bill in Trenton, New Jersey. He had got my name from Joe in California. Bill went on to say that we were related through the PRENTICES and the SNOWS, so Bill is my 4th cousin. Bill also went on to say that Captain Nathan SNOW was a descendant of Peter BROWN – a passenger on the Mayflower – and that Peter BROWN's grandson Joseph SNOW had married Hopestill ALDEN, a granddaughter of John ALDEN and Priscilla MULLINS. I think I was in shock! Suddenly I had 5 Mayflower ancestors – Peter BROWN, John ALDEN, Priscilla MULLINS, and her parents William and Alice MULLINS.

Bill sent me a whole packet of information, including a copy of his Mayflower application.

The "Mayflower" carried 102 passengers. The winter was so bad that about two thirds of them died the first year, including William and Alice MULLINS and their only son Joseph. There are only 24 families with descendants. Heads of households were: John ALDEN, Issac ALLERTON, John BILLINGTON, Governor William BRADFORD, Elder William BREWSTER, Peter BROWN, James CHILTON, Francis COOKE, Edward DOTY, Francis EATON,

Edward FULLER, Dr. Samuel FULLER, Stephen HOPKINS, John HOWLAND, Richard MORE, Degory PRIEST, Thomas ROGERS, Henry SAMPSON, George SOULE, Captain Myles STANDISH, Richard WARREN, William WHITE, and Governor Edward WINSLOW. The progeny of William MULLINS and John TILLEY is absorbed by that of their respective son-in-law, John ALDEN and John HOWLAND. Moses FLETCHER left Dutch but no Colonia American descendants.

The first 5 generations of descendants have been well documented, and there is a "5 Generations Project Publications" – published by General Society of Mayflower descendants (Mayflower Families Genealogies through five Generations). This series traces descendants of the Pilgrims down through the fifth generation, to the birth of the sixth generation children. They are carefully researched and contain the best documented genealogical data that is available.

Another one of my ancestors was Moses SIMONSON of Leiden, Holland, who arrived in America in 1621 on the "Fortune". He was a Purchaser. His daughter Mary SIMMONS married Joseph ALDEN, a son of John ALDEN and Priscilla.

I am a member of the Canadian Mayflower Society, as well as the General Society of Mayflower descendants in Plymouth, Massachusetts. I have two Certificates – one for Peter BROWN and one for John ALDEN and Priscilla MULLINS.

Because I have two Patriot ancestors who were both Minutemen, and who answered the Alarm on 18th of April, 1775, I have now decided to join the Katherine Pratt Horton Buffalo Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. I have my documents ready, and I am working on my application.

I had visions of my ancestors riding along side Paul Revere – "Listen, my children, and you shall hear; Of the midnight ride of Paul Revere, On the eighteenth of April, in seventy-five." – Paul Revere's Ride, by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. Well, they were out at the same time and for the same cause, but a few miles apart!

This would have not been possible had I not got curious about my ancestors. Although I was lucky in making connections, it has been a lot of work – with some frustrations – and a lot of letters.

Our ancestors want to be found, and there are many clues out there. So get your pen and paper, typewriter or computer – and go out there and find them! Don't worry about the – "horse thief". I'm still looking, and can't find one.



“PHILADELPHIA—A VILLAGE OF FRIENDS”

By JCNYS Vice President Thomas F. LaClair

This spotlight is the fifth installment among the 22 towns that comprise Jefferson County, New York. To date spotlights have been done on the Towns of Lyme, Henderson, Orleans, and Clayton. This quarter my adventure led me to the Town of Philadelphia and specifically the Philadelphia Historical Society Museum where I met with three wonderful ladies. The dedicated volunteers provided three distinctive views of the museum what they find most beneficial. Before I share some of their thoughts, let me introduce some from the history books.

From *Child's Gazetteer of Jefferson County*, “Philadelphia was erected from LeRay, 3 April 1821, with its present limits, the territory originally forming a part of Brownville, from which LeRay was erected in 1806. The name of Elizabethtown had been chosen, but there being one already in the state, the present name was selected by citizens who had lived in or near the city of Philadelphia. Some proposed to name the town Benezet, after the benevolent Quaker of that name. The town is rectangular in form, its length, lying nearly northwest and southeast, being about one-quarter greater than its breadth. It is bounded on the northwest by Theresa, on the northeast by Antwerp, on the southeast by Wilna, and on the southwest by LeRay. It comprehends 54 “great lots” of tract No. 4 of the Macomb purchase, being six ranges of nine lots each. In the southern and western portions of the town the surface is rolling, and in the opposite parts, towards Antwerp and Theresa, it becomes rough and hilly. It's waters are the Indian River, entering from Antwerp and flowing nearly west across the town into LeRay; Black Creek, entering near the southern corner from Wilna, flowing in a general northern course, and joining the river above the village of Philadelphia; several small streams which fall into these from the east; and Otter Creek, which passes westward through the northern corner of the town into Theresa.”

The Town of Philadelphia borders one of the largest

military installations in the United States Army—Fort Drum. Initially Pine Plains, then Pine Camp, then Camp Drum and today Fort Drum—home of the 10th Mountain Division. As the installation grew over the years, it drove changes in the community as well. As others have noted, Philadelphia is a microcosm of a region in Northern New York State that underwent and continues to undergo an economic and cultural transformation.

With just a little history of the Town of Philadelphia mentioned, I wanted to capture a history of the current Philadelphia Historical Society as well. Any discussion, in recent years, will tell you that on 20 July 1951 the University of the State of New York, Education Department, granted an absolute Charter of Bodman Memorial Library. At that time a “historical room and museum” was established in the second floor of the library. The room stored several prized articles that came with the early Quaker settlers of the town. The historical room was created through the effort of former Village and Town Historian Mrs. Dorothy Hayden and her husband Harold Hayden. Those interested in history could go to the Bodman Library and see what items were on display; however no historical society or genealogy department was available for researchers.



The Philadelphia Historical Society. May 2017

Although meeting for some time before, in 2004 a group of history minded individuals signed a 10 year contract permitting them to meet at the Village of Philadelphia's offices. These were members of the recently created Philadelphia Historical Society. Then in 2008 to 2009 interest was focused toward securing a home of their own. After deliberation, a building was purchased in 2009 and cleaning and shelf building commenced. The building on Main Street was previously occupied by The Olde Curiosity Shoppe Antiques and years previous to that were a barber shop, ice cream parlor, and a pharmacy—the pharmacy was operated by Gordy Evans. On 19 January 2010 the society hosted their first meeting in

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the building where elections occurred with Roger C. Livingston elected President. The group quickly moved toward becoming chartered and submitted the necessary papers. The first Provisional Charter was granted on 20 April 2010 and was good for five years. The initial trustees were: Roger C. Livingston, Debbie D. McKenzie, Georgia F. Gagnon, Gerald W. Coleman, Leo F. Jenne, Dixie M. Carpenter, Larry D. Rosbrook and Margaret A. Rosbrook. With charter in hand, the Philadelphia Historical Society and Museum held a formal opening on 11 June 2010 in the newly remodeled building on the corner of Main Street. On 17 November 2015 the first Provisional Charter was extended through 17 November 2020. Over the years the society holdings have significantly grown and today the museum is a welcoming site for any visitor or researcher.

Visiting today, guests to the museum will see the plaques of three prominent leaders in the current museums history. They are: **Roger C. Livingston** (1929 – 2012). “Mr. Philadelphia”, was a citizen well known for his entrepreneurial skills and business savvy. Roger was a man who took ideas and concepts of the present and turned them into realities of the future. Many achievements for the village included, but are not limited to: Promoting the enhancement of the Bodman Library, Quaker Days celebrations, the development of the Civic League of Philadelphia, holiday street ornaments, traffic flow and street improvements, and the purchase of the building that today houses the Philadelphia Historical Society Museum. His enthusiasm and talents have left a bountiful legacy. **Gwendolene M. Livingston Acheson** (1915 – 2014). Gwen was well-known for her many skills including, artistic talents. Entrepreneurial skills, community service, the collecting, cataloging and preservation of the history and happenings of the Philadelphia area. Her involvement in the North Country communities was significant with her pioneering spirit of preserving the past. She was recognized by New York State for inspiring the Philadelphia Historical Society Museum. **Karen M. Klein-Coleman** (1959 – 2013). Karen brought her skills and ingenuity to the Philadelphia Historical Society Museum as a charter member and Secretary. Her tireless work and dedication fostered the development and growth of the project, leading to its existence. She was the founding editor and produced “The Philadelphia Historical Star.” Of special note, Roger and Gwendolene’s mother, **Ella Brown Livingston** (1893 – 1993), co-owner of Livingston’s Bakery in Philadelphia (husband Claude F. “Tack” Livingston) served the community endlessly and instilled that pride in her children.

Now, as I discussed earlier, I met three wonderful ladies during my research visits in May 2017. They were Mechelle Francis, Frieda Kent and Carol Rudes. These three ladies loved to talk and laugh, and laugh and talk; all the while clipping newspaper articles and



Volunteers, Carol Rudes, left, Mechelle Francis, center, and Frieda Kent, right. May 2017.

posting information into history binders. They stopped to help guests find material and they proudly showed me what is available throughout the building.

I asked Mechelle what she believes the museum offers most readily. She quickly replied that people can come in and learn of the history of Philadelphia: the people, their crafts, military service, society and groups, their livelihood and more. Items such as old handmade quilts help bring the past to the forefront. She shared that the museum has in-depth family files, numerous scrapbooks from as early as 1886 to today, a 2,000 card catalog, genealogies, history books, town anniversary books, post cards, and much more to view through. Mechelle was raised in a military family—military brat—plus her husband was in the military. That is what brought her to this area. Although Mechelle was not born and raised in Philadelphia, she has fallen in love with the people since her arrival around 2005 and now calls the place home!

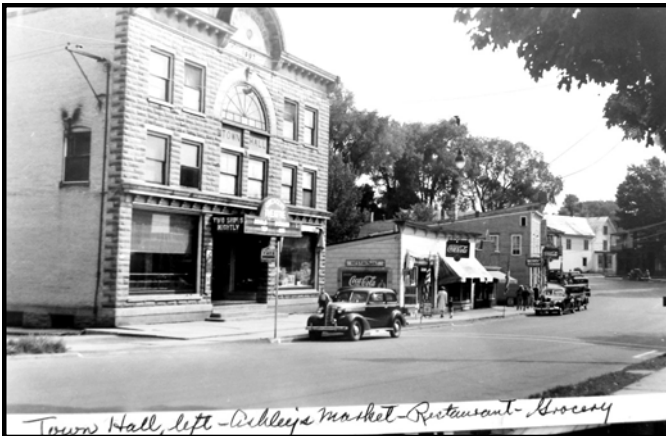


Inside the Philadelphia Historical Society Museum. May 2017

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Next up is Frieda Kent. She is a walking encyclopedia of Philadelphia history. Her upbeat fun-filled crazy but loveable personality is the hit of any gathering—you will quickly learn she is not one to stay on the sideline and sit quietly. She will be the first to tell you how it is... or in the history perspective, how it was! Graduating from Philadelphia High School Class of 1947, she experienced local happenings first-hand or she knew people that did. Her husband Harry B. Kent was Mayor from 1971 to 1972 and as the wife of the Mayor, she learned a great deal more. Frieda highlights the past Philadelphia in talking about the chair factory, the big hotels, the milk and cheese factory, the railroad, the opera house, and the list goes on. She spoke of businesses that came and went, showed me older photographs, and items in display cabinets. Her pride of Philadelphia is second to none!



The third museum staffer assisting my visit was Carol Rudes. Carol took time to take me through scrapbooks and history books available to visitors and the museum holdings. There are aisles of cabinets and cases filled with history; military uniforms, furniture, machinery items, movie projection equipment, household items, and so much more. Carol loves to talk to guests and she speaks highly about the elementary school students who have visited the museum. The students presented the museum a book with child drawings of their visit—something that brings a gleaming happy smile to her face. Carol is a long time resident of the community and is proud of her history and it shows.

In visiting the town's website I found this written: "Welcome to the Town of Philadelphia., New York, a community in northern Jefferson County. Settled by the Quakers in the early 1800's by farmers and entrepreneurs, Philly remains rural in nature. Diverse offerings of recreation, tourist attractions, excellent schools and churches, shopping, fishing and canoeing on the Indian River, and natural beauty are readily available here or within a short drive in every direction. The people here are friendly and welcoming. Thriving businesses attract residents and visitors and many who recognize the value of our resources are choosing to settle here. Come and see. Friends look forward to

welcoming you to Philadelphia."

Today the Historical Society Museum leadership is: President Larry Rosbrook, Vice President Mechelle Francis, Treasurer Carol Rudes, and Secretary Peggy Rosbrook. The museum hours are Thursday, 12:00Noon – 3:00PM and Saturday, 10:00AM – 2:00PM. The phone number is 315-778-8169 and inquiries are made by e-mailing Mechelle at: francisfamily7@verizon.net

In conclusion, not only do I personally use the Historical Society for my own genealogical research, I love just dropping in and visiting. The staff is always so welcoming!

For more information on the Town of Philadelphia, please visit New York GenWeb at: <http://jefferson.nygenweb.net/phila.htm>

The Town of Philadelphia Town Clerk: Cheryl Reed, 33019 U. S. Route 11, Philadelphia, New York 13673. Phone (315) 642-3421. <http://townofphiladelphiany.com/>

On September 22 (2016) North Country At Work visited Philadelphia for a photo scanning session. To view visit: <https://blogs.northcountrypublicradio.org/allin/2016/10/02/working-in-philadelphia-photo-gallery-north-country-at-work/>



Old Post Card, Crescent Park



Old Post Card, Railroad Station

ELLIS ISLAND IMMIGRATION FACTS

As Published On The www.genealogyintime.com Website

Ellis Island is a small island off the tip of Lower Manhattan. It operated as an immigration center from 1892 to 1954. During much of that time, Ellis Island was the main port of entry for immigrants to America. Ellis Island processed an average of 5,000 people per day. A total of 12 million immigrants passed through the island over the years. As the table below shows, more immigrants passed through Ellis Island at its peak than all other North American ports of entry combined.

Port	Number of Immigrants
Ellis Island	706,113
Baltimore	69,541
Boston	64,358
Montreal & St. John's	33,048
Philadelphia	29,926
Honolulu	11,439
San Francisco	9,504
Key West Florida	5,129
New Orleans	4,685
New Bedford Mass.	4,435

Source: Ellis Island

As can be seen from the numbers above, Ellis Island dominated all other ports of entry for immigrants to America during the peak years of immigration from Europe. When looking at Ellis Island immigration records, here are the things you need to know:

- For an immigrant coming from Europe, the most expensive part of the journey from their home in the old country to their final destination in North America would have been the cost of buying a ticket on a transatlantic steamer. New York City had by far the most number of ships visiting its port.

The four attached photos are from The National Parks Service website.



A Family From Holland

- For many immigrants, New York City was the cheapest and most convenient port of entry to North America regardless of their final destination.
- Even immigrants to Canada could have chosen New York City as their port of entry (many crossings at the border between Canada and the US were totally open and had no customs or border officials).
- Anyone who had ancestors who arrived anywhere in North America in the forty-year period between roughly 1892 and 1932 should consider checking the Ellis Island immigration records.
- Not all immigrants were successful in entering the United States. Official statistics suggest about 2 percent of immigrants were rejected and sent home. The most common reason for rejection was a concern by immigration officials that the person may become a ward of the state. This could be due to health issues (especially a fairly common eye disease called trachoma, which led to blindness), mental illness or lack of sufficient funds for immigrants to support themselves.
- Immigrants were sorted based on their health condition, financial status and language. When looking at the records, don't assume all your ancestors passed through Ellis Island. Some may have been sent home.
- Immigration officials also turned away communists, anarchists and bigamists. They did this by asking some rather ingenious questions: "Are you a communist?" "Are you an anarchist?" and "Are you a bigamist?" If a person answered 'yes' to any of the questions, they were rejected. If a person answered 'no' to any of the questions they were put aside for further questioning. The correct answer would have been: "What is a communist?", "What is an anarchist?" and "What is a bigamist?"
- One hundred years ago, most people would not have been familiar with the terms communist, anarchist or bigamist. If they were aware of any of these terms then they may have been a communist, anarchist or bigamist and they were questioned in greater detail.
- If one member of a family was rejected, then it was up to the family to decide if they wanted to proceed into America or go back home.
- If the husband or the head of the household was rejected then the entire family would usually go home since the husband was generally the main breadwinner.
- If the mother or one of the daughters was rejected then often the family would split up with the rejected person going home and the rest of the family staying in America.
- Sometimes, another family member would accompany the rejected person back home.
- The number of immigrants who ultimately went home was higher than the official 2 percent rejection rate would suggest.
- Often, families did not travel to America together. Be aware of this when looking for records. The more common pattern was for the husband (the main bread winner) to go to America a year or two before the rest of the family. The husband would get a job, get established and then earn enough money to pay for the passage of his wife and children.

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- A variation of this might be an uncle, a brother or another relative (they were usually male) who arrived before the rest of the extended family.
- When looking for immigration records on Ellis Island, always check for other relatives +/- 3 years from the date when you find a record for one of the family members.
- A common misconception is that immigration officers changed or anglicized immigrants' names. This did not happen. Many immigrants had their names changed, but it was not due to immigration officials. Instead, it was the responsibility of the officers aboard the ships that brought the immigrants to America to prepare the immigration documents. Many of these officers made mistakes in the immigration forms, particularly with the spelling of names. Some of the ship officers were also simply lazy.
- For example, consider an immigrant with the name like "Papadopoulos". The ship officers would sometimes write down an abbreviated name like "Papa" instead of spelling out the entire name. Be aware of this type of error when looking through Ellis Island records. It is more common than you might think.
- Immigration officials at Ellis Island had to process an average of 5,000 people per day and for them processing people simply became a numbers game.
- Also be aware that immigrants often could not spell their own name. Many errors passed through the system (in addition to the usual problems of misspelling that occur in old documents).
- Immigrants who arrived with proper documentation



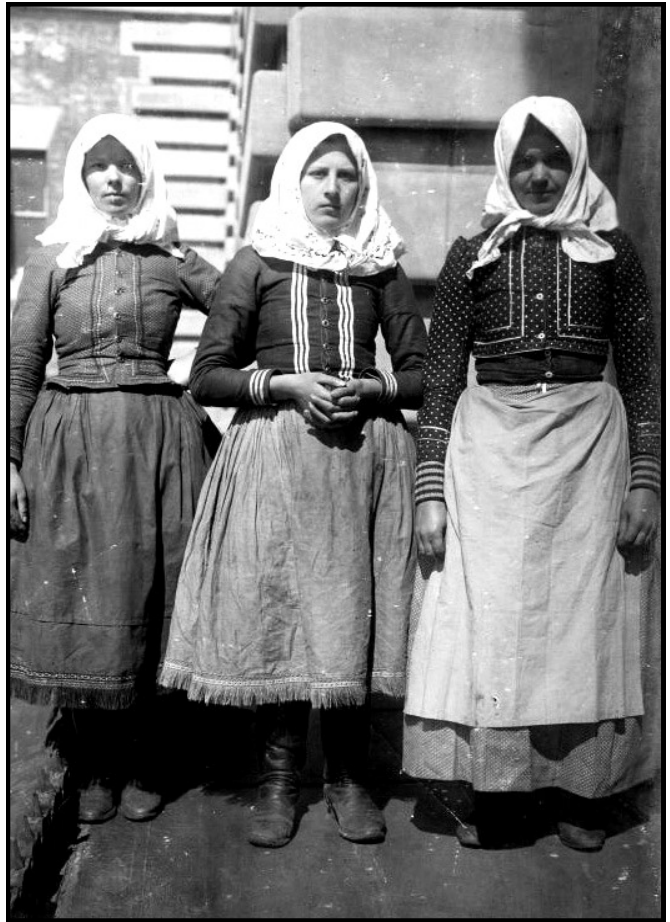
A Scottish Family

were much less likely to have spelling issues. Even if the immigrant could not spell their own name, the name on the passport would be written by a government official from the old country who was much more likely to know how to spell it.

- Some immigrants who arrived in America also deliberately masked or hid their identity. New country, new life, new name. This was typically done to hide an immediate problem from the old country (such as a criminal past or an unfortunate family situation).
- Many immigrants did not want to bring problems with them from the old country to the new country. In fact, the reason some immigrants decided to go to America

was specifically to avoid serious problems at home, such as a potential jail term.

- Another reason immigrants masked their identity was



Slovakia Ladies

out of concern they might be rejected. In other words, they had a reason to lie. For example, indentured servitude was not allowed in the United States (and would be grounds for rejection) even though some companies in America tried to recruit people in Europe under these conditions. Basically, the company would pay for the passage to America in exchange for a couple of years of labor (this approach apparently was tried by some coal companies in Virginia according to Ellis Island officials). These immigrants were likely coached by the company that recruited them on how to lie to immigration officials.

- Some Americans also tried to recruit indentured servants from Europe using a similar approach. Immigration officials were on the lookout for this kind of activity and would reject immigrants based on indentured servitude.
- Sometimes, changing identities extended to not just changing names but also changing relationships within a family. For example a bigamist might claim to immigration officials that his second wife was actually his sister since both would likely have the same last name on official documents. Look out for this

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A Jewish Family From England

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possibility, if you know your ancestor came to America from a region or religious group that supported polygamy.

- Many immigrants also deliberately changed their name to make it sound more American (see the article [Why Immigrants Change Their Name](#)); although this was normally done a couple of years after they had arrived in the country.

- People often migrated to America in large groups from the same regions. For example, large groups of Croatians (sometimes almost whole villages) would come to America together. Groups of Italians or Swedes from the same region would also often travel together. This was true of many groups from many countries in Europe.

- If you are having trouble finding your ancestors in the Ellis Island records, consider focusing your search efforts on looking at records from ships that carried large numbers of immigrants from the same region as your ancestor. If you are not sure which ships to research, simply type in some common surnames from the region of your ancestors to find out which ships and which dates these immigrants arrived at Ellis Island. This can help narrow your search.

- This idea can even be carried one step further. Suppose you cannot find the immigration record of one of your ancestors but you can locate the record of the person's spouse. Even though they may have been

married in America, there is a strong chance that both of them came from the same region of Italy, Sweden, Germany, etc. Use this information to focus your search effort on ships that brought people from the region of your ancestors.

- Be aware that not all immigrants who landed at New York City had to go through Ellis Island. Passengers in first class and second class were processed aboard their ships and then disembarked in downtown Manhattan. It was only passengers in steerage (third class) who had to go to Ellis Island. Immigrants who could afford first or second classes clearly were not destitute and were probably also not communists or anarchists. They were viewed as lower risk.

- Prior to Ellis Island opening in 1892, immigrants were processed at Castle Garden Immigration Depot in Lower Manhattan. A total of 8 million immigrants passed through Castle Garden. Thus if you think your ancestor may have arrived before 1892, you also need to check the Castle Garden records.

- During World War II, Ellis Island was used to intern German, Italian and Japanese prisoners of war. Many sick or wounded US soldiers were also processed through the island on their way home (the island had a hospital and extensive medical facilities).

- The best place on the internet to find Ellis Island records is at [The Statue of Liberty - Ellis Island Foundation](#). For Castle Garden records, visit www.castlegarden.org. Some Ellis Island records can also be found using the [Genealogy Search Engine](#).

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF UNITED STATES INVOLVEMENT IN WORLD WAR I

By JCNYS President Larry Corbett

SPOTLIGHT - Harold H. Wright



Harold White Monument in North Watertown Cemetery

There is perhaps no memorial to a fallen soldier anywhere in Jefferson County more striking than the one that marks the grave of Private Harold H. Wright, the second Watertown man to fall. The monument, in the North Watertown Cemetery, features a life size statue of Private Wright in full battle gear, a tribute to a true hero of the Second Battle of the Marne.

Harold Hyde Wright was born in either Watertown or Oswego, N.Y. (sources vary) on 13 July 1888, the youngest of four sons of John and Jennie McGrath Wright. His mother, the daughter of Irish immigrants, died less than one year after Harold's birth. Soon after, their father moved the family to Watertown.

Known by his family as "Connie," and by his close friends as "Ding" Wright, Harold attended Boon Street and Arsenal Street schools. After finishing school, he found employment at several local industries, including the Champion Paper Co., the J.B. Wise Co. and the NY Air Brake Co. before, in about 1913, becoming a driver for the People's Oil and Fuel Co., a

position he held until he enlisted in the 30th United States Infantry in December of 1917.

As part of the 3d Infantry Division, the 30th Regiment trained for 3 months at Camp Dix, N.J., sailing for France in March, 1918 as part of the American Expeditionary Force.



Harold H. Wright

His family received a letter from Private Wright shortly after his arrival in France.

Dear Dad: --

I arrived over here safe. I am feeling fine. I didn't get a bit sea sick on the voyage. The last two days the sea was very rough.

I could write you a big letter telling you of the things that I have seen, but am not allowed to. The letters that you will receive from me on this side will be short on that account.

The houses in this country are all brick and stone. You don't see any wooden ones, even in the country. The country here is fine, beautiful scenery, with hedges following the road for miles on both sides.

Well I guess I will have to close now. Remember me to Dick and the family also, as I won't be able to write to him right away.

Yours as ever,
Connie

Tasked to fight alongside French troops in the defense of Paris, the 30th was positioned along the Marne River along with the 38th and 4th Infantries. At midnight on the 14th of July, 1918, the largest artillery barrage of the war signaled what would become Germany's final offensive of the war. French troops retreated in disarray, but the American troops held firm. According to letters it was during this heavy bombardment that Private Wright volunteered to carry a message to American artillery units behind the lines, a message that he delivered despite having received the mortal wound that ended his life.

A letter from Lt. George Henderson told the story of Harold's last hours.

"No doubt your brother, Harold informed you of his assignment while under my command as battalion scout officer, which calls for the best and brightest men in the battalion and I am glad to say your brother
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was just such a man."

"Our work was at times hazardous and of the greatest importance to our higher commanders for it was our duty to patrol No Man's Land and bring back information regarding the enemy."

"We were on just such a mission the night of July 14th and 15th when, as you know, the great German drive started, which is now known as the second battle of the Marne."

"Your brother, Harold, with a detail of other men, were on the bank of the Marne when the most terrible barrage was turned loose over our lines that this war had ever experienced, and the information they had was of the greatest importance, as they had located the enemy crossing at a certain junction of the river and this information had to be gotten back so our artillery could turn the guns on this particular area."

"At such times we call for volunteers, and at once your brother offered to get the message through, and which, thank God, he did, but he was mortally wounded in so doing and died that morning."

"But what a boy, ever cheerful, strong and cool at all times, often speaking of you folks at home, never fearing the outcome, feeling always secure in the knowledge that he was prepared in the sight of God to pay, if called upon to do so, the supreme sacrifice of a true and noble American."

"How I long to be able to write the story of the great deeds shown by the boys at that time, but what little I have said, I do hope, will help to ease the aching heart of loving father for his departed hero son."

Private Wright was initially buried in the American Military Cemetery at Soissons, France, very near to the spot where he had been fatally injured. His remains were returned to Watertown in 1921, and were escorted to the Cemetery by a guard of honor composed of members of the Grand Army of the Republic, Spanish-American War Veterans, and American Legion posts from Watertown and Carthage.

The monument which marks the grave of Private Harold Wright was purchased by his brother Charles Wright, general manager of the Champion Paper Company and a veteran of the Battle of San Juan Hill in the Spanish-American War at a cost of \$3000 (\$45,000 in 2017 dollars.) He is buried beside his parents. His grave is visible near the front of the cemetery on Bradley Street in Watertown.

Deaths and Burials in Antwerp, New York



Compiled by
Marilyn Coulon Putman

JCNYGS Book Review

This genealogical reference work by Marilyn Coulon Putman has inventories of three cemeteries (Hillside Cemetery, St. Michael's Cemetery, and the old Town of Antwerp Cemetery) in Antwerp, Jefferson County, New York. Hillside and St. Michael's cemeteries are listed in family groups; burials in Hillside Cemetery are recorded by sections. Also included are over 50 years of records from Moore Funeral Home, Antwerp, New York, listed chronologically.

Hillside and St. Michael's inventories were done in 1977 and 1978; Town of Antwerp Cemetery inventory dates from the 1950s. A map of cemeteries shows their location in the village and sections of Hillside Cemetery are noted.

This is a 333 page fully indexed research items that will add to any researchers library. The book is easy to navigate and is beneficial for anyone with ancestors in the Town of Antwerp and the Town of Philadelphia. Our JCNYGS Vice President has a copy by his computer and refers to the book in his own research.

The 2014 publication can be purchased on-line through Lulu Publishing Company (www.lulu.com) for \$31.50. Note: JCNYGS has no connections to the author or the publishing company and provides this review as a courtesy to our members.

A Bicentennial Tribute to Veterans of 1776

A Reprinting of *Watertown Daily Times*
Articles from 1976

Original biographies researched and written by
Members of the LeRay De Chaumont Chapter
NSDAR Watertown, NY
Bicentennial Tribute to Veterans of 1776

JCNYGS acquired the full collection of Veteran tribute articles and is reprinting the series in this and subsequent *Informers* until all tributes are reprinted. The articles all originated from the *Watertown Daily Times* over a six-month period in 1976—during the 200 year anniversary celebrations. The reprinting project is continued from page 16 of the April 2017 *Informer*.

Benjamin Barker. Revolutionary War veteran Benjamin Barker is buried in the Kinnie Cemetery, Town of Antwerp. His wife was Tillie.

Oliver Bartholomew. Born 20 October 1757 in Branford, Connecticut, Oliver Bartholomew enlisted at Goshen, Connecticut, in January 1776, under Captain Beebe and Captain Tuttle, in Colonel Jiduthen Baldwin's Regiment from 1776 to March 1779. He moved from Goshen to Lee, Massachusetts, where he resided a few years before moving to Vashire, Vermont, and later to Augusta, New York. In March 1800, he moved to Watertown, settling two and a half miles from Watertown on the Brownville road. In 1803 he was largely instrumental in forming the First Baptist Church. The first bridge at Brownville was built at a cost of \$1,000.00 on subscription by Oliver Bartholomew in the summer of 1801. Oliver and his wife Anna Lacy, daughter of Ebenezer and Freelove Canfield Lacy, are buried in Brownville Cemetery. He died 18 June 1850 at the age of 93.

Joseph Boyden. Born 23 September 1757 in Worcester, Massachusetts, Joseph Boyden enlisted in April 1775 and served in Captain Jonas Hubbard's Company, Colonel Jonathan Ward's Regiment for eight months. He also served two months in Captain Seth Washburn's Company in Colonel Whitney's Regiment, and five months in Captain William Estes Company in Colonel Himes Regiment of the Massachusetts Line. He helped build the fortification around Boston, then occupied by the British, and was on Dorchester Heights, where he remained until the British were driven out about the middle of March. After his two months' enlistment was completed, he was discharged and returned home. He married Polly Knowlton and they later came to Lorraine to live with their son. He died 27 May 1840 at the age of 83. She died 27 February 1844 at age 80. Both are buried in Lorraine Village Cemetery.

Timothy Brewster. Timothy Brewster was born in Norwich, Connecticut on 12 September 1759. He enlisted as a private at Williamstown, Massachusetts in August 1776, a member of Captain Peter Porter's Company of Colonel Samuel Brewer's Regiment. He

marched to Bennington and then to Whitehall, New York, traveling by water to Ticonderoga. At Mt. Hope, about three miles away, he helped build a fort, remaining there until 28 November 1776, when he returned to Williamstown, Massachusetts. He served three months at Norwich, Connecticut beginning in December 1776, and later, in 1779, he served as a substitute for Jacob Norton. He was stationed at the fort in New London for two months during that time. After the war Timothy Brewster moved to Pawlet, Vermont, where he married Temperance Andrus on 5 July 1781. She was 31 at the time. After 30 years the couple moved to Ellisburgh. Timothy died 28 June 1849, and Temperance died 17 October 1831, both in Ellisburgh, where they are buried in the Brewster cemetery. The headstone of Temperance Brewster reads that she had "been his wife 50 yrs 5 mos and 12 days." Timothy Brewster's stone reads "Elder Timothy Brewster direct descendant of Elder Wm. Brewster of the Pilgrims."

Samuel Britton. Born in 1762 in Westmorland, New Hampshire, Samuel Britton entered the Revolutionary Army at age 14 and served the duration of the war. Enlisting at Westmorland, under Captain Ellis of Colonel Scammel's Regiment, he served two years as sergeant, for which he received a pension. After the war he returned to Westmorland and married Mindwell Butterfield in 1784. The couple had five children: Arthur, Linda, Samuel, Hiram and Jane. All but Jane were born in New Hampshire, the family having moved to Cape Vincent before her birth. Samuel was a brother of General Calvin Britton, who lived near Brownville. Mindwell Britton died 4 February 1834, at the age of 66. Samuel died 19 April 1835, age 73 years. They are both buried in the Sand Bay Cemetery, Town of Cape Vincent, overlooking the St. Lawrence River. The name has also been spelled "Brittain" but "Britton" seems to be the more common spelling and is the spelling on the gravestone.

Isaac Burr. Isaac Burr was born in 1760 and fought in the Battle of Bennington, Vermont, and other engagements. He married Irene Orcu and the couple moved to Ellisburgh. He died 27 April 1827 and she died 27 January 1832, at age 68. Both are buried in the Ellisburgh Cemetery.



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<https://www.facebook.com/JeffersonCountyNyGenealogicalSociety/>

Local Civil War Veteran's Legacy Lives on 60 Years After Death

By Lenka Walldroff
As seen in the Autumn 2016
Northern New York Living Magazine

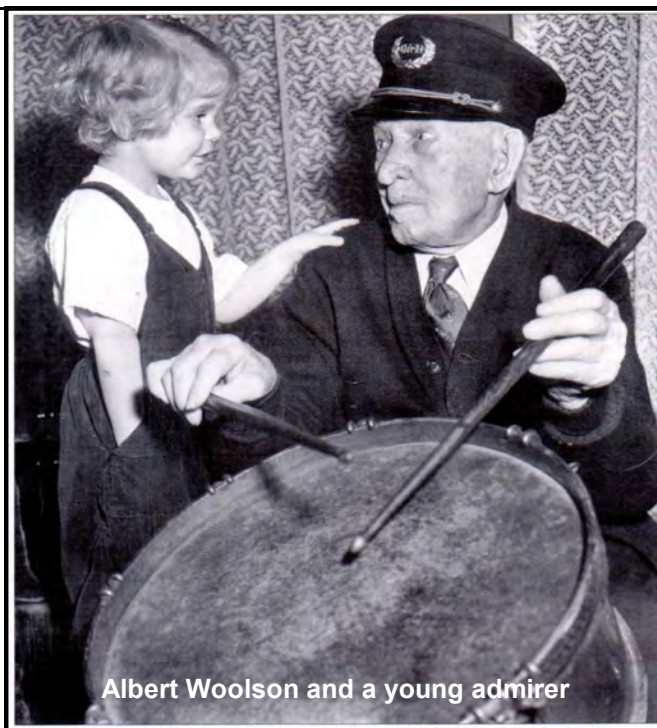
May 9th of last year (2015) marked the 150th anniversary of the end of the "Recent Unpleasantness" – Southern vernacular referencing the American Civil War.

One would think the Northern New York would rank somewhat low on the list of places steeped in Civil War history, but alas, while the battles may have been fought far from the St. Lawrence River or Tug Hill Plateau, men from across our great nation – and subsequently their communities – were indelibly marked by it.

One of our Jefferson County's biggest, and ironically, perhaps least well known, claims to Civil War history lies in the person of Albert Henry Woolson. Mr. Woolson was the last surviving Union Army veteran. He also carries the somewhat dubious distinction of being the last surviving member of the Confederate or Union side whose veteran status is undisputed. *

He was born 11 February 1847 to Willard and Caroline Baldwin Woolson in Antwerp, Jefferson County, New York. The family lived in Antwerp until Albert's father, Willard Woolson, enlisted in the Civil War and was wounded in the battle of Shiloh. He was met by his wife and son at the Army hospital in Windom, Minnesota, where he unfortunately succumbed to his wounds; after his death, his wife and son determined to not return to their homestead in New York and stayed on in Minnesota. Two years later, in 1864, young Albert enlisted in the Union Army himself, telling the Army recruiter that he was born in 1846, which would have made him 18 – the minimum recruiting age for military service at the time. Mr. Woolson was accepted and slated to serve as a drummer boy in Company C., of the 1st Minnesota Heavy Artillery Regiment on 10 October 1864 – nearly six months to the day when General Lee would surrender to General Grant in Virginia. After Lee's surrender in April 1865, Woolson's company (which never saw action) was discharged on 7 September 1865.

Mr. Woolson stayed in Minnesota following his military service, working as a carpenter and an active member of the Grand Army of the Republic (known colloquially as "G.A.R.") – a powerful, politically active organization of Civil War veterans akin to today's American Legion. Many towns had a local G.A.R. chapter, or "post" as they were commonly referred to. It may be noteworthy to mention here that Mr. Woolson's death in 1956 also marked the official disbanding of the G.A.R. Incidentally, the Jefferson County Historical Society houses a large collection of the Watertown's G.A.R. Post's records and artifacts.



Albert Woolson and a young admirer

Mr. Woolson died 2 August 1956 at age 109. Having been twice widowed, he was survived by eight adult children. Albert Woolson was buried with full military honors by the National Guard in Park Hill Cemetery in Duluth, Minnesota. His passing was marked by President Dwight Eisenhower, who, according to the 3 August 1956 issue of the *St. Peter's Times*, said: "The American people have lost the last personal link with the Union Army... (Albert Woolson's) passing brings sorrow to the hearts of all of us who cherished the memory of the brave men on both sides of the War Between the States."

In August 1956, *Life* magazine ran a seven-page article about Albert Woolson and the G.A.R. On 12 September 1956 a bronze statue of Woolson was dedicated near the Gettysburg battlefield in Ziegler's Grove. The statue does not bear Woolson's name, but that of Grand Army of the Republic. Woolson's likeness sits wearing his G.A.R. insignia, calmly surveying the battlefield. 3,000 people were in attendance for the dedication.

* There were three men who survived him claiming to have fought in the Civil War. One of the three claims was discredited, the veracity of the other two could not be verified.

Lenka P. Walldroff is the former curator of collections for the Jefferson County Historical Society Museum. She is a former museum specialist and conservator of the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. She lives in Jefferson County with her husband and two children.

Printed with permission by Brian Kelly, editor of the *NNY Living Magazine*.

Tour Postponed to Lost Villages Cemeteries

JCNYGS planned a Memorial Day 2017 tour to several "Lost Villages Cemeteries" on Fort Drum. Sadly, rains and thunderstorms postponed the event for the ten members signed up. We will attempt to reschedule Memorial Day 2018.

A few days prior to Memorial Day 2017, Dr. Laurie Rush (Fort Drum Cultural Resources Manager) and Mr. Sepp Scanlin (10th Mountain Division Museum Director) took JCNYGS VP and military retiree sponsor Tom LaClair to several of the cemeteries so he could lead the genealogy tour on Memorial Day.



This photo of Dr. Rush and Mr. Scanlin was taken at Woods Mills Cemetery. Written on two sides of the headstone: In Memory of John Z. Randall, Company C., 35th Regiment, N. Y. Volunteers, Killed at 2nd Battle of Fredericksburg, 13 December 1862, Age 47 Years, 7 Months, 8 Days. On the left side of the stone was: In Memory of Artemas A. Randall, Company C., 35th Regiment, N. Y. Volunteers. Killed at the 2nd Battle of Fredericksburg, 13 December 1862, Age 20 Years, 9 Months, 10 Days." Yes father and his son were killed in the same Civil War battle on the same day.

Every Memorial Day, the cemeteries of lost villages on Fort Drum open so as to give relatives a look back. All cemeteries on Fort Drum will be open for visitation from 8AM until sunset on Memorial Day. Quiet hours will be observed from noon to 5PM. Visitors need not stop at Range Control to obtain a vehicle pass to go to the cemeteries outside the cantonment area on Memorial Day only. For assistance, call (315) 772-7152. Those who wish to visit gravesites inside the cantonment area will need to follow normal gate procedures for entering Fort Drum. Those who do not possess a valid DOD ID card must have a sponsor, who will meet them at a visitor gate (Lt. Gen. Paul Cerjan / Main Gate, Gas Alley Gate or Wheeler-Sack Army Airfield Gate) to sign them in. Foreign nationals must be escorted throughout their visit. Sponsors must be 18 or older and fall into one of the following categories: Soldier, Family Member, retiree or retiree's spouse, DOD Civilian Employee or contractor who possess a DOD ID card. For more information about gate access, call (315) 772-8392.

75 Census Takers in County – More Planned

From the *Watertown Daily Times*, March or April 1940

5,500 Local Residents Visited by Enumerators Thus Far in Census – Seventy-five census enumerators are at work in Jefferson County, with an increase in this number scheduled to be made Friday or Saturday, according to a list released this morning by H. Francis Hartnett, supervisor for the 32nd congressional district. Of this number 47 are women. The city of Watertown is being covered by 31 enumerators.

A supplementary training school, for census takers was held this morning and this afternoon by Howard S. Hall, assistant supervisor of the 32nd district. Six applicants for vacancies in the Jefferson county list received census material and general information pertaining to the 16th decennial population count. The school was held in the civil service rooms, Federal building. Enumerators in the city of Watertown are not working districts in which they live. Census takers in the rural areas however are covering districts in or near which they live.

The full complement of enumerators has not yet been filled out, owing to a number of resignations and to the poor condition of county highways last Thursday when the district training school was held in Watertown. The vacancies caused by resignations are being rapidly filled with new applicants. An estimated 5,500 Watertown residents have been visited by city canvassers since the census began on Tuesday. All interviews are expected to be completed by the April 16 deadline.

My Civil War Grandfathers

Part II of IV: Private Josiah Reed Brooks

By JcNYGS Member:
Colonel Steven C. Guy (USA, Retired)

Josiah Reed Brooks was one of ten children born to Josiah Harris Brooks (1803-1886) and Elizabeth Stathem (1812-1878). Josiah was born on April 4, 1839 in Cheviot, Greene Township, Hamilton County, Ohio. His father, Josiah Harris Brooks, had migrated from his home in Cumberland County, New Jersey to the vicinity of Cincinnati, Ohio about 1817. The Brooks family lived in Hamilton County, Ohio until about 1850 when they moved to Bartholomew County, Indiana. After living in Indiana for about five years, the family migrated in 1855 to Hampton in Randolph County, Minnesota Territory.



Josiah Reed Brooks married Rhoda Louisa Whitford (1846-1909) on March 2, 1864 in nearby Goodhue County, Minnesota. Rhoda was the daughter of prominent Ohio lawyer, David Montgomery Whitford, and Elizabeth Ann "Betsy" Lease. In 1834 the Whitford family moved from Ohio to Michigan, but became impoverished just a few years later when David lost his fortune during the "Panic of 1837." David apparently suffered some sort of mental

breakdown and deserted his family. By 1850 Betsy and four of their children unfortunately ended up on the census rolls of a "Poor House" in LaSalle County, Illinois. Despite this inauspicious beginning, three of Rhoda's siblings went on to become physicians while Rhoda moved to Minnesota. Josiah and Rhoda had four children - Elizabeth Maude "Lizzie" (1866-1937), Susan Adelle (1868-1920), Jennie Maud (1873-1890) and Kittie Edna (1876-1960). Kittie, my great grandmother, married Dr. Aaron Carl Koethe, the son of German immigrants, on July 5, 1890 in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Prior to the outbreak of the War Between the States, Josiah Reed Brooks was working on his father's farm in Randolph, Dakota County, Minnesota at the time of the census in 1860. On December 19, 1863 at the age of 24 years, Josiah Reed and his brother Ephraim Phillip enlisted as privates in Company D, Brackett's Battalion, Minnesota Volunteer Cavalry. They were mustered into the unit on January 5, 1864. A short time later their brother William Henry Brooks enlisted in Hatch's Battalion, Minnesota Volunteer Cavalry. At the time of his enlistment, Josiah Reed Brooks was described as being 5' 4" in height with a dark complexion, black eyes and black hair.

It is notable that most companies of Minnesota Light Cavalry were later designated as 5th Iowa Cavalry and employed in the fighting against the Confederacy in the South. In February 1864, Brackett's Battalion was detached from the 5th Iowa Cavalry for the purpose of fighting the Sioux Indians in the Dakota Territory in the aftermath of the Dakota War of 1862. In 1862, fighting had broken out between the Sioux Indians and white settlers in the Minnesota River Valley. Following the expulsion of the Sioux from Minnesota, military forts were established across the Dakota Territory to protect pioneers, miners and others who came to stay. Brackett's Battalion never saw fighting against the Confederacy, but instead constituted the forces employed as "Sully's Northwestern Indian Expedition" and saw action June 4 - November 10, 1864 in the Dakota Territory. Sully's operations against the Sioux tribes continued until May 1866 and the remaining members of the unit were mustered out on June 1, 1866.

Josiah Reed Brooks enlisted at Fort Snelling in Minneapolis where he remained in garrison until early May 1864. From May 2-25, Brackett's Battalion marched from Fort Snelling to Sioux City in the Dakota Territory (present-day Union County, South Dakota). On June 4, 1864, Brackett's Battalion left Sioux City to travel to Fort Sully (near present-day Pierre, South Dakota) on the east bank of the Missouri River. After reaching Fort Sully, the battalion was to cross the river for the purpose of engaging hostile Sioux Indians. While guarding a nighttime cavalry train on June 14, 1864, Josiah was injured when his horse stepped in a prairie dog hole and fell on top of

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him, breaking his shoulder and collarbone. He returned to Fort Ridgely, Minnesota for medical treatment and remained there until his discharge for medical disability on March 14, 1865, receiving a 50% disability. He was never able to regain use of his right arm.

Following the Civil War, Josiah Reed Brooks returned briefly to Dakota County. He next appears in Mower County, Minnesota where he was employed as a drayman, or person who delivers beer

for a brewery. About 1872, Josiah and his family moved to Faribault in Rice County, Minnesota where he remained until his death in 1923. After relocating to Rice County he worked as a "laborer," but the exact nature of his jobs is unknown. In 1890, Josiah and Rhoda's daughter, Jennie, succumbed to tuberculosis less than six months after marrying Kneeland Rollins. Jennie's death was followed in 1909 by that of her mother, Rhoda, who died from Bright's disease (a form of kidney disease). Following Rhoda's death, Josiah moved in with his daughter Lizzie Brooks who also lived in Faribault. In early November 1923, Josiah traveled by train to Chicago, Illinois to winter with his daughter, Kittie Edna, and her husband, Dr. Aaron C. Koethe. Six weeks into his visit, Josiah contracted double pneumonia and died shortly thereafter. His body was transported back to Faribault, Minnesota



where he was buried in Maple Lawn Cemetery. The funeral was attended by members of the local Grand Army of the Republic Michael Cook Post and the Women's Relief Corps. He was accorded full military honors by a squad from the Faribault American Legion.

JCNYGS Note: Steven Guy is a JCNYGS member and his tireless research is an insight to his strong desire to accurately capture his patriotic military heritage and family history.

References:

1840 U.S. census, Green Twp, Hamilton County, Ohio, Josiah H. Brooks; roll: 400; page: 452; image: 914; Family History Library Film: 0020166.

1850 U.S. census, Dayton, LaSalle County, Illinois, population schedule, dwelling 2469 (Poor House), family 2535, Betsey Whitford; roll: M432_115; page: 345B; image_.

1860 U.S. census, Randolph Twp, Dakota County, Minnesota, population schedule, page 690, dwelling 944, family 663, Josiah Brooks; digital images, Ancestry.com, citing NARA microfilm publication M653, roll:_, image: 227.

1870 U.S. Census, Austin, Mower County, Minnesota; population schedule, page:_; dwelling 200, family 206, J.R. Brooks; digital images, Ancestry.com, citing NARA microfilm publication M593, roll:, image: 734.

1880 U.S. census, Faribault, Rice County, Minnesota, population schedule, page_, dwelling 132, family 137, Josiah E. Brooks; digital images, Ancestry.com, citing NARA microfilm publication, roll: 632; FHL microfilm: 1254632; Page: 419C; enumeration district: 147; image: 0486.

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1910 U.S. census, Faribault Ward 2, Rice, Minnesota, population schedule, dwelling 232, family 217, Fred E. Hall; roll: T624_721; page: 9B; enumeration district: 0114; image: 665; FHL microfilm: 1374734.

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Dakota War of 1862. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dakota_War_of_1862

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For Discharge

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Obituary- Rhoda L. Brooks, Faribault Republican, 10 November 1909, page 3, column 3

Obituary- Josiah R. Brooks, Faribault Weekly Journal, 19 December 1923, page 5, columns 1 & 2

NYSCOGO

Comes to Jefferson County

JCNYGS hosted the New York State Council of Genealogical Organizations (NYSCOGO) semi-annual conference on Friday and Saturday, 7 and 8 April 2017. NYSCOGO is an umbrella organization for genealogical groups across New York State, facilitating communication between genealogical and historical groups. NYSCOGO provides a statewide voice for genealogical interests, a means of communication among researchers, education via workshops and seminars, and helpful publications.

There was a casual dinner event Friday night at the historic Crystal Restaurant on Public Square in Watertown. Saturday's event was held at the Jefferson County Historical Society (JCHS).

After the business portion of the NYSCOGO meeting,



Crystal Restaurant in Watertown. Left to right, Betty McMahon, Larry Corbett, Cynthia Waters, Greg Plantz, Tammy Plantz, Janine LaClair, Thomas LaClair.



JCHS: Larry Corbett (left) (President, JCNYGS), Don Whitney (Center) and Betty McMahon (NYSCOGO Secretary), right.

guest speaker Don Whitney gave an hour long motivating fascinating talk on Jefferson County history from the earliest of times straight up through today.

Watertown's Public Broadcasting Station was on hand to video tape Don's speech for future use in history DVDs. JCHS Director Jordan B. Walker welcomed the group and shared information about the museum and specifically highlighted displays and artifacts inside the museum. Among them the Marietta Holley display. For the conference meal on Saturday, Janine LaClair prepared and served a delicious meal to all attendees.



JCHS: Left to right, Betty McMahon, Sharon Burch (President, NYSCOGO), Mel Burch, Cynthia Waters, Larry Corbett (President, JCNYGS), Janine LaClair, Thomas LaClair, Greg Plantz, Tammy Plantz.

The Timmerman Diaries

Jefferson County New York GenWeb recently added the nearly 270 pages of the Timmerman Diaries to the website. The Timmerman sisters resided in the Town of Orleans. Mary Timmerman Dayton (1845 – 1923) (wife of Henry Dayton) and Martha Timmerman Brewer (1848 – 1926) (wife of Ebenezer Brewer) were sisters, both daughters of George F. Timmerman (1813 – 1902) and Rosina Walrath Timmerman (1818 – 1898).

There were other siblings, however these two were the diary writers and the authors of the information noted in this work. Mary and Martha captured simple events of the bygone era, the weather and effects on life, church happenings, and they captured many births, weddings, and anniversaries. They also captured a good many deaths and funerals. These births, weddings, anniversaries, deaths and funerals were extracted and are available for your review.

If you have family from the Town of Orleans, this is a must visit to see if some of your ancestors are noted. Please visit: <http://jefferson.nygenweb.net/timmerman/timmain.htm>

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES ON JOHANNES PUTMAN

By Ernest G. Cook

Putman Family, North Members of Which Are
Descended from J. A. Putman, Is Traced to Johannes
Putman, Massacre Victim at Schenectady in 1690

On February 8, 1690, the Indians made a surprise attack on the whites in the settlement of Schenectady and Johannes Putman and his wife, Cornelia Bratt Putman, were killed in what was one of the worst massacres in the history of Schenectady clearing.

Johannes was an important man in the community. He was deacon in the church, hired the minister and was orphan master, looking after the needy children. He was 45 at the time of his tragic death. When he was 16 years old he was apprenticed to P. H. Brower of Albany and there showed marked ability, his business education being far above the average. He married Cornelia Bratt, vice governor of Rensselaerwyck, but the date of the marriage is not recorded in family records. It is known he moved from Albany to Schenectady in 1692. He owned much land there and Union college is located on some of the Putman land he pioneered.

Victor, the second son, born in 1680, was ten years old when his father was killed. He later married Gritje Mabee, a member of one of the oldest and wealthiest families in the Albany section. He was a private in the French and Indian wars and in 1733 was captain of the Schenectady Company and went west to Fort Hunter to locate.

Victor's oldest son was Johannes, named for the grandfather. He was born October 27, 1711 and married Miss Anna Van Antwerp. They had a son, David, born in 1747 and he married Hannah Van Antwerp who was born March 10, 1753 and died in December 1806. David lived to be 81 and died at Tribes Hill on March 10, 1828. He was buried in the cemetery the land for which he donated. If you know where the New York Central railroad station is at Tribes Hill, you have the location of the David Putman farm house.

On March 27, 1789 there was born to David and Hannah Putman as son, named Peter D. Putman. It was one of Peter's sons, John A. Putman, born September 27, 1818, who became interested in the LeRay lands of the north and set out to explore some of the wilderness country near the St. Lawrence River. The Parkers were starting quite a settlement at what is now West Theresa and John went there and selected a site for his home. Well towards a quarter of a mile back from the present county highway where is located the Walter C. June home, there is a rise of ground, thick with plum trees. There is where John is said to have located home. Just what year he located in the new country is not certain but we know after he was well located he married on January 15, 1840, Mariette Keech who was born February 15, 1819. Her death occurred July 31, 1879. John died on December 18, 1894 at Plessis.

In the year 1851 John A. Putman decided that there was better opportunities in the Plessis section and purchased the farm on the right side of the highway, going from Plessis village to Browns Corners, or toward Alexandria Bay. This is the farm which has come to be known as the Putman homestead. It is owned and operated today by Frank M. Putman, a grandson of John A. Putman. But we have skipped one generation. Squire U. Putman, father of Frank, was born at West Theresa, March 22, 1849, a son of John A. Putman. Squire married Nancy E. Townsend on June 19, 1870. She was born August 12, 1852.

To Squire and Nancy Putman were born three children, Charles U. Putman, long in business in Alexandria bay born March 2, 1873; Frank M. Putman, born March 3, 1876, who resides on the homestead, and Lulu, (now Mrs. Bryon Haskins, Theresa), born March 28, 1881. Charles married Georgia Dillon on September 28, 1899. She was born March 21, 1872. They reside at Alexandria Bay. Frank married Blanche Stone on December 20, 1899. She was born April 13, 1878, a descendant of the Andrew Stone of whom an account was given in a previous sketches. Her father, Norris Stone was a twin and the daughter, Blanch, is a twin of Howard Stone of Theresa. Frank and Blanche have three sons, John A., born June 25, 1901; Gilbert S., born September 17, 1904 and Myron C., born May 22, 1906.

Lulu Putman was married to Dr. Byron Haskins of Theresa on October 24, 1906. And now we know where the name of Squire given their son, Squire Haskins, the musician, now of Buffalo, comes from. Squire was born June 27, 1910. Frank Haskins, another son, was born November 1, 1913. He resides in Theresa.

When John A. Putman moved away to West Theresa to Plessis, says Edward A. Zellar of West Theresa, the Putman dwelling house was purchased by the late Jacob Zellar and moved to the Zellar farm adjoining, and located just to the rear of the Zellar home. Jacob resided in the house until he marched away to the Civil war. Later the house was used as a store room but a few years ago was razed. John Parker purchased the Putman farm when they moved away to Plessis.

It should be noted that the Putman family spelled their name in the 1600's as Pootman, being from Holland. The Putman homestead in Plessis is today one of the most attractive dwellings on the highway. It was from this home that the facts for this sketch were secured from Mr. and Mrs. Frank Putman.

Source: This article was hand typed from an undated Watertown Daily Times article retrieved from the Putman Family Files at the Flower Memorial Library Genealogical Department's research room.

Jefferson County Queries

Use the "ONLINE QUERY" on www.jncygs.com or mail queries to:
Jerry Davis, P. O. Box 275, Clayton, NY 13624; maridavis@aol.com

Subject: Jefferson County Informer Query

(Some readers don't have internet access. Please include mailing address &/or phone numbers as well as email.)

HUDSON, TIMMERMAN

I am trying to find information on the first wife of my great grandfather. The wife's married name was Margaret **HUDSON**, but I do not know her maiden name. My great grandfather was George **HUDSON**, born in Clayton, New York, on 16 April 1841. The couple had one child, Mary Katherine **HUDSON**, born in Clayton on 4 September 1863. George's parents were William Clark **HUDSON** and Catherine **TIMMERMAN HUDSON**, who are both buried in Clayton. I am willing to pay for materials and postage.

George D. Hudson
21710 Gooseneck Road
Sheridan, OR 97378
gdhudson@aol.com
971-241-8858

HARPER, DRURY, ANDREWS

I am attempting to locate a birth record of my 5th great grandmother, Desdemoana **HARPER-ANDREWS**, supposedly born in 1802 in Watertown, daughter of Oliver **HARPER** and Elizabeth "Betsey" **DRURY**. She married Raphael **ANDREWS** about 1820, they had at least 6 children together (not born in Jefferson Co.), and she died 21 May 1843 in Girard, Erie, PA. Names of children include Samantha, Wm B., Nelson, Amasa, Marilda & Raphael, Jr. Siblings of Desdemona were Ann b. 1804, Gaylord b. 1806, Nelson b. 1808, Jane or Sophronia b. 1810, and Miriam b. 1814. There could be more that are unknown.

Dayna Palmer
palmer7464@gmail.com

FREDENBURG, FREEMAN, VAN VREDENBURG

Joshua **FREDENBURG** was born 14 March 1783 in Herkimer, NY and died 6 July 1864 in LeRay, Jefferson, NY. He married Ruth **FREEMAN** in 1802 in Herkimer. Their children include: George, Amanda, Edwin, Julia, John, Catherine, William, Adaline, Caroline, Amy and Morris. I would like to know if his parents were Wilhelmus and Elizabeth (**VAN**) **VREDENBURG**. I think military service in the War of 1812 was possible. Their first child, George, is my 3x Great Grandfather. George and Armenia **FREDENBURG** also died in Jefferson County. The original **VAN VREDENBURG** came to NY in 1658 from Holland. Joshua appears to be his great great grandson.

Elizabeth Barber
ekbarber2@aol.com

GRANT, MILLER

I am in need of help with some lines of mine in Leeds, Ontario, Canada that eventually settled in upstate New York on the St. Lawrence River. I will send what I have starting with my third great grandmother (Jane **GRANT**). She was born about Feb. 1825 in Portland, Leeds, Ontario, Canada and died in 1882. Jane was in the 1865 US census in Lyme, New York. That's the furthest back I

have on her. Jane married Isaac Miller, another dead end! I would appreciate any kind of assistance.

Jamie Lynn Miller Pfaff (Tempeman)
Qualityhomecare.jp@gmail.com

GONYOU, McPHERSON

Lillian **GONYOU** was my grandmother. She married my grandfather on December 31, 1908 in Benson Mines. She was previously married between 1900 to 1908 to a well to do person. She had 2 children from that marriage. The first husband's parents had the marriage annulled so that their son could be appointed as a judge. The children were taken to live with him. How can I find records of this divorce. Lillian was born in Waddington to Joseph **GONYOU** (died September 27, 1906 in Ogdensburg) and Eliza Jane **McPHERSON** (who died in Canton, NY on September 12, 1930.

Matthew Whalen
whalen587@verizon.net

ROGERS, PERKINS, SPINK

Elisha **ROGERS** (born **PERKINS**) in 1861 in Adams, Jefferson Co., NY. His wife was Cornelia (**SPINK**). Seeking a direct male descendant of his who would like to submit to the **PERKINS-YDNA** project. Must provide descendant chart. Only serious inquiries need apply. The male children who are listed on the 1900 Jefferson Co., NY Census were: Isaac b. 1880, Edwin b. 1884, Roger b. 1887, Myron b. 1889 and George b. 1898. Contact perkinsresearch@prodigy.net.

Dee Perkins
dready@wi.rr.com

KENYON, PARKHURST, CLARKE, CROSS, GILMAN

Barnabas **KENYON** was born 1786, Rhode Island. He married Betsey **PARKHURST** about 1810. Her parents lived in Whitestown, New York. He served in the War of 1812 at Sacketts Harbor. His brother, Samuel may have also served. Barnabas moved to Lagrange County, Indiana around 1837. Betsey died there in 1838, he died in Indiana in 1844. His son reports that he was in the miller and clothier trade. His children include: Asa P., Lyman, Charles G., Susanna, Permelia, Jane, Sarah and an unknown daughter. Barnabas owned property in Ellisburg along with his brother Samuel. His parents were Barnabas **KENYON** and Susanna **CLARKE**. His parents moved to Montgomery County, New York after the Revolution. His father served in the American Revolution in Rhode Island. His brother Samuel was married three times. First to Susan **CROSS**, who died 1832, buried in Mannsville. Second, to Hannah, maiden name unknown, died 1837, also buried in Mannsville. His third wife was Freedom **GILMAN**.

Marilyn Kenyon
Marilyn500@gmail.com

(Continued on Page 24)

(Continued From Page 23)

CONROY, HALEY, STOTT, DRISCOLL

Stephen **CONROY** was born in Ireland 1836. He lived in Ontario, Canada and moved to Jefferson County 1879. He married Margaret **HALEY** of Centreville, Ontario. Stephen was a farmer in Champion, NY 1900-1919. His son Martin (MJ) 1879-1971, who married Nellie **STOTT**, owned a farm in Champion/Carthage called CONACRES until 1971. He was a member of Champion Grange No. 18. I am looking for info/pictures from grange No. 18. He was Carthage Justice of the Peace in 1909, a member of St. James church and buried in Calvary cemetery Huntingtonville. Children's names include: Martin Joseph, Julia and Minnie. Julia **CONROY** 1881-1959 married Daniel **DRISCOLL**. The **CONROYs** were in Rutland, Jefferson, NY and Watertown prior to Champion. Martin use to have cart races with is horses on the farm and he was a Town of Champion Assessor.

*Karen Patruno
karenpatruno@cox.net*

HALEY, CONNORS, CONROY

Thomas **HALEY** was born 1859 in Lennox Addington, Ontario, Canada. He died 1918 in Champion and is buried in Calvary cemetery, Huntingtonville, Jefferson, NY. He lived in Champion for about 8 years 1910-1918. He lived prior to that in Watertown 1878-1909. He never married. His parents were Maurice **HALEY** and Johanna **CONNORS HALEY** who are buried in Glenwood cemetery. His brother Michael **HALEY** lived in Brownsville about 1918-1926 where he died at his nephew's MJ **CONROY** in Champion. His siblings in Margaret, Maurice Jr. (Nora Kelly), Patrick J., Mary Sommerville, William, John and Catherine Bridget. This is a different **HALEY** family than the one who lived on Haley Street in Watertown.

*Karen Patruno
karenpatruno@cox.net*

DAVENPORT, DEAVENPORT, DUNHAM, CHAFA, POST, PELO, PELOW

Edwin **DAVENPORT/DEAVENPORT** was born 1842 in Watertown, NY and died 1903 in Rochester, NY. He was the son of James **DEAVENPORT** and Rachel **DUNHAM**. He married Victoria **CHAFA** 1864 in Sacketts Harbor. He also married Florence **POST** 1885. Edwin's parents were James and Rachel **DUNHAM DAVENPORT**. They lived in Adams 1850-1887. I am looking for information on James and his father Asher. Edwin was in the Civil War, 1861, NY 18th Reg Calvary Co. H & Co. G NY 35th infantry 2MSGT & LT. Names of his children include Cosette, Clarence, Minnie and Chester. I am looking for Edwin's grandfather Asher **DAVENPORT** 1778-1877. He lived in Adams 1865-1875 and then died in Oswego poor house. A brother Kendrick **DAVENPORT** died in 1881 and the only obit found said "Kent is dead." He lived and died in Adams, NY and married Josephine **PELO/PELOW** in 1880 Houndsfield.

*Karen Patruno
karenpatruno@cox.net*

REEVES, FARMER

If you are researching the **REEVES** family surname with connections to Pillar Point, Brownville, and Watertown, I would like to communicate with you. My grandmother was Vina Lillian **REEVES**, born 1889 in Brownville; she later lived in Watertown. I would like to compare notes with other researchers, and any who might be cousins.

*Jim Farmer
eyelcu@yahoo.com*

TYO, LaCLAIR

I am looking for naturalization papers for my grandfather, James Louis **TYO**, born Oct. 7, 1905 (Canada), He died about 1967. I am looking specifically for any information on his father "John." His mother was Bertha **LaCLAIR TYO**. James lived in Watertown and children's names include: Robert, James, Carl, Ronald, Beverly and Patricia.

*James Tyo
jaytyo@hotmail.com*

HEWITT, INGALS

I am researching Rosannah **HEWITT**. She was born to Lafayette and Maryette **INGALS HEWITT** about 1854 and they lived in Antwerp, Jefferson County, New York. I have Rosannah's siblings as: Emogene, Thomas, Josephine, Ida, Emery, Mary Ann, Jennie and Cevila.

*Gerald Paul
Geepster83@gmail.com*

PUTNAM

I am looking for any information on Abijah **PUTNAM** (1763-1849). He settled in Jefferson County in 1801 from Oneida County. He founded "Port **PUTNAM**" and a ferry to Canada. He later lived in Watertown, Brownville and LeRay. Who was his wife? I've exhausted all avenues of research with no luck. I have extensive info on his descendants but have hit a wall with his wife's name. Any clues or info is appreciated. Abijah was a Colonel in the County Militia until 1808. The names of his children include John W., Polly, Henry, Maria and David. He also lived in Schaghtiocke (Rensselaer County), Rome (Oneida County) and Erie County, Pennsylvania.

*Matthew Putnam
mputnam823@yahoo.com*

BUTTERFIELD

Elijah **BUTTERFIELD** was born Nov. 24, 1792 in Kingsbury, NY. He died Feb. 12, 1827 in Theresa, NY and was buried in Plessis, NY. His children were: Mary Elizabeth (Nov. 28, 1818), Stephen S. (July 5, 1821, Nathaniel (Apr. 4, 1823) and Elijah S. (June 11, 1825). All were born in Jefferson County. I have applied for membership in the DAR and cannot be accepted without proving the ancestor. Elijah served in the 1812 War. If JCNYS has any books or reference materials about any member of the **BUTTERFIELD** family, please advise so that I can purchase them.

*Linda Watts
lindawatts@cableone.net*

COON, COTTER

I am looking for a marriage record for my 3rd great grandparents, George Washington **COON** (Jr.) and Eliza Ann **COTTER**. They were married in Jefferson County (possibly the town of Orleans) around 1830-1840. If anyone has any information on where the records would be stored so I could get a copy, that would be so helpful. Thanks in advance!

*Danielle de Montigny
dmdemontigny@gmail.com*

JCNYGS MATERIALS FOR PURCHASE

Contact: Greg or Tammy Plantz, 21787 Reed Road, Watertown, NY 13601
Or email tplantz1@twcny.rr.com

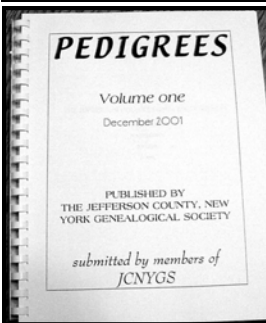
**PEDIGREE BOOK I
&
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Each Book \$20.00 plus
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A collection of pedigrees
Submitted by members
of the JCNYGS
with an every name index
Checks made out to JCNYGS

**JEFFERSON COUNTY
NEW YORK
WILL ABSTRACTS 1830 – 1850**

The Will Book contains will abstracts
dating from 1830 to 1850. The book
contains 194 pages, two maps, and a chart
showing the formation of Jefferson County
Towns. \$15.00 + \$5.00 for postage.
Checks made out to JCNYGS

**A DVD of the Births-
Marriages-Deaths
from *The Watertown
Herald* 1886-1915**
\$25 plus \$5 for
postage
Checks made out to
JCNYGS

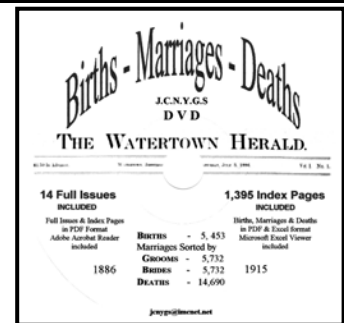


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Newsletters
Are now on
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**Check with
Greg or
Tammy Plantz
(above) for
availability
and hard copy
INFORMERS**



New Marriage Law in Effect

From the *Watertown Daily Times*, September 1937

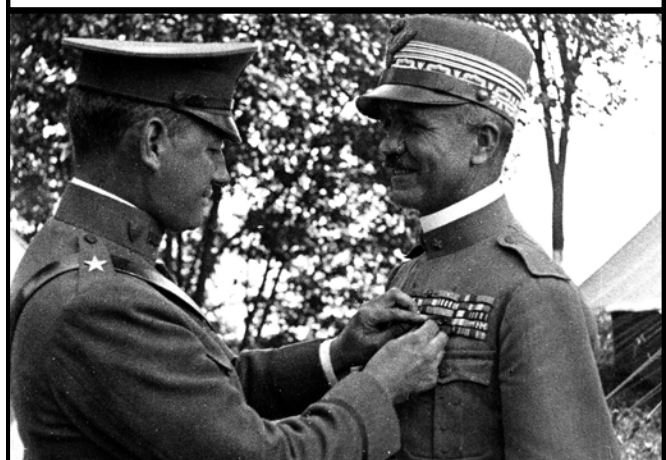
Albany, 27 August—Marriage licenses and certificates have been revised to meet the requirements of a new amendment to the Domestic Relations Law which becomes effective 1 September according to an announcement today by Dr. J. V. DePorte, director of the Division of Vital Statistics of the State Department of Health. The Department has mailed out supplies of the new forms to town and city clerks.

This new amendment provides that a marriage shall not be solemnized within 72 hours from the date and hour of issuance of the marriage license unless otherwise authorized by an order of a court of record. "Beginning last Wednesday, 1 September, town and city clerks will be required to record on each marriage license the day and hour the license is issued and the clergyman or magistrate who performs the marriage ceremony will be required to place the date and hour the marriage is solemnized on the certificate," Dr. DePorte said. "The amendment also provides that a person who shall solemnize a marriage in violation of the section of the law shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction that person shall be punished by a fine of fifty dollars for each offense, and in addition his right to solemnize a marriage shall be suspended for 90 days."

One of Our Newest Members

Welcome to Karen Patruno – one of our newest JCNYGS members. She joins us from Scottsdale, Arizona. She researches the following Jefferson County area surnames: HALEY (Watertown), CONROY (Carthage), HUETTE, PELO, DAVENPORT / DAEVENPORT, DRISCOLL, STOTT, and BOYNTON. If you have possible ancestral connections, e-mail her at karenpatruno@cox.net

An "unidentified" picture from the collections at the 1000 Islands Museum in Clayton (2011)



INFORMER

Jefferson County NY Genealogical Society
(JCNYGS)
P.O. Box 6453
Watertown, NY 13601

NON-PROFIT ORG.
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Or Current Resident

JCNYGS PROGRAMS FOR 2017

Monday, July 10 at 6:00 PM, "Food for Thought" by Hallie Bond, Co-Sponsored and held at the Picnic Pavilion, Sackets Harbor Battlefield Site; optional box lunches. Food-Ways in the Adirondacks and the North Country.

Monday, August 14 at 6:00 PM, "Restoration of Strader, West Martinsburg and Maple Ridge Cemeteries" by Bette Lathan

Monday, September 11 at 6:00 PM, "The Lost Villages Historical Society & Museum", Long Sault, Ontario, by Jim Brownell (Related to the flooding of villages to open up the St. Lawrence Seaway)

Saturday, September 23 from 10 AM to 3 PM, "Giving History A Future", the 3rd Annual History & Genealogy Fair at the Jefferson County Historical Society or "The Paddock Manson"

JCNYGS will host a summertime picnic at Thompson Park in Watertown on Saturday, 26 August beginning at noon. Meat, rolls and tableware provided - bring a dish to pass. RSVP tomclair624@yahoo.com or 315-285-5032 for the latest details.

Note 1: Lectures begin at 6 PM. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints building unless otherwise noted. Come 30 minutes early to get to know other members and share new finds and experiences.

Note 2: Thank you George Inglehart, church liaison, and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints local leadership for the free use of the building for JCNYGS programs.

Directions to LDS Church where we are presently holding our meetings: From Rt. 81, take exit 44 to Rt. 232 towards Watertown. Drive 1.1 miles and take the second left hand turn on to Ives Street Road. Continue straight into the city. The LDS chapel is the second building on the right, across from IHC, as you enter the city limits.

From Watertown, it is on Ives Street, across from IHC. Take Washington Street to Barben Avenue. Turn on to Barben and take it until it ends at a T. Turn left and the LDS will be 300 yards on the left.

Or, from Watertown take Massey Street south, veer right onto South Massey, left on to Ives.

INFORMER

Volume 24, Issue 4

Annual Dues \$18 Individual \$20 Family

October 2017



This 25 May 1914 Depauville Common School class photo was donated to Nan Dixon and the JCNYS by Lou Anne Hager of Goodyear, Arizona. Lou Anne asked that a good home be found for the photo. On the reverse of the photo: A. A. Radley, Teacher. Back row: Nellie Bretch, Hazel Gordener, Miss Morse, Jessie (?) Shaffer, Miss Gillet, Gad H., May Bretche, Margret Bovee, Mr. Radley, Anita Babcock. Front row: Edithe Edmonds, Edna Sternburg, Vera Stodler, Elton Lingenfelter, Blanche Edmonds, Marcus Sternburg, Frances Babcock, Earl Corbin, Mabel Cardeff, Carl Fry. After a scan of the photo was completed, the original photo was donated in-turn to Dean Wilkie, a well-known Depauville Historian.

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INFORMER OCTOBER 2017

Correspondence about dues, memberships, and lost *Informers* should be directed to:
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E-mail: use ONLINE CONTACT PAGE on *Web site:* www.jcnygs.com

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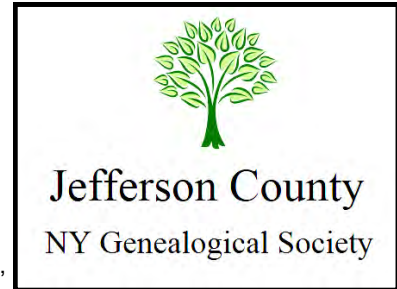
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Letters to the editor use the “contact page” on www.jcnygs.com or: Editor, JCNYS
 P.O. Box 6453
 Watertown, NY 13601

RECLAIM THE RECORDS

Were you aware that the New York State Death Index, 1880 – 1956, was just recently made available on-line, viewable at no cost. Also, were you aware the index has already been indexed and made available on Ancestry.com (a pay site). Likewise, were you aware that *Reclaim The Records* is working to have New York State release the birth indexes (1880 – 1937) and marriage indexes (1880 – 2016) and made available to the public as well. Prior to this, these indexes were only available at a few select libraries across the state—Flower Memorial Library in Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, being one of them; available for those who could visit in person.

“*Reclaim The Records* is a not-for-profit activist group of genealogists, historians, researchers, and journalists. We work to identify important genealogical record sets that are not online anywhere and not broadly available to the public. We then use state Freedom of Information laws to force government agencies and archives to hand over copies of these records to the public, which we then digitize and put online for free use. Other organizations and companies are then free to make transcriptions and searchable databases of our images and data, if they wish. Since our founding in 2015, we have already won the release of tens of millions of records. We upload all the records

acquired to the Internet Archive, as well as other Open Data websites. When government agencies fail to respond to our requests in a timely manner or are unwilling to comply with the law, we take them to court.”

To learn more about *Reclaim The Records*, go to <https://www.reclaimtherecords.org/about/>

PALATINE ROOTS DONATED

Nan Wagner Dixon, one of the original founding members of JCNYS, has donated her book: *Palatine Roots, The 1710 German Settlement in New York As Experienced by Johann Peter Wagner*, to the society.



President Larry accepts the *PALATINE ROOTS* from Nan Dixon

The book sells through the society for \$40.00 (includes shipping), and all proceeds will stay with JCNYS. Thank you, Nan, for donating not only your book to JCNYS, but the subsequent proceeds as well. Your kind and generous gift is greatly appreciated.

Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society

Meeting Minutes, July 10, 2017

Roberta Calhoun-Eagan, Secretary

(Notes for July Minutes submitted by Tom LaClair)

The July 10th meeting of JCNYS was held at the Sackets Harbor Battlefield site where organizers hosted a presentation on the history of Northern New York food through the years. In attendance were Larry and Connie Barone, Jeannie Brennan, Greg and Tammy Plantz, Larry Corbett, Jerry Davis, Tom LaClair, Nan Dixon, Steven and Susan Guy, Joanne Woodward, Kathie Compeau, Jon Marie Pearson, Tracy Robertson and Hallie Bond.

After enjoying an outdoor dinner meal of sandwiches, chips, fruit, cookies, drink and lighthearted conversation at the picnic pavilion, President Corbett opened a short business meeting at 6:35. Tracy motioned and Steven seconded to forgo reviewing the May minutes and referred members to the June *Informer*. There was no formal treasurer's report prepared due to the informal outdoor setting. However little change occurred since June. Steven motioned and Tracy seconded the society to pay \$225.00 to the U. S. Postal Service for our annual bulk mailing permit. Tracy reported on her day trip to Fonda, New York, and Montgomery County's Department of History and Archives and reminded the society that they welcome groups. Steven shared information on a history and genealogy based trip he and Susan went on. We then welcomed Jon Marie (Jo) Pearson to the meeting. Jo has just finished her President's role of the 300-member Mt. Vernon, Virginia, Genealogical Society, and has moved back permanently to the Town of Henderson where she plans to get involved in

local town and county history and genealogy works. Larry concluded talking about cemetery work and the meeting closed at 6:45.

We then re-located to one of the Battlefield site museum buildings where we were taught about the region's culinary and agricultural history in a presentation called "Food for Thought: Food Traditions of the North Country."



Connie Barone introduces Hallie Bond

The lecture started at 7:00 when Sackets Harbor Battle site Manager (and JCNYS member) Connie Barone introduced Hallie Bond, director of the Kelly Adirondack Center of Union College. Hallie showcased photographs, artwork, agricultural data, promotional materials and present-day accounts of hunting and farming that illustrated how Northern New York residents have enjoyed fresh and wild foods over the years. She also described the agricultural challenges settlers and farmers faced and the industrialization of food production.

Hallie spoke of land clearing and cultivating, early game hunting, canning, pickling, maple syrup production, gathering honey, apple and berry picking, cider making, rhubarb products, and all about buckwheat and sourdough bread making. We learned about a typical meal being venison and pancakes—filling for sure!

In conclusion, Hallie provided our group, plus the other members of the public that came for the lecture, samples of homemade breads (yummy!) and we could see and touch various samples of herbs and spices used. The lecture ended about 8:15 with many members purchasing cookbooks written by the speaker herself. It was a great event and opportunity to learn the food ways of our Northern New York ancestors. We thank Connie Barone for inviting us and Roberta Calhoun-Eagan for coordinating the event into our lecture schedule.

From the Watertown Daily Times - 8/23/2017

GROUPS HOST FOOD TRADITIONS TALK



Sackets Harbor Battlefield State Historic Site and Jefferson County Genealogical Society hosted Hallie Bond, former Adirondack Museum curator, for 'Food for Thought: Food Traditions of the North Country' on July 10. Ms. Bond relayed stories on hunting and gathering food in the Adirondacks between the Civil War and World War II. Pictured, from left, are Tracy Robertson, Traditional Arts in Upstate New York board member and member of genealogical society; Hill Breit, TAUNY director; and Hallie Bond.

Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society

Meeting Minutes, August 14, 2017
Roberta Calhoun-Eagan, Secretary

The monthly meeting of the JCNYS was held on August 14. Our 17 attendees included Tom and Janine LaClair, George Inglehart, Larry Corbett, Jerry Davis, Bette and Jim Lathan, Anne Davis, Parks Honeywell, Kathie Compeau, Joanne Woodward, Tina Thorp, Tracy Negus Robertson, Greg and Tammy Plantz, and Jim and Roberta Calhoun-Eagan.

Minutes from the July meeting held at Sackets Harbor will be published in the October Informer. Per Treasurer Greg Plantz, we have \$4,441.71 in checking, and currently \$2,431.03 in our CD. He added that we will need to purchase more checks shortly. Tom made a motion to support this plan after Greg reviews materials to make sure our heading is still accurate; Tracy Negus-Robertson seconded, and the motion carried.

Tom reported that he has finished collecting articles for the October Informer, and noted we are all set for this quarter. Jerry Davis indicated he will start work on it this week. Tom relayed that there has been interest expressed in giving Jerry more help.

Under New Business, Larry Corbett emphasized that Tom has done a phenomenal job to raise money from sponsors for the 3rd Annual History and Genealogy Fair that will be held Saturday, September 23.

Tom discussed Membership, proposing that we offer new members who join both JCNYS and the Jefferson County Historical Society simultaneously a small discount of no more than \$6. Anne Davis made the motion to allow this, and Tracy seconded. During discussion Tom stressed that this will apply to new members only. The motion carried.

Tom announced that the picnic was very widely publicized, but he had only received one RSVP, so suggested that we cancel the event this year; all agreed.

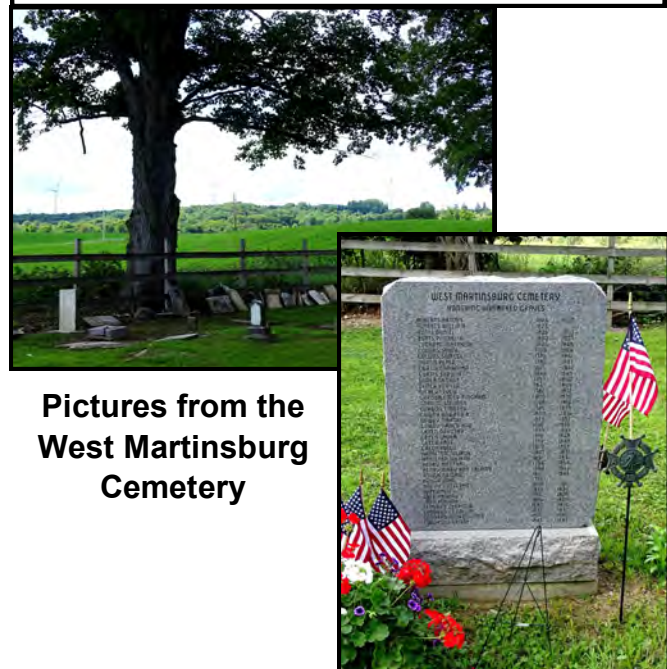
As we normally hold an election in September; Larry requested three volunteers for a nominations committee. Parks Honeywell asked if we could change the date of the meeting to allow him to attend more regularly, and Tom replied that our bylaws do not specify a particular day of the month, only that we meet ten times per year. Tracy was appointed to recruit nominees. She then reported that the Flower Library web site has a link to the NY Vital Records Index that is now fully searchable online. Along these lines, Larry announced that DNA databases now number in the millions, representing a phenomenal improvement. At this juncture Kathleen Compeau moved we adjourn

the meeting, and the motion carried.

Bette Lathan next updated us on her leadership since 2011 in restoring numerous Martinsburg cemeteries including Hogsback, Ashback, Strader, West Martinsburg, and Maple Ridge, sharing stories about each and about the people buried there. Describing close friend Anne Davis as her “inspiration” and her husband Jim Lathan as instrumental with the heavy lifting (“perspiration”), Bette offered details about those grounds that reflect a melding of cultures across the years. Bette has drawn on grant money available from windmill funds, the generous support of the town, local volunteers and descendants of early settlers as well as various boy scout troops to bring these projects so near to completion.



Roberta Calhoun-Eagan sits with Bette Lathan and her husband Jim (“perspiration”). In the back is Anne Davis (“Inspiration”).



Pictures from the
West Martinsburg
Cemetery

Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society

Meeting Minutes, September 11, 2017
 Roberta Calhoun-Eagan, Secretary

Present: Larry Corbett, Tom LaClair, George Inglehart, Nan Dixon, Jerry Davis, Steve & Susan Guy, William & Faye Simmons, Tammy & Greg Plantz, Dave & Linda Twichell, Leigh Charron, Jeannie Brennan, Connie & Larry Barone, Roberta & Jim Eagan.

President Larry Corbett called the meeting to order at 6 pm and announced that the minutes of the previous meeting would appear in the October issue of the Informer. The treasurer's report was read by Tammy Plantz; we have \$5,272.71 in our checking account. Jerry Davis moved that we accept this report and Steve Guy seconded. The motion carried. Under Old Business, the election of officers was held. Nan Dixon nominated Tom LaClair as President and Jerry seconded. There were no other nominees and the motion carried. Nan nominated Larry Corbett as Vice President and Faye Simmons seconded. As George Inglehart had declined an offer to run, this motion carried. Susan Guy nominated Greg Plantz for treasurer and Jerry seconded. The motion carried. The position of Secretary is vacant at this time. Nan moved that we close the election and Faye seconded. The motion carried.

Also under Old Business, Tom reminded the group that the History & Genealogy Fair will be held on September 23. There will be Silent Auction gifts donated by Ancestry, 23 & Me, and Find My Past.

Under New Business Nan presented a signed copy of her book, *Palatine Roots*, to tonight's speaker Jim Brownell. Tom selected December 10 as the date for the Christmas party. Jim Eagan moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:19 pm and the motion carried.



Nan presents speaker Jim Brownell with her book

An introductory thumbnail sketch of our speaker Jim Brownell's accomplishments highlighted an exemplary career in education after which he entered the world of Canadian politics. His life experiences never really



Jim Brownell presents his program

took him far from the home of his youth. Not quite a teenager when the construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway began, the special places Jim cherished as a child were either moved or razed by fire to make way for progress, and the hills leveled to fill valleys where streams once meandered. (More earth and rock were moved in the building of the Seaway than during the construction of the Suez Canal).

Mr. Brownell told of the citizens of six villages, three hamlets and three farm islands along the St. Lawrence in Ontario and how the building of the seaway scarred their lives. He then told of the birth and life of the Lost Villages Historical Society and Museum that he was instrumental, with Fran LaFlamme, in building. The video *No Road Home* graphically documented memories of life along the St. Lawrence prior to Inundation Day. The film told in their own words what village residents lost and endured. Since the 1950s,



Souvenir spoon from Inundation Day Brought in by Linda Twichell

what was once a peaceful valley containing a river with rushing rapids has become a placid lake whose depth is controlled by large dams.

After the video, Mr. Brownell told the story lodged in his own memory. He told us of several of the 6500 individuals displaced by the Seaway, many of whom were his close acquaintances or friends. One could not but feel empathy as Mr. Brownell told of the day his best friend, then a preteen, wept as they watched the boy's ancestral home swallowed by flames and collapse. Of special interest were the 18 cemeteries either displaced or flooded and the surviving headstones removed to St. Lawrence Valley cemetery. Most of all, Jim's story showed how a warm and vital community of volunteers grew from a painful chapter in Canadian history.

CEREMONY HONORS PATRIOTS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

By Elaine M. Avallone

As published in the Watertown Daily Times – Sunday,
30 July 2017

(Photos by Roberta Calhoun-Eagan)

Small wreaths and American flags now mark the graves of 11 Revolutionary War patriots in the Champion Hillside Cemetery.

The Thousand Islands Chapter Empire State Society, Sons of the American Revolution and the 4 River Valleys Historical Society honored 11 Revolutionary War soldiers buried in the rural cemetery on County



Three SAR Presidents, L-R: Jim Eagan, NY State; Bruce Coyne, 1000 Islands; and Parks Honeywell, 1000 Islands Founding President. All are JCNYS members.

Route 47 Saturday as part of the Joint Patriot Project. Dressed in uniforms of the era, members of Sons of the American Revolution color guard opened the ceremony, which was attended by about 75.

Town of Champion supervisor Bruce R. Ferguson led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the singing of the national anthem by Carmelita Ventiquattro.

Dressed in his traditional robes, the Rev. Canon Samuel P. Lundy gave the invocation. He said his robes would be similar to those worn in 1770s but fashioned preaching tabs from a handkerchief to wear around his collar to complete the historic outfit.

Rev. Canon Lundy said that at the start of the Revolutionary War, the Colonists would have belonged to the Anglican Church; however, after their independence was won, it would have been thought to be unpatriotic to belong to the church of England and many shifted to the Presbyterian movement. He also

noted many of the Anglican priests moved to Canada following the war. He read a prayer from the 1662 Book of Common Prayer, which would have been still in use at the time of war for independence.

The clergyman said prior to the ceremony that it was an honor for him to participate since several generations of his family were interned in the cemetery. "As a former service member, it is an honor to honor those who served in wars before me," he added.

In his remarks, Empire State Society of the American Revolution President James Eagan read the lyrics of the Johnny Cash song "Ragged Old Flag" written in 1974, which tells of the pride in the Stars and Stripes despite her battle scars. "Veterans have served under different flags," said Mr. Eagan. "These lyrics fit as much today as they did in 1974."



Anne Davis, JCNYS Member, and past President of the Daughters of the American Revolution LeRay de Chaumont Chapter, and Lynn Thornton lay a wreath honoring Revolutionary War Patriots.

Anne Davis of the Daughters of the American Revolution LeRay de Chaumont Chapter and Steven Guy, vice president of the Thousand Islands Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, laid wreaths at the grave of Silas Rockwell, which was in the center of the group of gravesites.

Descendants of the patriots and others then read biographies of the soldiers and laid small wreaths, donated by the town of Champion, on each grave. Town historian Lynn Thornton provided brief biographies on the patriots which the presenter expanded upon after researching their subjects.

"I was thrilled at how they took the basic information and developed it," said Mrs. Thornton noting she made her files at the historian's office available for research. "Some commented, as they began their talk, that they had done theirs a little differently, and that was true. Several mentioned the period of time that the soldiers were able to sign up for, in some cases,

(Continued on Page 7)

(Continued From Page 6)
 three-month stints, and in one case, a week here, two days there; all pointing out how different the army was then. One speaker referred to the fact that this was why George Washington never really knew how many troops he commanded. Many other interesting facts were brought to the fore: the fact that in some cases land was given as a perk of serving in the army, how many times many of these families moved, the size of families in that time and the high mortality of young children as well as wives, the number of soldiers that embraced a religious calling after the war, and those that served in later conflicts. All told, I could never have expected such a response from the people who volunteered for this program; they were awe inspiring."

Through a connection with Donna Hansen, former editor and currently a columnist for the Carthage Republican Tribune, an extra soldier - Jerahmeel Cummings - was added since the project began.

"I wouldn't be surprised if there were not more," said Mrs. Hansen.

Mrs. Hansen as did some of the others touched on the fact that these patriots made us Americans - "a people ruled by the people. A government which has become a model for the world based on human freedoms."

Looking skyward, Betty Carroll concluded her presentation, "If you're listening up there Abel Crandall - Thank you for your service."

The experience inspired some to dig into their own family history.

Brian Peck presented the biography of Jonathan Loomis, who was related through marriage. Mr. Peck in turn researched one of his relatives, Joseph Peck and decided to join the local Sons of the American Revolution chapter.

Michael Harris said he learned a great deal about his great-great-great-great-grandfather Asa Harris.

"I spent a lot of time at Flower Memorial Library," said Mr. Harris. He said his father still owns some of the original Harris plot on Bach Road which was granted to the Revolutionary War patriot, who had built a hotel on what is now Route 126 near where the radio tower now stands.

Also honored during the ceremony were Joseph Crook, Stephen Johnson, John McNitt, Jonathan Carter, Richard Waite, Solomon Calkins.

In his closing remarks, Parks Honeywell, past president and registrar for the local Sons of the American Revolution chapter, read the poem "Dear Ancestor" by Walter Butler Palmer which speaks of visiting the graves of ancestors.



Jim Eagan, President of the New York State SAR, plays TAPS

The Rev. Tracy Cook, pastor of several area Methodist churches, gave the benediction relating how the Revolutionary War was not only a political revolution but of social and cultural aspects which allows our freedoms today.

"Unlike Canon Lundy, I am not dressed in a traditional outfit because at the time I would not have been allowed to be a pastor," she said. She concluded with the reading of Ralph Waldo Emerson's "Concord Hymn."

Using muskets, the color guard shot a salute before retiring the Betsy Ross and modern-day American flags.



Bruce Coyne, President of the 1000 Island Chapter of the SAR



Lynn Thornton, JCNYS member and Town of Champion Historian, and Elaine Clarke, make a presentation.

GRAVES OF WAR OF 1812 VETERANS MARKED IN 1914

As published in the Watertown Daily Times, Monday
Afternoon, 23 February 1914

Transcribed by Beverly Sterling-Affinati
JCNYS Member and Chairman National,
Membership Certificates & Old Fort Niagara
State of New York Society President (2015 - 2018)
National Society United States Daughters of 1812

Will Mark Graves of Veterans of 1812 – 149 Known to have been buried in Jefferson County Cemeteries – Frontier Chapter's work – Daughters of 1812 Will Purchase Bronze Markers for All the Graves – First Will be Placed Next Summer or Autumn.

Northern Frontier Chapter, Daughters of the War of 1812, has well underway a campaign to place markers on the graves in Jefferson County of the veterans of the second war with Great Britain. The chapter through Miss H. Agnes Horton of Chaumont, has made an exhaustive investigation to obtain lists of all the graves in the numerous cemeteries, and at the present time is preparing to place 149 markers.

The chapter hopes to be able to place the first markers some time during the coming summer or autumn. The work will be done gradually until every grave is marked. Appropriate services will be held in various cemeteries when the markers are placed, and it is hoped that descendants of the veterans will be in attendance to participate in the services. There are graves of 15 veterans in the cemeteries at Sackets Harbor, part in the military cemetery and others in the village cemeteries. It is probable that the first of the markers will be placed in these cemeteries with fitting ceremonies.

The work of bringing together the names of the veterans has entailed a great amount of work on the part of Miss Horton and other members of the chapter. It has been the purpose of the chapter to carry it through to completion while sons and daughters and other near relatives of the actual participants of the war still live, in order that they may contribute their help and establishing definitely the exact location of graves. Before the markers are placed the chapter will forward the names to Mrs. F. D. Callan of Ilion, chairman of the grave marking committee of the New York State Daughters of 1812. She will verify all the names through the war department records at Washington, and this verification is necessary before the markers are placed.

The markers will be made by the M. D. Jones Company of Boston, and will be of bronze. Upon each will be not only the name of the veteran, but the emblem of the organization of the Daughters of 1812, a star upon an anchor. The chapter pays the expense of purchasing the markers unless some descendent

has contributed toward it.

Northern Frontier chapter solicits information regarding the graves of any veterans of the 1812 war whose names do not appear in the list below and it will also be grateful for any corrections to the list as given, which may be made by near relatives. The list contains the names of some veterans who originally resided in the county, but who are buried in cemeteries outside the county, and the chapter may mark these also.

The list is compiled as follows:

A

Jasper Avery, Brookside
Rev. Lyman Ackerman, Pillar Point
Henry Adams, Dexter
Luman Arms, Adams Centre
Ebenezer Allen (Major), Hounsfield
Asa Ackerman, Pillar Point
Samuel Adams, Plessis

B

Leonard Baldwin, Pillar Point
Isaiah Bateman, Pierrepont Manor
Samuel Brown, Rodman
Walter Brown, Lorraine
Alton Brown, Lorraine
Uriel Burlingame, Pillar Point
Job Butts, Sackets Harbor
Thomas Bell, Henderson
Sinesia Ball, Theresa
Jacob Buell, Theresa
Orrin Barnes, Plessis
Michael Bander, Theresa
Jonathan Boynton, Rodman
Moses Barrett, Henderson

C.

Isaac Cornwell, Theresa
William Crandall, Theresa
Phillip Conway, Wilna
Henry Colton, between Adams Centre and Sackets
Joshua Clark, Green Settlement
Elisha Camp (Captain), Sackets Harbor
Zenas Carev, Chaumont
Perley Cory, Whiteville
Harvey Cleveland, Hounsfield
Daniel Caulkins, Lorraine
Asa Carpenter, Lorraine
Isaac Corse, Plessis
Ira Cooper, Adams
----- Churchill, Brookside

D.

Alanson Doolittle, Theresa
Aaron Dresser, Theresa
Zimri Danley, Point Peninsula
Danford Doty, Adams State Road cemetery
William Daroley, Natural Bridge

E.

John Eaton, Theresa

F.

Jacob Fry, Three Mile Bay (Continued on Page 9)

(Continued From Page 8)
Henry Felt, Green Settlement
Jason Fairbanks (Lieut.), Brookside
John Ferguson, Brookside
William Francis, Sackets Harbor
Augustus Ford U.S.N., Sackets Harbor

G.
Sylvester Goldthraite, Champion
John Gotham, Gotham Street cemetery
Christopher Greenleaf (Dr.), LaFargeville
Captain Abram Graves, Massey Street Road
Isaac Green, Theresa
Ethan Green, Green Settlement
Jonathan Green, Green Settlement
Edward Green, Green Settlement
Paul Green, Green Settlement
Joseph Green, Green Settlement
Daniel Guile, Three Mile Bay
Stephen Gifford (Capt.), Brookside
Joseph Ladd Green, Lowville

H.
Roland Hall (Capt.), Champion
Timothy Hungerford, Brookside
William Horr, Brownville
Hosea Hough, Theresa
Joshua Hurlburt, Wilna Centre
Jacob Hartman, Plessis
Samuel Hoyt, Plessis
Richmond Howland, Rutland
Benj. S. Holcomb, Cape Vincent

J.
Enoch Cornwall Johnson, Copenhagen
Philo S. Johnson, Aide de Camp, Gen. Brown, Brookside
Ira Jenks, Copenhagen
Richard Lawrence, Arsenal Street cemetery

K.
George Killmore, Fleming
George G. T. Klock, Brookside
Ransom Kellogg, Sulphur Springs

Payson Kimball (Capt.), Brookside
William Knowx (Lieut.), -----

L.
Stephen Lewis, Lake cemetery, Carthage
William Lord (Col.), Brownville
Isaac Luthur, Dexter
Isaac Lampear, Lorraine
Richard Lawrence, Arsenal Street
----- Churchill, Brookside

M.
Henry Metcalf, Sackets Harbor
Martin L. Morseman, Sackets Harbor
Samuel McNett, Sackets Harbor
John McDowell, Sackets Harbor
Hart Massey, Arsenal Street cemetery, Watertown
Abram Morrow, Theresa
Jesse Maxon, Green Settlement
Edmond Mantle, Brookside

O.
Benjamin Oatman, State Road cemetery, Adams

P.
James Patterson, -----
Zebulon Palmer, Sulphur Springs
Nathaniel Parker, Theresa
Cyrus Parker, Theresa
Zalmon Pool, Theresa
Nathaniel Pierce (Sergeant), Rutland
Preserved Pierce, Champion
Daniel Petitt, Depauville
Daniel Phelps, Morris Tract, Lyme
Chesterfield Parsons, Lyme

R.
John Rappole, Theresa
John Rivers, Theresa
Peter Remore, Brownville
Joseph Ryder, Point Salubrious
Luther Reed, Pillar Point
Daniel Read, Sackets Harbor
Joel Rice (Lieut.), West Carthage cemetery

S.
Abel Scott, Brookside
Horatio Sprague, Pillar Point
Rodney Simons, Theresa
Loren Soper, Theresa
Levi Sterne, Theresa
George Snell, Theresa
Job Spencer, Green Settlement
Oliver Stone, Green Settlement
Roswell Saunders, Green Settlement
Henry Scott, Brookside
Frederick Snell, Plessis
William Storm, Plessis
Steppen Seaman, Plessis
Nathan Strong, Rodman

T.
Ira Thomas, Thomas Settlement
Joel Thomas, Green Settlement
John Trowbridge, Green Settlement
Samuel Tabor, Lorraine
N. Thompson, Theresa
H. N. Tracy, Sackets Harbor
Stephen Torry, Sackets Harbor
John Thumb, Sackets Harbor
Gardner Towne, Brookside
Amos Tolles, Brookside
Amos Tarbell, Rodman

V.
William Vaughn (Com.), Sackets Harbor
Richard Vanderburgh, Plessis
Minard Van Dusen, Plessis
Cornelius Van Wormer, Chauffy Corners

W.
Harry Ward, Sackets Harbor
Thomas Ward, Leray
Benjamin Woodruth, Brookside
Ephraim Wright, Adams State Road
George Williamson, Adams Centre
Alanson West, Theresa
Amos Wheeler, Theresa
William Waful, Depauville
Matthew Wright, Sackets Harbor
Martin Walter, Plessis
Alexander Warner, Rutland

HE WAS GLAD I HAD RESURRECTED HIM

This modern genealogical story was passed on to us by JCNYS Member Parks Honeywell, a St. Lawrence River area summer resident. "Thanks for all you did to get our son-in-law into the Clearwater Chapter Sons of the American Revolution. He seems to be very happy about it and is now interested in genealogy and families. Recently his name was entered in Family Search and listed him as deceased. To say the least he was shocked and didn't know who had put him in and then killed him off. He asked me to

see what could be done. I changed it from deceased to living and received a prompt reply that I could not do that. They told me that I must submit a claim that I could prove he was living. So, I told them he was alive and well and living in Clearwater, Florida, with his wife, Mary Jeanne Kitchen Wilson. He had eaten dinner with us the night before and that he was our son-in-law. About five days later they sent me an e-mail stating that they accepted my statement and altered the record to read living. He sent me an e-mail stating that he was glad I had resurrected him. Now Family Search believes he is my family and I have access to all his lineage. Thanks again, Mary Kitchen, 8 July 2017."

My Civil War Grandfathers

Part III of IV: Private Charles Frederick Koethe
Company L, 9th Illinois Cavalry

By JCNYS Member
Colonel Steven C. Guy (US Army, Retired)

Charles Frederick Koethe (1834-1905) was one of four children born to Johann Heinrich Friedrich Köthe and his cousin Johanna Ernestina Sophia Köthe. Charles was born on June 26, 1834 in Grossfurra, a small village in the Principality of Schwarzburg-Sondershausen. Grossfurra is located in present day Thuringia, Germany just south of the Harz Mountains and west of Weimar and Leipzig. Charles Frederick's birth name was Karl Friedrich Köthe, but he anglicized his name shortly after arriving in America because it was unpronounceable to most English-speaking people. He immigrated to America in 1855 and initially settled in Illinois. After staying there only a short time, he migrated west to La Crosse, Wisconsin where a number of cousins had settled earlier. By early 1857, he had moved to Hokah, a small town in Houston County, Minnesota Territory, located across the Mississippi River from La Crosse, Wisconsin. On August 4, 1857, Charles married Mary Albertina "Mena" Riebe (1841-1870), the daughter of Joachim Riebe, a Prussian who had also settled in the Minnesota Territory. Between 1857-1870, Charles worked as a carpenter while living in Hokah and served in the Civil War. Charles' Civil War service will be described later in this article. He and Mena had five children: Edward John (1860-1935), Laura (1862-), Louisa (1864-1936), Anna (1866-), and Frederick William (1868-1930). Mena died on July 2, 1870 during the birth of their sixth child, Albertina Marie Koethe (1870-1928).



Finding himself a widower with six children, Charles began searching for another wife. Within seven months of the death of Mena, Charles had relocated his family to Wilton Township, Waseca County, Minnesota. It was in Waseca that Charles met and wed his second wife, the widow Anna Christina (Kamp) Behlke (1831-1918). Anna Kamp was of Prussian origin and had married her first husband, August Wilhelm Behlke, while still living in Prussia. After immigrating to America about 1853, she and August settled in Chicago, Cook County, Illinois. Several years later, the Behlke's migrated to Shields in Marquette County, Wisconsin and were living there in 1860. On November 18, 1862, August enlisted in

Company A, Wisconsin 34th Infantry Regiment, but was never mustered in as a soldier due to the fact that he was found to be medically unfit for military duty. In March 1870, August died of typhoid fever, leaving Anna a widow with nine children. These children were Auguste (1855-), Frederick (1857-), Herman A. (1858-), Julius (1860-), Gustav (1862-), Louis (1864-), Wilhelmina "Mene" (1867-), and Samuel (1869-1945). By the early 20th century, the Behlke surname had morphed into "Bailkey" for many of these children. On February 23, 1871, Charles and Anna were wed in Waseca, Minnesota and found themselves with a total of fifteen children.



Charles Koethe and
Anna Kamp Belke
Wed 1871

During the mid-1850's when Charles immigrated from Schwarzburg-Sondershausen to America, several of his immediate family members and cousins also immigrated from Grossfurra about the same time. Charles's younger brother, Ludwig Karl Julius "Julius" Koethe (1845-1913), immigrated to Dane County, Wisconsin in 1855. After serving in the Civil War as a Private with Co. E, 38th Wisconsin Infantry, Julius migrated to La Crosse County, Wisconsin and married Agnes Rose Bader (1849-1925). From there, he migrated to Houston County, Minnesota; Merrick County, Nebraska; Clark County, Washington; and finally to Multnomah County, Oregon where he died in Portland on October 11, 1913. Charles' elder sister, Johanna Wilhelmine Luise "Louisa" Koethe (1831-1909) immigrated to Illinois where she married German immigrant J. J. Friedemann "Fred" Klein (1831-1899). They later migrated to Jasper County, Iowa where Louisa died in 1909. Charles' uncle, Johann Friedrich Christoph "John" Koethe, had also immigrated from Grossfurra and settled around La Crosse, Wisconsin on the Mississippi River. He was accompanied by his wife and four sons: Oscar, William, Gunther, and Louis. Early in the War, Johann Friedrich Gunther "Gunther" Koethe (1844-1908) and Heinrich Ludwig Christian "Louis" Koethe (1841-1908) enlisted in Co. H, 2nd Wisconsin Cavalry. They mustered out in 1865 after the fighting had ended. Wilhelm Heinrich Oskar "Oscar" Koethe (1836-1884) and Heinrich Wilhelm Karl "William" Koethe (1839-1909) enlisted in the Union Army late in the War with Charles Frederick Koethe. Prior to enlistment, Charles, Oscar, and William Koethe had all been living in Hokah, Houston County, Minnesota.

(Continued On Page 11)

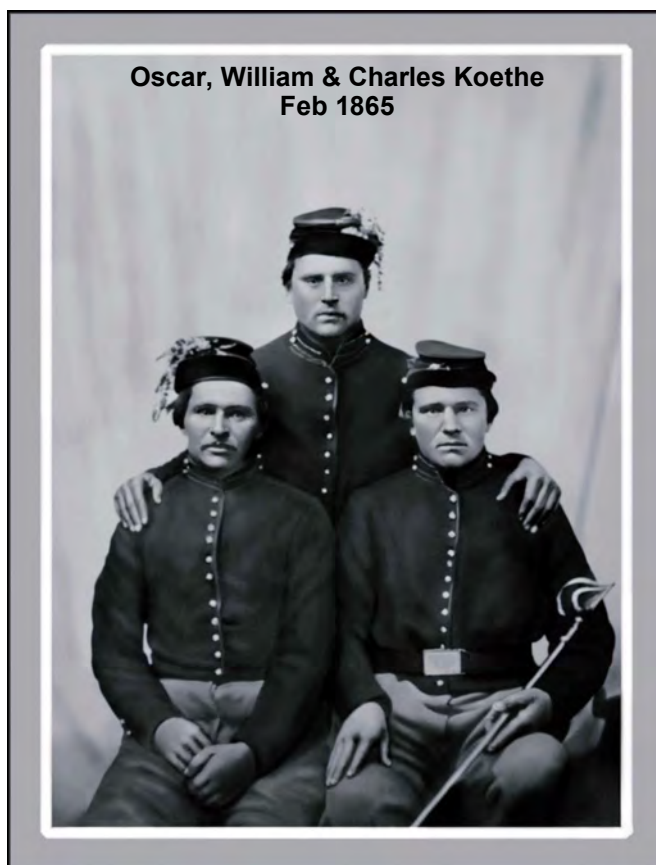
(Continued From Page 10)

While still married to first wife Mary Albertina "Mene" Riebe, Charles Koethe and his German cousins, Oscar and William Koethe, traveled from Hokah, Minnesota to Chicago, Illinois for the purpose of joining the Union Army. Charles' enlistment application describes him as 5' 5" in height with blue eyes, light hair, and a light complexion. On February 24, 1865, Charles and his two cousins formally enlisted in Co. L, 9th Illinois Cavalry. A photograph was taken in Chicago to memorialize this day. Shortly thereafter, the three Koethe men were transported by rail to Eastport, Mississippi where they arrived on March 9, 1865.

During the last few months of the war, the 9th Illinois Cavalry was not engaged in any battles or skirmishes. The regiment performed duty at Eastport, Mississippi and at Huntsville, Florence, and Gravelly Springs, Alabama until mid-June. On June 23, the regiment moved to Iuka, Mississippi and later to Decatur, Alabama on July 4. During this time period, the soldiers of the Ninth were required to hand over their horses and Spencer carbines to soldiers of General Croxton's division who had been selected to "go on a grand raid into the center of the Confederacy." By mid-July, the Ninth was refitted with new horses, Spencer carbines, and other necessary equipment. On July 19, 1865, the regiment marched through Tusculum on their way to Montgomery, Alabama, the first capital of the Confederacy. Upon arriving in Montgomery, soldiers of the regiment were surprised to find that it appeared "almost like a deserted city." The 9th Illinois Cavalry was to remain in Montgomery until August 14.

On August 2, 1865, several months following the end of the Civil War, Charles Koethe is listed on his company's muster rolls as having deserted while his company was camped at Montgomery, Alabama. Charles' service record is very specific regarding the items that he took with him. These items were "one government mule, one Spencer carbine, one carbine sling and swivel, one carbine cartridge box, one bridle, one curry comb, one halter and strap, one horse brush, one nose bag, one saddle pad, one saddle blanket, one saddle, and one pair spurs and straps." According to Charles Koethe's pension application, he had been sick for several weeks in June and July, but never transferred to the Invalid Corps. Frustrated with his lack of improvement and failure to obtain a furlough for the purpose of recovering, Charles stated in a pension affidavit that he had decided to return home to Minnesota. Pension records indicate that he was laid up in bed for a couple of months following his return to Hokah before recovering his health. Since the War had ended several months earlier and twice as many men had died from sickness and disease than battlefield deaths, the fact that Charles departed camp without a formal discharge for the purpose of recovering his health at home probably saved his life.

Charles Koethe's "desertion" was later changed to "Honorably Discharged" on August 2, 1865 per a War Department Order dated January 5, 1893. This order stated "The charge of desertion of August 2, 1865 against this man is removed and he is discharged to date August 2, 1865, under the provisions of the act of Congress, approved March 2, 1889. Discharge certificate furnished by War Department January 5, 1893." Charles' cousins, Oscar and William Koethe, were mustered out of the 9th Illinois Cavalry at Selma, Alabama on October 31, 1865.



Following the Civil War and his return to Minnesota, Charles' wife died during childbirth and he was remarried to Anna (Kamp) Behlke in 1871. While living in Waseca County with his new wife Anna, the Koethe family added two more children to their already large family. These children were Emma Emilie (1872-1950) and my great grandfather, Aaron Carl Koethe (1875-1929). In 1878, Charles moved his family from Woodville Township in Waseca County to Montevideo in Chippewa County, Minnesota. According to the 1890 Veterans Schedule, Charles had returned to Waseca County before finally moving to Faribault, Rice County, Minnesota in 1891. Charles Koethe died at his home of uremia in his 71st year. Services were held at his house and at the German Methodist Episcopal Church. He was laid to rest at Maple Lawn Cemetery in Faribault.

In 2013, while conducting genealogical research in
(Continued On Page 12)

(Continued From Page 11)



Old - Charles Koethe Headstone - New

Faribault, I discovered the badly deteriorated Civil War headstone of Charles Koethe. I applied to the Veteran's Administration for a new headstone and it now sits in Maple Lawn Cemetery.

Endnotes

Birth Record, Karl Friedrich Koethe, St. Bonifatius Church, Book of Births #6 (1817-1838), Grossfurra, Thuringia, Germany.

Personal communication with Elisabeth Maude (Koethe) Stemp.

Obituary, *Faribault Republican*, March 1, 1905, page 3, column 6.

Minnesota, Territorial and State Census. October 15, 1857. Township 104, Houston County, Minnesota Territory. Household of Joseph Riebe. Minnesota Historical Society. Minnesota State Population Census Schedules, 1865-1905, St. Paul, MN, USA.

Marriage Record of Charles Koethe and Albertina Riebe, Marriage and Death Records, Hokah, Houston County, Minnesota, FHL Microfilm #1316885.

Minnesota, Territorial and State Census. October 15, 1857. Township 104, Houston County, Minnesota Territory. Household of Joseph Riebe. Minnesota Historical Society. Minnesota State Population Census Schedules, 1865-1905, St. Paul, MN, USA.

1870 U.S. census, Hokah, Houston, Minnesota; Roll: T132_6; Page: 1092; Image: 211; FHL Film: 830426.

Death Certificate, Albertina Koethe, Houston County, Minnesota, Death Record Book A, page 15, line 1.

U.S. Civil War Pension File Number 595332, NARA, Washington, D.C.

Minnesota, Marriages Index, 1849-1950. Online publication- Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011. Original data - "Minnesota Marriages, 1849-1950." Index. FamilySearch, Salt Lake City, Utah, 2009, 2010. Index entries derived from digital copies of original and compiled records.

U.S. Civil War Pension File Number 595332, NARA, Washington, D.C.

Obituary, Anna Koethe, *Faribault Weekly Journal*, May 29, 1918, page 8, column 2.

1860 U.S. census, Shields, Marquette, Wisconsin;

Roll:; Page: 181; Image: 185. Household of August Behlke. U.S. Civil War Pension File Number 595332, NARA, Washington, D.C.

U.S. Federal Census Mortality Schedules, 1850-1885. St. Mary, Waseca, Minnesota, USA, August Behlke. Death Date: March 1870, Cause of Death: Typhoid Fever. Line 8.

1870 U.S. census, St. Mary, Waseca, Minnesota; Roll: M593.

Minnesota, Marriages Index, 1849-1950. Online publication- Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011. Original data - "Minnesota Marriages, 1849-1950." Index. FamilySearch, Salt Lake City, Utah, 2009, 2010. Index entries derived from digital copies of original and compiled records.

1900 U.S. census, Pollock, Clark, Washington; Household of Julius Koethe; Roll: T623_1742; Page: 7A, Enumeration District: 30; FHL microfilm: 1241742.

Roster of Wisconsin Volunteers, War of the Rebellion, 1861-1865, page 644.

La Crosse County (Wisconsin) Marriage Book 1, page 158. La Crosse County (Wisconsin) Courthouse.

Death Certificate, Julius Koethe. Portland, Oregon, Bureau of Vital Statistics.

Obituary, J. J. Friedemann Klein. *The Newton Record*, Jasper County, Iowa. November 16, 1899.

Find A Grave memorial #47656838. Wilhelm Heinrich Oskar "Oscar" Koethe.

Find A Grave memorial #78725130. William C. Koethe U.S., Civil War Draft Registration Records, 1863-1865. NARA. Consolidated Lists of Civil War Draft Registration Records, Record Group: 110, Records of the Provost Marshal General's Bureau.

Illinois State Archives, Illinois Civil War Detail Report re: Charles Koethe, Oscar Koethe, and William Koethe. www.ilsos.gov/isaveterans/civilMusterSearch.do?key=143200.

Photograph courtesy of Hayla (Kelley) Fitzgerald, Medford, Oregon.

History of the Ninth Regiment Illinois Cavalry Volunteers, edited by Edward A. Davenport, Chicago, 1888, pp. 173-179, 346.

CMSR- Charles Koethe, Co. L, 9 Illinois Cavalry. U.S. Civil War Pension File Number 595332, NARA, Washington, D.C.

History of the Ninth Regiment Illinois Cavalry Volunteers, edited by Edward A. Davenport, Chicago, 1888, pp. 173-179, 346.

Obituary, Mrs. Edward Roth, *Faribault Daily News*, November 14, 1950, page 12, column 2.

Obituary, Dr. Aaron Koethe, *Faribault Daily News*, February 12, 1929, page 8, column 7.

U.S. Civil War Pension File Number 595332, NARA, Washington, D.C.

1890 Veterans Schedules, Waseca, Waseca, Minnesota; Roll: 22; Page 1; Enumeration District: 357.

Obituary, Charles Koethe, *Faribault Republican*, March 1, 1905, page 3, column 6.

Photo courtesy of Steven C. Guy. Old headstone of Private Charles Koethe, Maple Lawn Cemetery, Faribault, Rice County, Minnesota.

Photo courtesy of Steven C. Guy. New headstone of Private Charles Koethe, Maple Lawn Cemetery, Faribault, Rice County, Minnesota.

ASK AUNTY JEFF



By JCNYS Member Nancy "Nan" Dixon

Aunty Jeff has taken her own advice and has written a memoir before she forgets about what happened in the olden days. A nephew, on the occasion of his father's funeral, asked "what the farm was like back then". She had made several attempts, but something always seemed more important, and she put the attempts in notebooks to finish later. Her brother's death and his son's request was a double shock. She is the last of her generation, and there is no one older to refer to. If it was to be done, she must do it now.

She was surprised at what was available right at hand. What better place to start than with the deed to the land. A copy was to be had for the asking from the farm's current owner. She didn't even have to make a journey to the County Clerk's office for it. Then there was a photo of the original family members who purchased the land, a find from one of her earlier attempts at doing a memoir. A nearly undecipherable 1855 county map located the land, and someone had clarified the location by enlarging the map with the names clearly lettered. Perhaps it had been a school assignment. Maybe they do teach useful subjects in today's schools after all! And with a copy of the original to compare, they both went into page protectors.

Next, after some searching Aunty Jeff found copies of the oldest family Bible records. How she had been elated when a cousin returned from California bearing gifts, a set for each interested family member. Alas, how few people had been interested. But she had tucked a set, in page protectors of course, in one of her earlier attempts at making a record of the family farm. There were the births, deaths, marriages, blots and all, with all important dates and names. Only this branch of the family had the complete records. Someone else had completed a newspaper article with a brief genealogy, with a picture of Grampa and Gramma, Pa and Ma, and all the children, dressed in their best with hair arranged neatly. There were pictures of the church they all attended, and sadly, a snap shot of little Willie's gravestone. He had lived just long enough to complete his first year of school.

Last of all, a letter from Uncle Joe written March 11, 1860 discussing "them two cows that I wintered" for Martha, his sister. It was a glimpse of the family that was, and a proof of the spelling change in the family surname.

Then comes another Gramma and Grampa, and with their whole family as well as the hired girl and the hired man. This picture shows Grampa has sided the log house with boards, greatly improving the house by defeating at least some of the drafts which whistled between the logs in the winter time. Yet another picture, blurry and dark, which careful study with the

help of notes on the back of the picture yields the information that Grampa is holding a grandson on the back of "old Baldy".

Now it has been necessary to sell off a piece of property, and again Gram's careful handwriting announces the boundary and the name of the buyer. Curiously, we know that some of it is back in the family today, with a luxurious cottage. How all the grmmas and grampas would stare at the TVs, the running water, the electricity and the refrigerators, all for just the gramma and grampa, the children and grandchildren and great grandchildren living miles away in their own homes. Since the farm is by a river, some family members had applied for riparian rights to the land under the river, and a newspaper article dutifully reports the name and the area, for which they have to pay taxes. Receipts for taxes are carefully included to prove that they indeed have rights to the land.

To sum up the documents and pictures that produced the fully documented memoir:

- Photographs of the earliest ancestors.
- Bible records.
- Deed.
- Hand drawn map and photo copy of map from atlas.
- Letter.
- Contemporary photograph of the church.
- Genealogical article and family picture from newspaper.
- Snapshot of grave stone.
- Snap shot of child on horse.
- 1860 letter.
- Yet another picture of the log house, sided.
- Description of borders of land sold.
- Application for riparian rights.
- Receipt for taxes.

This is probably overkill. The purpose has been to show you what can be done if you collect materials you may already have. I have supplemented it with the stories I have as a child, but which need no proof, such as the time the owl made off with Grampa's coonskin cap, and dropped it off in a snowdrift when he discovered there was no coon in the skin, and the time the windstorm blew the sleeping geese across the channel, and the time the frog bit my father's toe in retaliation for being cruelly teased. Every family has stories that should be written down for posterity. Of how McTavish the cat could open the one window in my brothers' bedroom, and let the snow cover the bed in the night. And the skunk cornering my father, and keeping him from his supper... And Josie the pig... Months after his 95th birthday, my brother was still telling his great grandchildren about McTavish. And they were still asking for it, no matter how many times they had heard it.

JCNYS Note: The author's brother was Robert B. Wagoner of Alexandria Bay, New York. Robert passed away on April 7th at the age of 95. Also, per Wikipedia, Riparian water rights (or simply riparian rights) is a system for allocating water among those who possess land along its path. It has its origins in English common law. Riparian water rights exist in many jurisdictions with a common law heritage, such as Canada, Australia, and states in the eastern United States.

GRAVESIDE CEMETERY MARKERS

By JCNYS Vice President Thomas F. LaClair

This quarter I took a break from interviewing Jefferson County Historians and Historical Societies to bring you this article on graveside cemetery markers. Last year JCNYS President Larry Corbett posted a few cemetery markers to his facebook page and the topic captured my interest. I paused to think that throughout my years of researching genealogy, and walking through cemeteries, I rarely took time to truly notice the many markers. So recently I started taking notice and have come to photograph over 75 different types (See more on our Facebook page.). From military wars and veteran organizations, civic organizations, town and village fireman, medical, city and state police, and others. The markers signify a member's participation in a war, or organization, and provides visitors added history and sacrifices on the deceased. It also permits family and/or civic associations to place national or organizational flags on special holidays or events. The next time you visit a cemetery, take a moment to recognize the markers that fill the cemetery landscape. The following markers were all photographed in and around Jefferson County cemeteries.

(More on next page)



IRAQ WAR Antwerp



SAR Antwerp



GAR Oakwood



CIVIL WAR Sandy Hollow



FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES Stone Mills



MASONIC LODGE Brookside



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS Watertown North



WAR OF 1812 Sandy Hollow



NATIONAL GRANGE Antwerp



FOREIGN WARS Grove



GAR WOMENS RELIEF CORPS Antwerp



OES Grove



IOOF Oakwood



WWII Oakwood



DAR Oakwood



SPANISH AMERICAN WAR Stone Mills



IORM Oakwood



BPOE Antwerp



AMERICAN LEGION Parish

William J. Brown Civil War Memorial



During the May 2017 JCNYS meeting, Bob Hensel of Gulf Breeze, Florida, donated a William J. Brown Civil War Memorial that he had purchased at a garage sale about seven years ago in Saratoga County for \$50.00. Not wanting to see the memorial unappreciated or eventually neglected, he donated it to JCNYS in hopes we could find an appropriate home for it.

We initially contacted Connie Barone of the Sackets Harbor Historic Battlefield commission, as the soldier had mustered in there during the Civil War. Connie, realizing the soldier was from the Town of Thurman in Warren County (New York), found us several contacts from that region.

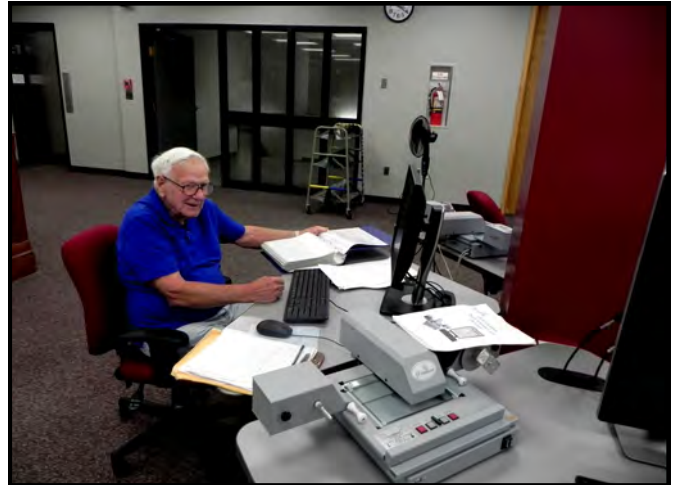
After several e-mails with Persis "Perky" Granger (back, right), Secretary of the John Thurman Historical Society, JCNYS arranged a transfer of the memorial. On Monday, 31 July 2017, JCNYS Vice President Tom LaClair (front, left), and his wife Janine, drove four hours to Athol, in Warren County (home of the Town of Thurman Historical Society) and provided the exchange in honor of Bob Hensel, the person who made this all possible.

Also attending the exchange event was Joan Harris (front, right), Town of Thurman Historian and President of the John Thurman Historical Society as well as Paul Gilchrist (back, left), President of the Warrensburgh Historical Society.

After seeing the photo on our facebook page, Bob Hensel wrote: "Fantastic!! Thank you all who made this happen!!!!" A true success story for all involved! Photo by Janine LaClair.

FLOWER MEMORIAL LIBRARY REPAIRS AND UPGRADES ARE COMPLETE

JCNYS Member Hollis Dorr was recently spotted at the Flower Memorial Library doing some Haas family genealogy research. Hollis has been visiting the library several times a month in his dedicated role of family researcher.



Speaking of the Flower Memorial Library, the spring repairs and upgrades are complete and the genealogical research department is back in full swing. If you are in the Watertown area, drop in and say hello to Terry Mandigo and the staff. Here is a photo of Terry looking for a special book as he assists a visiting patron researching Civil War soldiers.



Be sure to check the mailing label for the status of your dues. The calendar year for dues is 1 July through 30 June. Please submit payment if past due. Respectfully, JCNYS.

HOW TO HANDLE LAPTOP SPILLS

Written by Beverly Sterling-Affinati
JCNYGS Informer Committee Member

COMPUTER CORNER

What to do if you spill liquid on your laptop? Written by someone who did!

It was my birthday and I was super excited. I got up and poured my coffee, turned on my laptop and was typing a letter to my son in Germany, when I accidentally spilled my coffee all over my laptop!!

The first thing I did was panic (naturally)!

I held the laptop over the sink sideways, and let the coffee drip off the system. It was plugged in on the counter, so I then unplugged it; grabbed paper towels from the roll and dabbed up the liquid as best I could. Then I opened the laptop fully (as wide as it would open) and literally flipped it upside down onto the paper towels. Five minutes later, dressed and hair combed, I plugged it back in and nothing happened.

I packed it up (along with the cord), and jumped in my car heading to the nearest computer store. I was looking for any store who might be open. I found one, but he could not take me in. He recommended another location, but it too was closed. Two hours later I was sitting outside of the computer store, waiting for them to open (10:00 a.m.). Not the best way to begin a birthday!!

When the store did open its doors, I was the first one at the counter. They asked me if it would turn on. When I said, "No", they said they could take it in the back and examine it, but it would cost \$ (x dollars). They recommended I pull the hard drive instead, and recycle the computer. They also said I was welcome to use their store computers to look for a new system, as this one was likely fried.

LISTEN UP. They were dead wrong. I didn't know it at the time and ALMOST followed their instruction to leave the computer for them to recycle. But something in my gut said, "Don't do it." And I am so glad in the end I asked that everything be returned to me.

I arrived back home, and here's what I did. I searched on a different computer (my desktop) for "spilled liquid on my computer" and from the Wiki website: <http://www.wikihow.com/Save-a-Laptop-from-Liquid-Damage> I followed their instructions (this site is step-by-step complete with photos). Please do visit the link should this EVER happen to you. I should have done this from the start.

Keep in mind that, while the information below

provides the best way to handle a spill yourself, there is no way to guarantee without fail that your laptop can be saved; similarly, seeking professional help is a far better solution (or in my case, was it? I leave this answer up to you).

Steps

1. Turn off the laptop and disconnect it from its power source immediately. To do so, just hold down the laptop's power button. If the liquid touches the circuits on the laptop while they are active, your laptop will most likely short out, so time is very much of the essence.

To disconnect the laptop from a power source, simply remove the charger cable from the laptop. It's typically on the left or right side of the laptop's housing.

2. Remove the laptop from any residual liquid. This will both minimize your laptop's exposure to more liquid and decrease the risk of electrical shock.

3. Turn the laptop upside-down and remove the battery if possible. You can typically do this by turning your laptop upside-down, sliding a panel off from the bottom of the laptop, and gently tugging on the battery.

This step is not possible on a MacBook without first unscrewing the bottom of the laptop from the rest of the housing.

While drying your Laptop, put your battery, hard drive and card in a plastic bag with silica gel packs to remove all moisture from them. If you do not have silica gel packs, a bowl of rice will do the trick.

4. Unplug all external hardware. This includes the following items:
USB devices (flash drives, wireless adapters, chargers, etc.)
Memory cards
Controllers (e.g., your mouse)
The laptop charger

5. Place a towel on a flat surface. This is where you'll place your laptop for the next couple of days, so make sure you choose a warm, dry, unobtrusive area.

6. Open your laptop as wide as possible and set it face-down on the towel. Depending on your laptop's flexibility, doing so will result in anything from a tent-shaped laptop to a completely flat one.

7. Wipe up any obvious liquid. Places to wipe include the fronts and backs of the screen, the laptop's housing, and the keyboard. Make sure your laptop is still partially facing down while you do this so that any excess liquid continues to drain.

8. Ground yourself before touching your computer's internals. Grounding yourself will remove

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(Continued From Page 17)

any static electricity from your clothing or body. Static electricity can easily kill circuitry, so performing this step before touching the RAM cards or the hard drive is crucial.

9. Remove any hardware that you can. If you're uncomfortable or unfamiliar with the notion of removing RAM, your computer's hard drive, and other detachable internal components, consider taking your laptop into a professional repair service instead.

You can typically find manuals for your specific computer that detail hardware replacement and removal online. Simply search for your computer's make and model number followed by "RAM removal" (or whichever component you need to remove).

For a MacBook, you'll first have to unscrew each of the ten screws holding the base of the housing together.

10. Pat dry any wet internal components. To do this, you will need a microfiber cloth (or an otherwise lint-free rag).

If there is excess water in your laptop's internal areas, first drain it. Be extremely gentle while doing this.

11. Remove dry residue. Use a lint-free cloth to gently buff out any non-water stains, or use compressed air to blow away dust, grit, and other non-liquid residue.

12. Let your laptop dry. You'll want to leave it alone for at least one day.

Consider storing your laptop in a dry, warm place. For example, a dehumidifier may improve drying time.

Never use a hair dryer to speed up your laptop's drying process, as a hair dryer's heat concentration is intense enough to harm your laptop's internal parts.

13. Reassemble the laptop, then turn it on. If it doesn't boot up or you notice distortion in the sound or display, you'll need to take your laptop to a professional repair service (e.g., a Best Buy tech department).

14. Remove any residue if necessary. Even if your laptop is up and running, you may have to contend with sticky or greasy substance left over. You can remove this residue by gently buffing the afflicted area with a damp, lint-free cloth like you used earlier when drying the laptop.

Two days later, when I removed the battery from the rice, cleaned it off by wiping with paper towel, put everything back together, and plugged in – ta da!! **My laptop worked!!**

It has been 3 months, and I have not had one single issue with the laptop in that time.

The moral of this story: Take all the necessary steps to save your computer first before handing it over to a professional for recycling. While your computer may not be salvageable as mine was, the only true way of knowing is to take action for yourself.



Who knows, maybe (just maybe) you will save yours too!!

Tammy Plantz checks out the food and publications the guest speaker Hallie Bond displayed after the program on "Food for Thought. Food Traditions of the North Country." (see July meeting minutes on page 3)



Dr. Alexander Bain

Researched and Written by Sharon Bourquin
Thousand Island Museum, Clayton, New York
As Published in the *Thousand Island Sun* Newspaper
7 October 2015

In looking through the Gordon Bennett Collection at the museum, I found this picture of Dr. Alexander (Bayne) Bain. Dr. Bain is pictured in his uniform for the Knights Templar. While living in Clayton he was affiliated with the Watertown Commandery No. 11, of Knights Templar.

Of Scottish descent, he was born in Canada and was a resident of Clayton for over 40 years. He married Amelia Walts, daughter of Simeon and Alice Walts of the Town of Orleans. They had a son Alexander, who sadly died in December 1876 at the age of 10 months, 19 days. A daughter Jennie was born in September 1879, but evidently lived less than 10 years as she is not listed in any further census records and his obituary does not list her. Another daughter, Eleanor was born in 1886.

Tragedy again struck his life when his wife Amelia died of cancer of the stomach at the young age of 36.



Dr. Alexander Bain

Mrs. Bain had a millinery business which served Clayton and the surrounding area. A popular woman, who although busy with her business and home, was always ready to lend a hand where needed. Just two weeks before she died she had taken a basket of delicacies to a poor lady in the upper part of town, whose poverty and illness had incapacitated her.

Dr. Bain led an active life, engaging in dentistry in Clayton for many years before joining with C. G. Emery to found the Clayton Skiff Building Company. According to his obituary, he constructed some of the best known steamboats on the St. Lawrence River. He also built boats under the name of A. Bain and Company. In his later years in Clayton he ran the Bayne docks and cottage on Riverside Drive, which he later sold to Charlebois and Gillick.

After selling his property in Clayton, he moved to Grand Rapids, Michigan and then moved on to Sierra Madre, California where he died at the age of 83. He was survived by his only living child, Eleanor Bayne Fairchild. Dr. Bayne or Bain, as he used both spellings of his name, was also a member of the Valley City Lodge No. 86, F. & A. M and also the Royal Arch Masons while living in Grand Rapids. His funeral in California was held under the auspices of the Monrovia Commandery of Knights Templar, an organization he had been a member of for most of his life.

If you are interested in learning more about the people who resided in this area, visit our Thousand Islands Museum in Clayton. You can find us on the web at www.timuseum.org.

RECORDS MANAGEMENT POSITION WILL BE FILLED

James "Jim" Ranger, the Jefferson County Records Manager and Historian, retired 31 December 2016. His position officially remains vacant; however, the Deputy Jefferson County Clerk, Jamie Thompson, is acting as records manager / county historian. Her contact information is: 315-785-3312; recordscenter@co.jefferson.ny.us.

The Records Management position will be filled as a New York State Civil Service position; therefore, the exam must be taken, which will be given in spring 2018. JCNYS passes along this information to you, so you can pass this on to not only local, but state-wide municipal historians, historians, archivists, and records management individuals that might be interested in applying. This is an excellent opportunity for qualified applicants to take this exam.

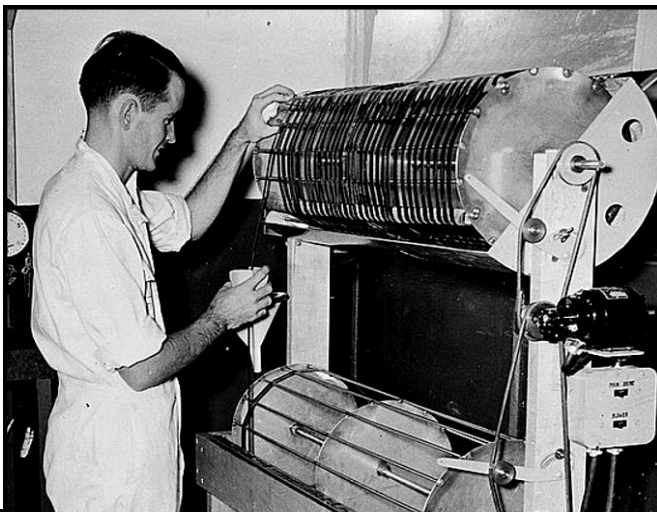
FAMILY HISTORY CENTER DISCONTINUED MICROFILM DISTRIBUTIONS

On 1 September 2017, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (L.D.S.) (FamilySearch) discontinued its microfilm distribution services. The change was the result of significant progress made in FamilySearch's microfilm digitization efforts and the obsolescence of microfilm technology. Online access to digital images of records allows FamilySearch to reach many more people, faster and more efficiently.

Per their website: FamilySearch is a global leader in historic records preservation and access, with billions of the world's genealogical records in its collections. It is reported that over 1.5 million microfilms (ca. 1.5 billion images) have been digitized by FamilySearch, including the most requested collections based on microfilm loan records worldwide. While this move may limit access to a selection of records for some family historians in the short-term, it reflects the ongoing desire by archives across the world to preserve and expand access to their records through digitization.

FamilySearch's collections already provide the largest free selection in the world and their efforts to bring the remaining microfilms online will have an enormous impact on genealogy research. FamilySearch says that the progress they've made in the digitization of these records (more than 1.5 million microfilms equaling more about 1.5 billion records) and the "obsolescence of microfilm technology" is responsible for this change. [FamilySearch plans](#) to have the rest of their microfilms completely digitized by 2020, making the loan process unnecessary. L.D.S. Family history centers will continue to provide access to relevant technology, premium subscription services, and digital records, including restricted content not available at home.

Digital images of historical records can be accessed today in 3 places on FamilySearch.org under Search. Records include historical records indexed by name or organized with an image browse. Books include digital



On the Web: <http://www.jcnysg.com>

copies of books from the Family History Library and other libraries. Catalog includes a description of genealogical materials (including books, online materials, microfilm, microfiche, etc.) in the FamilySearch collection. When approved by L.D.S. church leaders, centers may continue to maintain microfilm collections already on loan from FamilySearch after microfilm ordering ends. Centers have the option to return microfilm that is available online or otherwise not needed. As more images are published online, centers may reevaluate whether to retain microfilm holdings.



1912 LaFargeville Methodist Church Sunday School Class

Researched and Written by Sharon Bourquin
Thousand Island Museum, Clayton, New York
As Published in the Thousand Island Sun Newspaper
27 January 2016

This week's picture takes us to the year 1912 in LaFargeville, to the Methodist Church Sunday School class. The class was called the Jolly Jumping Juniors, not to be confused with the oldest Sunday school class whose members were known as the C.T.S. Class or "Come to Stay" class, because they could go no higher after they graduated from that class.

The class was taught by Miss Maude Baltz who was born on April 20, 1890, a daughter of Jefferson and Mary Daniels Baltz. She was a graduate of LaFargeville High School and the Fort Edward Collegiate Institute. She married Lloyd Strough who was descended from one of the early pioneer families of Jefferson County. Mrs. Strough lived to the age of 101, passing away in Sept. of 1991.

Members of the Jolly Jumping Juniors included the following members: Back Row from left to right: Bertha Henry (Woelfle), Florence Potter, teacher Maude Baltz (Strough), Ethel Schell (Fleming) and Lottie Smith (Zimmer). Middle Row from left to right: Mildred Thomas, Mabel Fowkes (Corbin), Marguerite Potter (Thompson), Hazel Jerome (Wicks), and Anna Arnold (Scott). Front Row from left to right: Homer Nellis, Donald Tinkess, Rayton Daniels and Karl Dash.

If you would like learn more about local churches, visit the Thousand Islands Museum, 312 James Street in Clayton's Historic District.

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Jefferson County Queries

Use the "ONLINE QUERY" on www.jncygs.com or mail queries to:
Jerry Davis, P. O. Box 275, Clayton, NY 13624; maridavis@aol.com

Subject: Jefferson County Informer Query

(Some readers don't have internet access. Please include mailing address &/or phone numbers as well as email.)

FREEMAN, LEE, STERNBERG

Robert **FREEMAN** (1850-1913) was an African American born into slavery in Virginia and died in Watertown in 1913. He married Miss Eliza **LEE** in the mid 1889s. He was buried in the **FREEMAN** cemetery in the Town of Brownville on the **STERNBERG** Family Plot. As a child Robert was found by Major Abram **STERNBERG** of the 186th NY during the Civil War while serving in Virginia. Assuming responsibility for Robert, Major **STERNBERG** invited him back to Clayton (Reynolds Corners/Depauville area) at the conclusion of the war. Robert was a successful horse trainer, prominent member of the AME Church in Watertown and a well-liked member of the Watertown community.

*R. Holbrook
RossHolbrook@hotmail.com*

BONNER, STEPHENS

John **BONNER** was born in Jefferson County, New York to Joseph **BONNER** and his wife Matilda between 1820 and 1826. Joseph and his family came from Oneida, then Oswego and then to Jefferson County. John became a dentist and went to Ontario in 1844. He may have emigrated to Canada from St. Lawrence County as that is where his father was at that time. I would like information on John's birth in Jefferson County and his parents. I would like to know how long they were in Jefferson County. Matilda's maiden name was **STEPHENS**. Joseph was born in Vermont about 1778. I think Joseph worked on the river and was away from home a lot. In 1790 he was in Vermont with his parents. In 1800 he was in Oneida, NY with his parents. In 1810 he was in Jefferson County with an earlier unknown wife and 2 children. John was born and married in Jefferson County.

*Barb Bonner
bkeen1@charter.net*

CARLEY, SMEDLEY, HARRINGTON

Adney **CARLEY** lived in Rodman, Jefferson, New York and was born 11 February 1805. His father was Quartus **CARLEY** and his mother Rebecca **SMEDLEY**. He married Almira **HARRINGTON** on 19 April 1823. Adney also lived in Adams Center, NY. In 1862 he was a Private in the 10th Artillery, Co. B in the Civil War. He and Rebecca had children with names of Cynthia, Lorin, Darwin, Lovicy, Mary and Titus. I am wondering if he had a son Alphonse b.

1824 who moved to Cook County, Illinois and died in 1861. Also did he have a son William b.1826 who moved to Cook County, Illinois and then returned to Jefferson County, New York!

*Carol Carley
cac744@aol.com*

CARPENTER, COOK

Florence **CARPENTER** was born 14 February 1892 in Carthage I believe. I have also seen born in Hermon, NY and "Little", New York listed as birth places. She died in 1943 and was buried in Hermon, NY. She married Charles **COOK** and any information on his birth would be very helpful. Their children were Gladys, Harry, Ernest, Carl, Ken and Grace.

*Cliff Perrin
ceperrinc11@hotmail.com*

DeMAR, De LAMARR, DAMER, HEATH, JOLES

Jerry **DeMAR** (unknown original French name) was born in Canada around 1821 and emigrated from Canada around 1859. He lived in Redwood and Theresa most of his life, then lived with various children in his old age. He last lived in Clayton with his daughter Olive **HEATH** (possibly remarried as Olive **JOLES**). The various US censuses I have back to 1860 spell his name as **DeMAR**, **De LAMARR** and **DAMER**. Children include Olive, Sophronia, Adaline, Oliver, Zeb, Jeremiah, Henry, Joseph and Alfred. I'm searching for my great grandfather's grave in Jefferson County. I have a short Obit (March 7, 1906) that say "Funeral services were held in St. John's and interment made in St. John's cemetery." The family was Catholic. I was also hoping to find his wife's grave: Mary Aurelia Seymour **DeMAR**. My dad is 92 and the last living grandson of Jerry **DeMAR**.

*John DeMar
jsdemar@gmail.com*

PERKINS

William **PERKINS** lived in Rodman, Jefferson County and was born in 1808, married Lucienda born in 1807 and they lived in Jefferson County until about 1850. Does any one know the maiden name for Lucienda? Also, William died after they moved to Corning, NY between 1850 and 1860 but burial location is unknown. Horace **PERKINS** is GGGrand father of my wife.

*Mark Troutman
San Antonio, TX
markt2518@att.net*

(Continued on Page 22)

(Continued From Page 21)

HULBERT, HUNTLEY, PASSENGER

I am researching information on Ethan **HULBERT** who lived in Antwerp, Jefferson County, NY and was born in 1834. He married Elmira **HUNTLEY** 29 April 1853 and they moved to Michigan between 1865 and 1870. They lived in Michigan near Elmira's sister, Phoebe **HUNTLEY PASSENGER**. Elmira **HUNTLEY**'s father, Ezekiel **HUNTLEY**, lived with Phoebe and Charles **PASSENGER**. Ethan died 10 Feb 1893 in Oceana County, Michigan. He has a Civil War Draft Registration dated 1863. Some of their children are Julian (1855); Ethan Endell (1858); Charles Henry (1860); Endora (1862); Alma Ann (1864). Five children were born in New York and 2 were born in Michigan. My ancestor is the 7th child, Edward Eugene **HULBERT** born 11 Sept 1873 in Michigan.

Janice Huntley
jkhulbert@ymail.com

JONES

According to the 1865 census records, my great great grandfather Samuel H. **JONES** (1829-1901) was born in Jefferson County. I always thought he was from Brookfield, Madison County where he was living by age 20 as a laborer with another family. I would love to know if you have any birth records for him and if I can find out who his parents were. Unfortunately I don't have a name of a town. His children were Melvin and Adelle. He lived in Brookfield as a farmer, later settling in Minnesota where he died.

Linda Jones Gibbs
lmjgibbs@gmail.com

BOOS, HUCK

Ursula **BOOS** was born in Sinzheim Rastatt Baden Wurttemberg Germany around 1780. She married Baltasar **HUCK** and had several sons; Leonard (my Great Grandfather - 1808-1866); Melchior (Michael - 1808-1872); Gottfried (Godfrey "Fred" - 1813-); Florence (1816-); Edward (1821); and possibly Anastasius (1803-1889 who might be a brother of Baltasar); Konstant. Baltasar with his wife and 4 sons left LaHerve in 1831. The family lived in Cape Vincent, NY until the late 1840s or early 1850s before relocating to Rochester, NY. I am wondering if Ursula **BOOS HUCK** died in Cape Vincent, NY or died on the journey from Germany to Cape Vincent or moved from Cape Vincent to Rochester?

Patrick O'Connell
tirebiter11@yahoo.com

ROGERS, CONGDON, ACKLEY

Gideon **ROGERS** lived in Clayton, Jefferson County, New York and was born 1768 in Rhode Island. About 1790 perhaps in Rhode Island he married Lucina **CONGDON** b. 1772 in RI. They moved to Hancock, MA by 1797 and left after 1814, moving to Clayton, NY. Gideon and Lucina both died in Clayton in 1856. Their children include Gideon Jr., Joshua, Polly Austin, Geroge W. and Alonson Porter. There was another Gideon and Lucy (**ACKLEY**) **ROGERS**, b and d. in Lyme, Connecticut. These are not mine! I'm really

looking for Gideon's parents, and his place of birth. I would like Lucina's too.

Lori Rogers-Stokes
lori.stokes@comcast.net

OLDS, SMITH

I am looking for birth, marriage, etc. info on Daniel **OLDS** (born 1790 possibly in Jefferson County, NY). Daniel was the son of John **OLDS** who died/was buried in Vilna/Wilna NY around 1830. I am also seeking death/burial info about John **OLDS**. Daniel had a daughter named Lizanna Eliza **OLDS**. Daniel married Jerusha **SMITH**. It is possible that Daniel was born in Gainesville, Wyoming County, NY. He died in 1874 and is buried in Gainesville, Wyoming County NY.

Ellen Halsted
halstedt@sbcglobal.net

FISH, BULL

William Riley **FISH** was born 4/17/1812 and died 3/9/1892. He lived in Watertown, Jefferson, NY. William married Berentha Lydia **BULL** (1823-1916) on 3/9/1842. I believe they may have had a son named Hugh **FISH** (9/10/1831-8/22/1896). Hugh was my gr grandfather. The 1870 Fed Census lists Hugh, John Edward, Lloyd Edward, Allan Eugene and William as living in Livingston, NY. In 1880 William lived in Genesco, Livingston, NY. William had the following children: Emiy, Mary, John, Adelaide, Ina, Edith, Mercy, Estelle. Hugh fish was born in Groveland, Livingston, NY.

Allan Fish
allanphyllisfish@gmail.com

KOSTYK, MOTT

Theodore **KOSTYK** was born about 1872 and died about 1920. He may have lived in Watertown or Sackets Harbor, NY with his wife Mary (maiden name possibly **MOTT**). Census records indicate Theodore and Mary married at ages 26 and 22 respectively. Possibly immigration or naturalization occurred in 1924 for Theodore. Mary may have remained an alien until 1940, census records indicate "having first papers" that year. Children were John, James and Jennie. A story was published about John **KOSTYK** missing at 13 in the Watertown news. I believe that is the family I am looking for. Theodore may have worked on Galloups Island on a fox farm in the 1920s. He has relatives possibly in Dexter, NY.

Emily Monahan
emilymm0221@gmail.com

MITCHELL, BASSETT

Oscar **MITCHELL** was the son of Matthew Mitchell of Orleans in Jefferson County, NY. He lived in Alexandria, Jefferson, NY. He married Elizabeth **BASSETT**, dtr of Barachiah **BASSETT** in 1848. Oscar died in 1851 of Tuberculosis. I have been unable to find a burial site for him. His father is buried in Grove Cemetery and in-laws buried in Plessis Cemetery.

Roger Ripley
rlripley@maqs.net

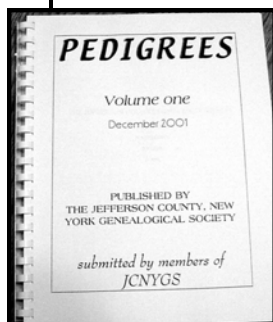
(Continued on Page 23)

JCNYGS MATERIALS FOR PURCHASE

Contact: Greg or Tammy Plantz, 21787 Reed Road, Watertown, NY 13601
 Or email tplantz1@twcny.rr.com

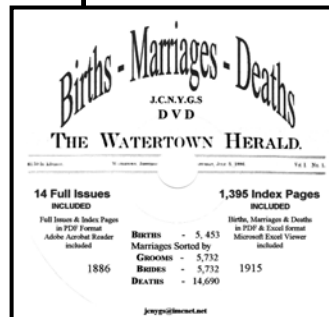
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Check with Greg or Tammy Plantz (above) for
 availability of hard copy **INFORMERS**

All our *Informer* Newsletters Are Now on
 Our website! **JCNYGS.com**

**JEFFERSON COUNTY
 NEW YORK
 WILL ABSTRACTS 1830 – 1850**

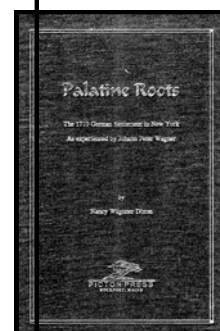
The Will Book contains will abstracts
 dating from 1830 to 1850. The book
 contains 194 pages, two maps, and a
 chart showing the formation of
 Jefferson County Towns. \$15.00 +
 \$5.00 for postage. Checks made out to



PALATINE ROOTS

**The 1710 German Settlement
 in New York
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 Johann Peter Wagner
 By Nancy Wagoner Dixon**

**\$40 includes
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(Continued From Page 22)

CHAVOUSTIE, McCOY, HURDLE

I am researching my family tree and looking for any help I can find. I started a few years ago as a complete novice and have since made some good progress. I still have some missing unanswered pieces. Currently I am planning a trip to the Watertown area in early October to visit cemeteries and see where my relatives lived and would enjoy meeting with you if that is possible. My grandparents were Mary **McCOY** 1875-1947 who married Sidney Lewis **CHAVOUSTIE** in Watertown on 1/6/1911. Mary was twice committed to St. Lawrence Hospital in Ogdensburg but I have no further information as to why or for how long. I have very little information after my grandfather's death although I believe my father Paul lived with James and Jennie **HURDLE** in Cape Vincent. Children were Dorothy, Walter and Paul. Any help would be appreciated and any reasonable fee or charges certainly are acceptable.

David Chavoustie
dchav57@outlook.com

HYDE, BRITTON, FAIRFIELD

I am researching John **HYDE** born 1822. He married Sarah Jane **BRITTON** 21 Oct 1855 in Cape Vincent,

Jefferson, NY. In the Civil War he enlisted in NY 76th Infantry Co B 15 Sept 1863. He died POW in Andersonville, Macon County, GA 14 Sep 1864. His son John F. **HYDE** was born 30 Apr 1855.

Matthew Hyde
hydemj@gmail.com

MATHERS, SHAFT, GODFREY, HEIMSTREET, CURTISS, KIPP

Moses **MATHERS** married Sarah **SHAFT** and the **MATHER** genealogy says he died in 1844. If living in Hounsfield in the 1840 census with wife and 3 children, I assume he died in Hounsfield, or somewhere in Jefferson County. Do you have cemetery listings for them? I don't know when Sarah died. A son was David **MATHERS** b. 1816 and married Susan **GODFREY**. Other children were: John B. b. 1812 and married Harriet **HEIMSTREET**; Thomas b. 1814 and married Charity **HEIMSTREET**; Anna b. 1818 and married Hartwell **CURTISS**; and Norman b. 1821 and married Eveline **KIPP**. I know some other children lived and died in Jefferson County, so would you have any death records naming parents for them?

Peggy Durack
pdurack@satx.rr.com

INFORMER

Jefferson County NY Genealogical Society
(JCNYGS)
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JCNYGS PROGRAMS FOR 2017

Saturday, October 14 at 2 PM, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints building, “**Jefferson County Genealogy at the Montgomery County Archives**,” by Roberta Calhoun-Eagan

Saturday, November 4 at 2 PM, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints building, “**Railway Society of Northern New York**,” by Laurie Halladay

Sunday, December 10 (Tentative) JCNYGS Christmas Party - Members and friends invited. Meat provided, bring a dish to pass. Time and location will be posted to our Facebook page in early December.

There are **no formal meetings in December 2017 and January 2018**. We encourage all members to take advantage of the winter months to do some personal and family genealogy; write names on the back of photos, write down some personal memories, visit relatives and recall past genealogical based events. Don't let the winter opportunity pass you by.

The 2018 program schedule will be posted in January 2018 Informer and on our facebook page. The first meeting of the year will be Monday, 12 February, at 6:00PM.

Note 1: Lectures begin at 6 PM. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints building unless otherwise noted. Come 30 minutes early to get to know other members and share new finds and experiences.

Note 2: Thank you George Inglehart, church liaison, and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints local leadership for the free use of the building for JCNYGS programs.

Directions to LDS Church where we are presently holding our meetings: From Rt. 81, take exit 44 to Rt. 232 towards Watertown. Drive 1.1 miles and take the second left hand turn on to Ives Street Road. Continue straight into the city. The LDS chapel is the second building on the right, across from IHC, as you enter the city limits.

From Watertown, it is on Ives Street, across from IHC. Take Washington Street to Barben Avenue. Turn on to Barben and take it until it ends at a T. Turn left and the LDS will be 300 yards on the left.

Or, from Watertown take Massey Street south, veer right onto South Massey, left on to Ives.

~ **THIRD ANNUAL HISTORY AND GENEALOGY FAIR** ~

Saturday, 23 September 2017 from 10AM to 3PM

As you walk around today, look for representatives from the following agencies...

1. **Jefferson County Clerk's Office, *Gizelle Meeks and Jaimie Thompson***
2. Jefferson County Historical Society, *Jordan B. Walker*
3. **Historical Association of South Jefferson, *Debbie Quick***
4. LeRay de Chaumont Chapter Daughters/Children of the American Revolution, *Tammy Plantz*
5. **LeRay de Chaumont Chapter Children of the American Revolution, *Anne Davis***
6. General Jacob Brown Chapter Daughters of the War of 1812, *Anne Davis*
7. **Thousand Islands Chapter Sons of the American Revolution, *Bruce Coyne***
8. Flower Memorial Library Genealogy Department, *Amanda Presley*
9. **Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society, *Larry Corbett***
10. Jefferson County NY GenWeb Coordinator and author of *Palatine Roots*, *Nancy Dixon*
11. **Watertown Daily Times, Historic Newspaper Research, *Lisa Carr***
12. Redwood Historical Society, *David Brandt*
13. **Adams Town and Village Historian, *Sue Herse***
14. Lyme Heritage Center, *Phyllis Putman*
15. **Stone Mills Agricultural Society and Museum, *Donna Eisele***
16. Village of Dexter Historian, *John Stano*
17. **Dexter Area Historical Society, *John Stano***
18. Philadelphia Historical Society, *Mechelle Francis*
19. **Walter H. French Camp 17 Sons of Civil War Veterans, front lawn display, *Bill Bamann***
20. Henderson Historical Society and Museum, *Elaine Scott*
21. **Central New York Genealogical Society, *Joyce Cook***
22. Fort Drum Cultural Resources Manager, *Dr. Laurie Rush*
23. **The 10th Mountain Division Museum Director, *Joseph "Sepp" Scanlin***
24. Watertown Ward, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, *Mary Ransome*
25. **War of 1812 Enthusiast, Battle of Cranberry Creek, *Paul Beers***
26. Author of *When Descendants Become Ancestors*, *Dave Kendall*

**The Jefferson County Historical Society is selling BBQ meals for \$10.00
Serving in the Garden area; starting at 11AM and going until they're gone**

~~~~~  
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**WE THANK THOSE WHO GENEROUSLY DONATED TO OUR FIRST TIME SILENT AUCTION**

## OUR GUEST SPEAKERS, TIMES AND SUBJECTS



**Ann Fillhart: 10:00 to 10:45 in the school house.** “Old School – New Discoveries.” Ann Fillhart is a sixth-grade teacher at H.T. Wiley Intermediate School who challenges her students to learn as much about their family history as they can. As a young girl growing up in Watertown, she heard the stories of her family from her grandmother while they retraced their journeys and settlement throughout the North Country. Ann’s students use technology, including a variety of online resources, to uncover and preserve their personal heritage. They will be sharing their discoveries in the historic Pink Schoolhouse, with traditional schoolhouse activities, for children, following their presentation.



**Dr. Joshua Canale: 10:45 to 11:30.** “While Looking to the Future, Consider the Past.” Dr. Joshua Canale received his Ph.D. in U.S. History from Binghamton University in 2014. Currently, he is a tenure-track professor of History at SUNY Jefferson. His current book project, “American Dictators: Committees for Public Safety during the American Revolution, 1775-1784” examines disaffection and police powers during the Revolution. Among other awards, Joshua received a 2015 Residential Fellowship from the Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington to work on his manuscript. Joshua has also delivered lectures and taught courses in China.



**Felicity Hallanan: 11:30 to 12:15.** “Marietta Holley: From Garden Road to the White House.” Like Marietta Holley, Felicity Hallanan has a family homestead in southern Jefferson County. Both are writers, but of very different genres. Marietta wrote convincingly about events around the world but seldom left home. An Army “Brat,” Felicity was a photojournalist with Army Times in Germany. Back in the North Country, she was administrator of two Girl Scout camps, then returned to journalism as news anchor at WTNY Radio. She is active in the Episcopal Church, the National Association of the 10th Mountain Division and the Parish Writers’ Group.



**Mark A. Wentling: 12:30 to 1:15.** “New York Genealogy Brick Wall Busters: Finding Your Elusive Early Ancestors.” Mark is a full-time professional genealogist and owner of Ancestor Introductions Professional Research Service (<http://www.ancestorintroductions.com>). He has more than 20 years of experience researching Jefferson County families. Mark holds a Certificate in Genealogical Research from Boston University, and a Masters of Library Science from the University of Maryland at College Park. He is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists. Mark is a 9th-generation Jefferson County native. He lives in Boston, Massachusetts.



**Dr. David Kendall: 1:15 to 2:00.** “When Descendants Become Ancestors: The Flip Side of Genealogy.” Dave Kendall’s roots are in Grindstone Island and Clayton. A 1955 graduate of Clayton Central, he returned to teach at the same school following four years at Cornell University. After a short stint in the military, he received a Master’s degree from St. Lawrence University and a doctorate from the University of Pittsburgh. He then taught for 30 years at SUNY Brockport, retiring in 1998. In his recently published book, named in the talk title, he implores us to preserve our stories, citing the significance of every individual in teaching future generations.



**Sepp Scanlin: 2:00 to 2:45.** “Understanding Your Ancestor’s Military History.” Sepp Scanlin was appointed Museum Director / Curator of the 10th Mountain Division Museum in Fort Drum, NY in Oct 2016 after serving 21 years in the U.S. Army, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. A graduate from Johns Hopkins University with a Masters in Museum Studies and a specialty certification in Digital Curation, Sepp works to preserve, educate and inspire the Soldiers, Civilians and Families of the 10th Mountain by sharing the history and artifacts of the U.S. Army. He looks forward to sharing his love of history on base and in the community. Stay Curious and Climb to Glory!