

# INFORMER

Volume 25, Issue 1

Annual Dues \$18 Individual \$20 Family

January 2018



The Slate Family (See page 6)

## Table of Contents

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 2 To The Editor                               | 15 Bicentennial Tribute to Veterans of 1776             |
| 3 JCNYGS October Meeting Minutes              | 16 The "Secret" Codes on Death Certificates             |
| 4 JCNYGS November Meeting Minutes             | 17 New Book Recounts 200 Years of Fair                  |
| 5 Remembering Helen McDonald                  | 19 How are We Related?                                  |
| 6 The Slate Family                            | 20 Gold Rush Classic Profiles Family with Theresa Roots |
| 7 How To Process Old Film                     | 21 Rodman Woman Finds Buried History in Area Cemeteries |
| 8 My Civil War Grandfathers IV                | 22 Queries  |
| 11 Charles Stanley Minnick - His Story        | 23 JCNYGS Materials For Purchase                        |
| 13 Aunty Jeff and Gramma Beele's Candlesticks | 24 Programs for 2018                                    |
| 14 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War    |   |

## INFORMER JANUARY 2018

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](http://www.jcnygs.com)

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[tomlaclair624@yahoo.com](mailto:tomlaclair624@yahoo.com), 315-285-5032

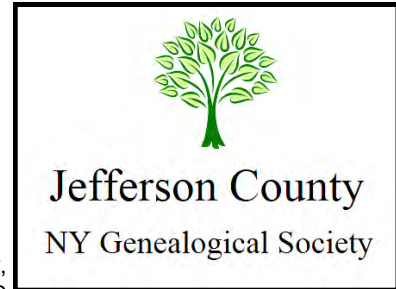
**Vice President:** Larry Corbett, 520 Binsse St., Watertown, NY 13601,  
[lrcorbet@gisico.net](mailto:lrcorbet@gisico.net), 315-323-3118

**Recording Secretary:** Vacant (A volunteer will be asked at each meeting until the position is filled.)

**Treasurer:** Greg Plantz, 21787 Reed Road,  
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**The Informer Committee:** (alphabetically) are Brenda Becker, [bmartinobecker@gmail.com](mailto:bmartinobecker@gmail.com); Roberta Calhoun-Eagan, [dioncalhoun@yahoo.com](mailto:dioncalhoun@yahoo.com); Bruce Coyne, [coynegen@aol.com](mailto:coynegen@aol.com); Anne Davis, [davisa24@verizon.net](mailto:davisa24@verizon.net); Jerry and Marilyn Davis, [maridavis@aol.com](mailto:maridavis@aol.com); Nan Dixon, [nandixon001@gmail.com](mailto:nandixon001@gmail.com); Julie Grace Fish, [fishig196@potdam.edu](mailto:fishig196@potdam.edu); Thomas LaClair, [tomlaclair624@yahoo.com](mailto:tomlaclair624@yahoo.com), (publisher); Greg and Tammy Plantz, [tplantz1@twcnv.rr.com](mailto:tplantz1@twcnv.rr.com); Beverly Sterling-Affinati, [harborsideservices@gmail.com](mailto:harborsideservices@gmail.com).

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



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

## From President LaClair

As we begin 2018, we welcome back our long time members, our newest members, and we welcome all our potential members. We have memberships in 225 homes in 30 states and Canada. Many of those are dual family memberships so we are 300 members strong. In addition, we have 25-plus genealogical societies, historical societies, museums, and libraries that receive our quarterly newsletter the *Informer*. And we have 360 followers on our Facebook page. This could not be achieved without you!

A society goal for 2018 is to encourage and welcome increased involvement for our membership base. We continually seek newsletter articles on your Jefferson County ancestors and we sincerely invite your attendance (when possible) at the monthly lectures. If your schedule allows, we warmly invite your participation, your ideas and suggestions, your personal involvement. We are a healthy organization, however, to remain fresh and current in the field of genealogy, we solicit additional member involvement including at the leadership level. Consider 2018 your year to get more involved and help shape the future of JCNYS.

Respectfully, Tom LaClair and your JCNYS Presidency

## 4th Annual History and Genealogy Fair

Along with Jordon B. Walker, Director of the Jefferson County Historical Society, we are pleased to announce that the 4th annual 2018 History and Genealogy Fair is scheduled for Saturday, 15 September 2018, from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. We are providing the date and time now in hopes it makes it onto your personal and organizational calendars.



From a collection of pictures from the 2017 History and Genealogy Fair on our Facebook page

**Jefferson County NY Genealogical Society**  
**JCNYS**



## Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society

Meeting Minutes, October 14, 2017  
By JCNYS Member Tom LaClair

Attendance: Judy Fiorentino, Jim Eagan and Roberta Calhoun-Egan, Anne Davis, Larry Corbett, Bruce Coyne and Mary Erskine-Coyne, Tom and Janine LaClair, Jerry Davis, M. Russell Lee, Michael Walrath, Mary Blanchard, Janet Fish, Tracy Negus-Robertson, Robert and Leigh Charron, and George Inglehart.

The meeting was opened at 2:00 PM by President Tom LaClair. After welcoming new members, the financial report was read by Vice President Larry Corbett on behalf of Treasurer Greg Plantz, who was out of town. The checking balance was \$5,351.71, the Certificate of Savings amount was \$2,422.21, and the regular savings account was at \$404.02. This report was approved pending audit. Jerry Davis gave an update on the October 2017 *Informer* and that it was mailed and should be in the home of all members. President LaClair reported that 11 new members in 9 households joined JCNYS at the 3rd annual History and Genealogy Fair held 23 September. Janet Fish was then complimented for her cemetery and headstone work that was captured in a *Watertown Daily Times* feature article on 9 October. Over the years, she's cleaned hundreds of grave markings of Civil War and Revolutionary soldiers, uncovering some forgotten history. Lastly, a handout highlighting JCNYS "Opportunities to Serve" was given to all attendees. The business portion of the meeting closed at 2:15.

Time was then turned over to Anne Davis to introduce Roberta Calhoun-Egan, the guest speaker. Roberta, a member of JCNYS gave a detailed power-point slideshow on "Researching your Jefferson County Ancestors at the Montgomery County Court House." In her power-point slideshow, Roberta shared detailed examples and information on families she and her husband Jim have personally researched, and walked members through a research trip. She shared processes that highlighted the many examples of information available to all Jefferson County researchers. Displayed and discussed were processes through photos and specific examples, and how years of past research came into play to connect modern research. Roberta also spoke of the friendly staff and the years of experience between the volunteers, and that they are pleased to help all who visit. In conclusion, she encouraged members to visit the Montgomery Court House for you will likely find pertinent information on your Jefferson County ancestors.

The Montgomery County Department of History and Archives was formed in 1934 by resolution of the Board of Supervisors. Housed in the 1836 Old Courthouse, the department currently has one full-time County Historian and Records Management Officer and three part-time staff. The genealogical and historical research library

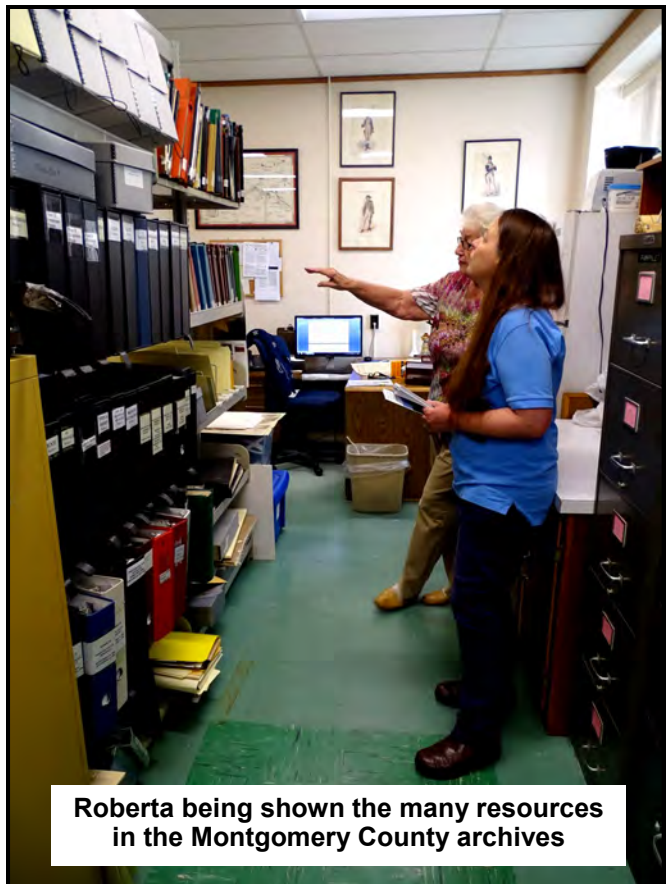


Montgomery County Courthouse

contains a voluminous amount of records that are accessible to the public. Not a lending library, the Department of History and Archives welcomes visitors from all over the country in search of their heritage.

Montgomery County History and Archives Department, Old Courthouse, 9 Park Street, P.O. Box 1500, Fonda, New York 12068-1500. Phone: 518-853-8186 or 518-853-8187. Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM (September through June) and Monday - Friday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM (July through August). The Historian and Records Management Officer is Kelly A. Farquhar. The Assistant is Earlene F. Melious.

<https://www.co.montgomery.ny.us/web/>



Roberta being shown the many resources  
in the Montgomery County archives

## Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society

Meeting Minutes, November 4, 2017  
 Volunteer Secretary for November, Mary Bryant

Minutes of the meeting of Jefferson County NY Genealogical Society, November 4, 2017 at LDS, Ives Street, Watertown, NY.

The meeting was called to order at 2 PM by Vice President Larry Corbett in the absence of President LaClair. Mary Bryant volunteered to record the minutes of the meeting. Minutes of the October meeting will be published in the January *Informer*. Attending were: VP - Larry Corbett, Treasurer - Greg Plantz, Mary Bryant, Wally Keeler, Marilyn Davis, Nan Dixon, Don & Rose Dillenbeck, Bruce Coyne, George Inglehart, Mary Blanchard, Tina Thorp, Linda Twichell, Leigh & Robert Charron, Guest Speaker - Laurie Halladay.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Greg Plantz reported the following balances:

- Checking - \$5,373.18
- Deposits - \$546.00
- Expenditures: (Coughlin Printing) \$524.53
- Savings - \$404.02
- CD - \$2433.21

Committee Reports:

**Executive Committee** met on November 2 at 7 PM at Greg Plantz's home to formulate plans for 2018.

**Informer Committee** - The January *Informer* will be in mailboxes at the beginning of January. Proofreaders are always welcome and articles concerning Jefferson County genealogy are being solicited. Bruce Coyne volunteered to help with the *Informer* review.

**Program Committee** - President LaClair has named Greg Plantz and Larry Corbett as a program committee for 2018. They will develop a schedule of 9-10 programs, identify speakers and make suitable arrangements.

Old Business: none


New Business - The Christmas party will be held on Sunday, December 17, at 2 PM at the home of Greg and Tammy Plantz. Bring a dish to pass.

Announcements - Nan Dixon has Civil War rosters that she would like delivered to Town Historians for "forever" homes.

Motion to adjourn - Greg Plantz Second - Bruce Coyne

Meeting adjourned at 2:15 PM

Vice President Corbett then introduced Laurie Halladay, Director of the Railway Historical Society of Northern New York, who presented a video and lecture on the history of the Lowville and Beaver River Railway. (Note: See page 21 for newspaper article)



### The Railway Historical Society of Northern New York

PO Box 317, 9784 RT-812, Croghan, NY  
 www.newyorktrains.com (315) 346-6848  
 GPS Co-ordinates: 43.893880, -75.392915

Ms. Halladay's presentation included books, clippings and accounts of the railroad which ran from Lowville through New Bremen and Croghan to Beaver River for many years and is now commemorated by the museum's collection of railroad artifacts and memorabilia in Croghan, NY.

She answered many questions. It was suggested that members of our society might enjoy a visit to the museum as one of our programs in 2018.



Laurie Halladay, Director of the Railway Historical Society of Northern New York, speaks with Robert Charron after her program at the JCNYGS November meeting





## Helen B. McDonald

(Editor's note: On August 8, 1994, a scheduled meeting was held at the Dillenbeck room at Flower Memorial Library. In attendance were, Maurice Herren of Belleville, Gus Rogers of Clayton, Mary Lou McCreadie of Adams, **Helen McDonald of Alexandria Bay**, Ellen & John Bartlett of Syracuse. **Helen McDonald** became our first Recording Secretary. With fond memories of her ever present smile and her infectious giggling laugh, we print below her obituary.)



Helen B. McDonald, 85, Reynolds Road, Alexandria Bay, passed away peacefully Wednesday night, October 18, 2017 at Samaritan Medical Center surrounded by family and friends.

Helen was born on May 4, 1932 in Watertown, the daughter of Karl M. and Helen Finney Bunce. She graduated from Watertown High School in 1949 at age 17 and then received her teaching degree from Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio (1953). She began teaching at Dexter Elementary School from 1953-57

and, after having her children returned to teaching at Clayton Elementary, teaching in the Thousand Islands school district from 1969 until her retirement in 1988.

After her retirement, she became an active genealogist tracing her family back to the 1600's. On August 22, 1953, Helen married Kenneth G. McDonald, son of Kenneth T. and Mildred Deugaw McDonald at Emmanuel Congregational Church in Watertown with Howard Boardman officiating. She was active in a variety of community activities including Study Club, WSCS, Sunday school teacher, and Girl Scouts. She was a member of Order of the Eastern Star, the NYS Teachers' Retirement System, and the NNY & CNY Genealogical Society. She was happiest when her family was all together. Helen is survived by her husband of 64 years Kenneth; daughter, Elizabeth L. McDonald and her daughter, Sarah, North Syracuse; sons, Steven K., wife Nancy and sons Joshua and Kyle and Michael R., wife Leslie and sons Jon and P.J. as well as five great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. Two children, Stanley K. and Amy L. McDonald, pre-deceased her, as well as two brothers, Jack and Theodore Bunce.

She is also survived by her brother Roy K. Bunce (Vicki Deal) and her sisters-in-law Joyce (Jack) Ulrich and Carole Bunce Dingman.

The family is so very grateful for the love and support of her caregivers Pam, Melinda, JoAnn, Petra, Maria, Ellen, Hanna and her nurse Terry that allowed her to remain in her own home.

A memorial service will be held at the United Methodist Church, Alexandria Bay, at 2:00 on Saturday, October 28, 2017, followed by a celebration of life at the American Legion in Alexandria Bay from 3-5. Burial for Helen and her son Stanley will be private at the convenience of the family at Union Cemetery, Adams Center.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Alexandria Bay Fire Department who have been exceptionally caring during her ongoing illnesses.

Arrangements are with Costello Funeral Service, Alexandria Bay.

**“A cloudy day is no match for a sunny disposition.” – William Arthur Ward**

**“You can tell how smart people are by what they laugh at.” – Tina Fey**

# The Slate Family

Researched and Written by Sharon Bourquin  
Thousand Island Museum, Clayton, New York  
As Published in the *Thousand Island Sun* Newspaper  
9 March 2016 (Picture on Cover)

The museum was recently given a picture (See our Cover Page) of the Slate family taken at the Slate family farm on Grindstone Island. Pictured are Savannah Slate, his wife Elizabeth and his nine children, sons William, Harvey, Sylvester, Frank and Robert and his daughters, Carrie (Mrs. John Garnsey), Mary "Minnie" (Mrs. A. C. Conant), Charlotte "Lottie" (Mrs. William Waterson) and Ella (Mrs. Fred Huck).

Savannah Slate was born on Grindstone Island on 11 September 1846. On 21 October 1867 he married Elizabeth "Libby" Carnegie and they took up residence on the Slate farm on the island where they lived their entire lives.

Mr. Slate, known to the locals as Van, was a boat builder and operated a ship yard on the north shore of Grindstone where he repaired and built boats. The steam barge "The Arctic" was built by Van. He also rebuilt the steamboat "The Niagara". He was a blacksmith and repaired farm machinery for the farmers on the island as well as maintaining his own farm.

Van died in July 1935 at his island home and was buried in Thurso Cemetery on the island. Van was 88 years old and was survived by his wife, five sons and 4 daughters. According to a news article at the time, he left all his property to his wife as "I have all my children and their welfare in mind, but it is my judgment that the property which I leave their mother is not more than she will need." He believed that she would divide any remainder at the end of her life among their children. At the time of his death he was the oldest member of the Clayton Masonic Lodge No. 296 F. & A. M.

His widow Elizabeth remained alone at the island farm where she had lived since she had come there as a bride at the age of 16. She resided there until her death at the age of 93, leaving the island only for her last three winters when she resided with her daughter Mrs. Minnie Conant in Clayton. She returned to the island for the summer months. She was survived by her nine children, 33 grandchildren and 35 great-grandchildren. She is buried in Thurso Cemetery on Grindstone next to her husband Van.

Van and Elizabeth's son Frank was born on Grindstone on 6 June 1879 and remained on the island his entire life. Like his father, Frank was a blacksmith, but he was also a boatman, guiding small craft on the river. On 7 December 1905 he married Grace Garnsey in Sterlingville, where Grace was living. Grace was also born on Grindstone Island, the

daughter of Edgar and Esther Calhoun Garnsey. Frank died at the age of 66 in 1945, while his widow Grace lived to be 82, residing on the island except for the last few winters of her life which she spent in Clayton. They were parents to two sons, Howard and Harry and one daughter, Helen.

Sylvester was born on the island on 6 May 1874 but unlike his brother Frank, he moved to Wellesley Island as a young man. He was a farmer and cattle dealer on Wellesley Island until his retirement. At one time he was associated with Wallace and George Kittle of Clayton as a cattle dealer. He married Lillie May Pike from Omar. Mr. and Mrs. Slate were parents of four sons, Edwin, Andrew, Nelson and Louis. Lillie died in August 1951 at the age of 68, while her husband lived to the age of 80.

Mary "Minnie" Slate was born April 9, 1888 on Grindstone. She married Alby Conant on May 13, 1905. Minnie and Ab lived at Thousand Island Park for a time before moving to Round Island where they lived for three years. They later moved to Clayton where they lived for 32 years until Mr. Conant's death in 1954 at the age of 72. Minnie and Ab were parents to three children, Clifford, Robert and Raymond. Minnie continued to reside in Clayton where on 12 December 1954 she married John B. (Burt) Hart. Mr. Hart died at the age of 86 in May 1970 while Minnie lived on for a short time, dying at the age of 83.

Carrie was born on the island in 1891. On 30 May 1908 she married John M. Garnsey, son of Frank and Emmeretta Chase Garnsey also from Grindstone Island. For 38 years John was a caretaker on the island for summer residents. John and Carrie were parents of two sons, F. Thornton and J. Garland Garnsey. John died in 1963 at the age of 88, after a long illness. Carrie who lived to the age of 95, died in April 1987.

Charlotte "Lottie" Slate was born 14 July 1884 on Grindstone. She lived on the island until her marriage to John William Waterson on 30 March 1905. Mr. Waterson was a farmer on Wellesley Island where they resided after their marriage. They were parents of two sons, James and Harold and two daughters, Muriel and Susan. Mr. Waterson died 1 October 1952; Lottie however lived to the age of 99, dying in May 1983.

Van and Libby's other children pictured were: William, who was born in 1869 and died in 1955. He resided on Wellesley Island, Harvey who was born in 1877 and died in 1959 also resided on Wellesley Island, Robert was born in July 1886 and lived in Theresa. Their daughter Ella born in 1871 married Fred Huck of Rockport Ontario, the founder of Huck Marine.

If you are interested in learning more about area families, visit the Thousand Islands Museum, 312 James Street in Clayton.



## How to Process Old Film

by JCNYS Member Glenn A. Schultz  
Written 9 March 2015 and received by  
JCNYS on 12 October 2017

It's a great thrill to discover old photographs which were stored away long ago and forgotten, but what do you do when you discover old film that was exposed but never developed? Our family had that experience when cleaning out our mother's house after she passed away. We discovered 30 rolls of unprocessed film, some of it still in old cameras which had been retired from use without checking to see if the film had been removed. The cameras included an old AGFA/ANSCO box camera made in the 1930s, a Ricoflex twin-lens reflex camera and a Kodak Pony 828 camera, both from the 1950s.

Our initial attempts to get the film processed locally were discouraging. We had no idea if the film could be successfully developed, and we were advised by local sources to simply throw the film away. We were not ready to give up, however, and we discovered -- thanks to the internet -- that there were several labs which specialize in processing old, outdated film. The firm that we chose was [Film Rescue International](#). Another company which specialized in developing old film was [Rocky Mountain Film Lab](#). They were under bankruptcy proceedings as of January 2012, and their web site hasn't been updated since, so confirm whether they are still in business before you send them any film. It's hard to believe that so much old film turns up that it can support specialist companies who develop it, but that is indeed the case.

Detailed information about what types of film can be developed are posted on [Film Rescue's](#) web site. They will notify you after your film is developed, and you can log onto a secure web page where you can review your developed photos. You can then select any or all the photos, and they can be downloaded, delivered to you on CD, or printed if you desire. You will pay only for the photos you select. However, you are also charged for developing the film, even if you don't think any of the photos are worth saving. (If the film was entirely blank, [Film Rescue](#) will not charge you for development.) Other film labs will have their own rules and procedures, so carefully review their instructions so you will not be disappointed over results or pricing.

Regardless of which lab handles your film, there are limitations on the quality of images that are recovered, and no results can be guaranteed. The great enemy of camera film is heat, and the worst environment for film is to be stored where it can be exposed to direct sunlight, such as under a window or on the dashboard of a car. In our case, the film was stored in paper sacks, protected from sunlight, in the unheated upstairs of an old farmhouse. In any case, the film may have deteriorated to the point that only shadowy

outlines are visible after development. Another limitation is that old color film usually has to be developed in black and white. It is rare for very old film to be stable enough to yield good color images.

In our case, the film was in excellent condition, even though some rolls had been stored nearly 50 years! As an example, the included picture shows the author, driving a tractor and giving his sisters a ride on their sled, in 1967. Altogether, we recovered 364 images from 30 rolls of film, which cost us about \$1000. We considered it money well spent to obtain a forgotten view of the past.



You can estimate the age of film from the type. Kodak was the largest film supplier in the US, so this discussion is limited to Kodak film.

116 roll film was introduced in 1899 and discontinued in 1984. It used 70 mm film stock.

616 roll film was a variant of 116 introduced in 1932 and discontinued in 1984.

120 roll film was introduced about 1901, and is still available today since it is used by professionals. It was popular in consumer cameras until the 1960s. It uses 61mm stock.

620 roll film is a variant of 120 film, introduced in 1931 and discontinued in 1995.

220 roll film is a variant of 120 film, introduced in 1965 and discontinued about 2012.

127 roll film is smaller than 120, about 46mm wide. It was introduced in 1912 and discontinued in 1995. It was popular for consumer cameras before the introduction of cartridge film.

828 roll film was produced between 1935 and 1985. This was 35mm film stock without sprocket holes, but was never widely used.

126 cartridge film was introduced in 1963 and discontinued in 2007. It also used 35 mm stock.

110 cartridge film was introduced in 1972 and discontinued about 2009. It used 16 mm stock.

135 cassette film is Kodak's name for 35mm film packaged in a cassette. Introduced in 1934, it became popular in the late 1960s.

Kodacolor film was produced between 1942 and

(Continued on Page 8)

(Continued From Page 7)

1963. The development process was called C-22. It was available in 120, 620, 116, 616, and 127 formats. In 1958 it was made available in 35mm.

Kodacolor-X film was produced between 1963 and 1974. This was also C-22 process film, available in 120, 620, 116, 616, 126, 127, 828, and 35mm formats. Kodacolor-II film was introduced in 1972, and used a new development process called C-41. It was available in 110, 120, 620, 116, 616, 126, 127, 828, and 35mm formats.

These are just a few of the variants of film that were available. If you encounter a roll of 120 Kodacolor film marked C-22, you know it was 1963 or older. A roll of 127 Kodacolor-X film would be between 1963 and 1974. In any case, you will need to verify that the lab you choose can handle the format and development process for your film.

If you have an interest in old film cameras, there is an internet radio show found at [www.filmphotographypodcast.com](http://www.filmphotographypodcast.com) which discusses film and cameras. They have posted videos of some of their shows to YouTube. You can find them by searching for Film Photography Podcast. There is an interesting video covering the Kodak Pony 828 camera, and several videos about the Polaroid instant cameras. They give many tips on how to use obsolete film cameras in the digital age, and how to find obsolete film and get it developed. Kodak themselves made a documentary about their film factory in 1958. It was recently posted to YouTube, and can be found by searching for the phrase "how film is made". It's amazing to see what huge machines were required to produce tiny rolls of film. They claimed they were using 14 tons of silver per week to produce film. The documentary mentions the problem of film contamination by atmospheric radiation produced by the atomic bomb tests by Russia and the US in the 1950s. Kodak themselves made radioactive camera lenses when they mixed Thorium with the glass they used. (Do you remember the once-popular radioactive alarm clocks and wristwatches that glowed in the dark?) Kodak was one of America's great companies, but their film business was destroyed by digital cameras, and Kodak declared bankruptcy in 2012.

Contact information:  
Film Rescue International  
P O Box 44  
Fortuna, ND 58844  
<http://www.filmrescue.com/>

**“The easiest way to find something lost around the house is to buy a replacement.”**  
– Author Unknown

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

## My Civil War Grandfathers

### Part IV of IV: Private Richard Norris Company B, Indiana 80<sup>th</sup> Infantry By Colonel Steven C. Guy (USA, Ret.)

The final installment of my four part series regarding my American Civil War grandfathers will be devoted to Richard Norris (1844-1922). Richard Norris, my paternal 2<sup>nd</sup> great grandfather, was one of four children born to George Washington Norris and Elizabeth “Treacy” Bowling. Richard was born on October 25, 1844 in Barr Township, Daviess County, Indiana. He was descended from some of the founding settlers of St. Mary’s County, Maryland, the home of the first Maryland Colony and the birthplace of religious freedom in North America. St. Mary’s County was settled by English Catholics at a time when the British colonies were settled primarily by Protestants. The Norris family was among the first 25 families who migrated from St. Mary’s County, Maryland to Nelson County, Kentucky as part of The League of Catholic Families. Many of these same families later migrated as a group to Daviess County in southern Indiana. It is interesting to note that the same several dozen rather unique family surnames can be found on both census records and in local cemeteries as these families moved successively from St. Mary’s County, Maryland to Nelson County, Kentucky, and finally to Daviess County, Indiana. It represents an excellent example of “cluster migration.”

Just one year following the outbreak of the Civil War, Richard and his older brother, John, enlisted as Privates in Company B, Indiana 80<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment on August 14, 1862. The 80<sup>th</sup> Indiana Infantry was formed as a direct result of President Abraham Lincoln’s July 1, 1862, call for 300,000 more men to volunteer for the Union Army in order to help the Federal government win the American Civil War. Enlistees were sent to Camp Gibson in Princeton, Indiana for only two weeks of training before being

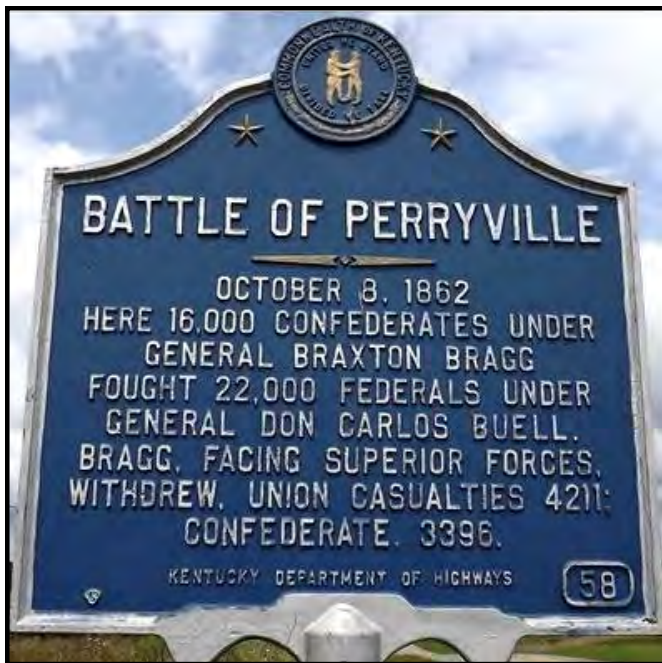
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Battle of Kennesaw Mountain - Wikipedia

©Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society





Roadside Sign

(Continued From Page 8)

transferred to Indianapolis, Indiana where they were armed and mustered in for a three-year enlistment on September 8, 1862. The regiment was attached to the Army of the Ohio and saw nearly continuous action until it was mustered out on June 22, 1865 at Salisbury, North Carolina. Among the more notable engagements and battles that the 80<sup>th</sup> Indiana Infantry took part in were the following: Defense of Cincinnati, Battle of Perryville, the Atlanta Campaign, Battle of Resaca, Battle of Kennesaw Mountain, Siege of Atlanta, Battle of Jonesboro, Second Battle of Franklin, Battle of Nashville, and the Carolina Campaign.

A more detailed look at Richard Norris' Civil War experience can best be accomplished by examining his military service during each year of his three year enlistment. Shortly following his enlistment with the 80<sup>th</sup> Indiana Infantry in 1862, the regiment was sent to help resist the Confederate invasion of Kentucky. In early September 1862, the men of the 80<sup>th</sup> Indiana spent two weeks building entrenchments near Covington, Kentucky for the defense of Cincinnati, Ohio. After joining Union Gen. Don Carlos Buell's Army of the Ohio, the 80<sup>th</sup> was transferred to Louisville, Kentucky for guard duty. Following the pursuit of Confederate States of America (C.S.A.) Gen. Braxton Bragg in October 1862, the 80<sup>th</sup> Indiana fought in the bloody Battle of Perryville, Kentucky. In the course of an afternoon the 80<sup>th</sup> suffered almost half of the battlefield casualties that it would receive during its entire war service. Following more guard duty in Kentucky, the regiment pursued C.S.A. Gen. John Hunt Morgan's Cavalry as it conducted a series of raids throughout Kentucky. In early 1863, the 80<sup>th</sup>

Indiana was assigned to guard the Louisville & Nashville Railroad. While guarding the railroad bridge over the Green River near Munfordville on April 1, 1863, Richard's brother, John Norris, succumbed to disease. His body was transported back to Indiana for burial.



Following more guard duty at Columbia and Glasgow, Kentucky, the 80<sup>th</sup> pursued Morgan's Cavalry once again as it conducted forays into southern Indiana and Ohio. This was followed by the liberation of East Tennessee with Union General Ambrose Burnside. The year ended with the 80<sup>th</sup> Indiana in defense of Knoxville, Tennessee against C.S.A. Gen. James Longstreet. Following guard duty in East Tennessee in early 1864, the 80<sup>th</sup> Indiana participated in Union General William Tecumseh Sherman's Atlanta Campaign, including the Battle of Resaca, Kennesaw Mountain, and the Fall of Atlanta. In October 1864 the regiment pursued C.S.A. Gen. John Bell Hood's army into Alabama and from there into Tennessee. This pursuit culminated in the Battle of Franklin, Tennessee. By mid-December the 80<sup>th</sup> Indiana and the rest of its Corps had finally destroyed Gen. Hood's Army at the bloody Battle of Nashville, Tennessee. In early 1865, the 80<sup>th</sup> Indiana was transferred to North Carolina where it participated in the captures of

(Continued on Page 10)



Battle of Nashville - Kurz & Allis

(Continued From Page 9)

Wilmington, Kinston, Goldsboro, and Raleigh. Following the assassination of President Lincoln and the surrender of all Confederate forces, the men of the 80<sup>th</sup> Indiana were mustered out at Salisbury, North Carolina and returned to Indiana.

Following his return to Indiana, Richard Norris married Mary Elizabeth Lents (1846-1918) in Daviess County on February 6, 1866. Mary Lents was also a descendant of religious refugees who had fled anti-Papist England two hundred years earlier and settled in St. Mary's County, Maryland. Although not a part of the original sixty families who formed The League of Catholic Families and migrated in 1785 to Nelson County, Kentucky, the Lents family migrated to Nelson County with a later wave of Marylanders. After living in Kentucky for several generations, the Lents family migrated with many other Nelson County families to southern Indiana after land became available.

Following their marriage in 1866, Richard and Mary Norris produced eleven children- John Frank (1868-1947), Hester Ann (1869-1942), William Albert (1871-1957), Cordelia A. (1873-1912), George Walter (1876-1934), Lewis Alvin (1878-1943), Mary Irene (1880-1972), Moses Richard (1883-1959), James Charles (1886-1953), Thomas Harley (1886-1939), and Michael Leo (1889-1952). Richard and Mary's son, Lewis Alvin Norris, was my paternal great grandfather and married Mary Evan Wade of Daviess County. Their daughter, Bonnie Dorothy Norris, married into the Guy family and migrated to Wisconsin where I was born several generations later.

Following the Civil War, Richard Norris spent the rest of his life working as a farmer in the rich croplands of Daviess County. Following the death of Mary in Washington, Indiana on May 2, 1918, Richard lived the remainder of his life with his son George's family. Richard died on December 30, 1922 in nearby Loogootee, Indiana and was buried at St. John Cemetery in Washington, Indiana.



Richard Norris Tombstone

#### Endnotes

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*Daviess County Democrat*, May 10, 1918, page 6, column 2.

1920 census, Bogard, Daviess, Indiana, HH George Norris; Roll: T625\_428; Page 5B; Enumeration District 5 Death Certificate, Vigo County, Indiana Dept. of Health, Book 55, p. 261

Find A Grave Memorial #106812664.



## Charles Stanley Minnick His Story

By JCNYS Member Joyce Dickinson Rivers

Charles Stanley Minnick was born 2 January 1909 in or near Fowler, in St. Lawrence County, New York. Born into a large family, he was the eighth child of Clara Jane (Hamilton) and Simeon Victor Minnick, a grandson of Charles B. and Harriet (Stone) Minnick, and a great-grandson of John Elias and Rhoda (Prindle) Minnick.

Charles S. Minnick is listed at the age of one, as the youngest child among his siblings in the 1910 US Census Record for Fowler, St. Lawrence County, NYS, listing in the household of Simeon and Clara Minnick. [1]



Charles S. Minnick

By the year 1914, Charlie had nine siblings: in order of birth, they are: Minnie Myrtle, Elizabeth, Beulah Adella, Harriet May, Luella Cecile "Doll," Hobart Hamilton, Ruth Alberta, Lucy B., and Simeon Victor (Jr.).

It was a significantly tough year for the family as noted in the booklet: *Vaccinations Results in New York State in*

*1914—Being a Study of Fifty-One Cases with Portraits and certain conclusions.*

*Case #27. In the fall of 1914 three members of the Minnick household received experimental inoculation. First to receive the shot was Charlie's sister, Ruth Alberta, on September 22, 1914, at the age of 10 - 1/2. Ruth, it is stated, was in perfect health. However, soon after she became critically ill with convulsions, unconscious four days, and throat became paralyzed. Little girl Ruth died October 10, 1914, ten days after the inoculation.*

*Case #28 A brother, Hobart is also inoculated on the same day as little Ruth, September 22, 1914. Hobart, at the age of 13, was vaccinated from the same capsule as his sister Ruth. He became very sick with similar symptoms. Hobart recovered with no serious consequences; and it is presumed that this was a case of "aborted" infantile paralysis.*

*Case #29. Another member of the same family receiving the same type of inoculation was Charles S. Minnick, on October 6, 1914. Ten days later, he complained of unfavorable symptoms of kidney trouble. For two weeks he was unconscious, with labored breathing. In recovering, he was slightly crippled. The article points out that it is seemingly, infantile paralysis. Young Charles does recover.*

A 1915 New York State census reports Charles S. Minnick, age six, living with his family in Wilna, Jefferson County, NYS. [2]

In 1920, Charles Minnick is found in the US Census for Wilna, in Jefferson County, NYS, living with his family, at the age of eleven. [3]

Charles S. Minnick at the age of 16, is listed in the 1925 New York State Census record still living with his family in Wilna, Jefferson County, NYS. [4]

In my search for a draft registration during World War II for Charles S. Minnick, I have been unable to locate one. I did find that Charles Stanley Minnick was married 16 April 1929 to Eva May Dickinson in the Adams Methodist parsonage in Adams, Jefferson County, NYS. [5]

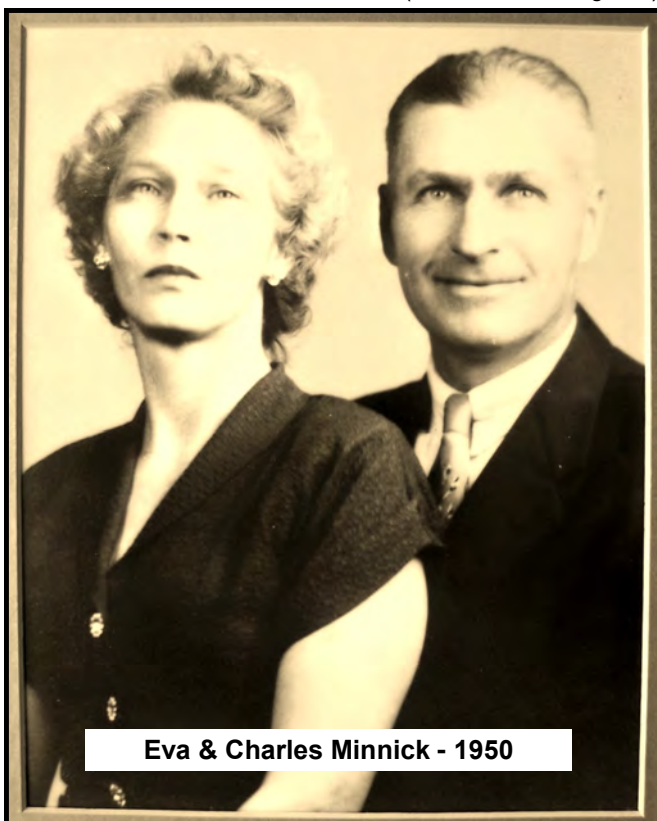
Eva was born 4 February 1909, in Ellisburg, Jefferson County, New York, a daughter of Fred Dickinson and Nettie F. Chrysler.

In the 1930 US Census Record for the Town of Adams, Jefferson County, NYS, we find Charles S. Minnick, age 21, now listed as head of household, with his wife Eva Minnick. [6]

Charles, at age 31, listed as head of household, living with his wife, Eva, age 31, in the 1940 US Census Record for Ellisburg, Jefferson County, NYS, reported to be living as a rental tenant with his wife and two children, Charles, Jr., age 9, and Christina, age 8. Charles is listed as living in a tenant house, and working as a farm manager, in a farming community. [7] It is at this time, I believe, that Charlie and his wife Eva were living in the family tenant house on her parents' farm at Taylor Settlement in Ellisburg, NY, where Eva's father, Fred Dickinson, had a farm well known for raising Brown Swiss milk/dairy cows.

A few years later Charlie and Eva purchased a dairy farm on NYS Route 11, a short three or four miles south of the village of Adams, raising Holstein milking cows, and also raising crops such as corn and green beans. It was here

(Continued on Page 12)



Eva & Charles Minnick - 1950

(Continued From Page 11)

that I began to live with my Aunt Eva and Charlie in 1948, at not quite the age of six.

It was during the mid to late 1940's when Charlie joined a musical group with Johnny Blackmere, playing in the North Country area. I forget the name of their band, as I was very young then. Charlie was musically gifted at playing the harmonica, piano and the accordion, as well as singing.

Charlie and Eva raised their two children, who attended and graduated from Adams High School.

In or about the year of 1950, Charlie and his wife, Eva, sold their dairy farm on Route 11, and purchased a small farm located at 52 Liberty Street, just inside the Adams Village limits.

From my personal knowledge, I know that Charlie and his wife, Eva, were active in the Adams community. Being a farmer in Adams, Charlie leased plots of land from town and village land owners to grow green beans, corn, and various other crops. It was a common occurrence to see Charlie drive his famous, green John Deer tractor into and around town. He would often "blow" his "siren" [8] to get the attention of a friend he saw during his travels. He knew everybody in town and most everybody knew him, being a likeable and personable character.

Charlie had a scar on one cheek; and as a very young child, I would, every now and again, ask him what happened to his face. His answer to me always, was, "*That's where my mouth used to be.*" It wasn't until I was well into my adult years that I learned that the scar was a reminder to him of the only time he went deer hunting, when someone accidentally discharged their rifle.

As a farmer, Charlie and his wife Eva actively participated in the local Grange. They were both faithful members in the Adams Village Baptist Church, where he was a choir member for many years. Charlie was also a welcome member of the Adams Center Fire Department. Charlie also worked for the Town of Adams, as Highway Commissioner until his retirement in 1973.

Eva was an active member of the Adams Village Baptist Church, and the Ladies Aid Society. She was secretary of



**Minnick Farm Route 11 Adams NY**

the church Missionary Society, and also served as secretary of the Adams Grange #491 for eleven years.

Eva died at the age of 65 with cancer. She had been a patient at the House of Good Samaritan Hospital in Watertown, Jefferson County, New York, and passed away there on 5 August 1974. Her funeral was held at the Piddock Funeral Home, in Adams, NY. The Pastor William F. Burton of the Adams Baptist Church, officiated. Eva is buried at the Honeyville/State Road (Route 177) Cemetery, Adams Center, New York. (FAG#76411759)

Charles Minnick, after the death of Eva, married a second time to Pearl Mullin, of Adams, NY, widow of John H. Mullin. [9] Pearl was born 6 January 1906, and died in May 1982. [10] She was already not well, and when she passed, Charlie married a third time, to Mae [UNKNOWN].

Charles S. Minnick, died 22 June 1990. I believe he died in Dunn, North Carolina. The Social Security Death Index reports that Charles Minnick (*notice the spelling*) died 22 June 1990, and lists his last place of residence as Dunn, Harnett County, North Carolina, USA. [11] (Charlie is listed on the internet site of "Find a Grave.com" and his Memorial is #76411938). I believe his burial is in, or near, Dunn, North Carolina.

[1] A 1910 US Census Record lists Charles S. Minnick, a son at the age of one living with his parents Simion V. Minnick and wife Clara J. obtained from FamilySearch.org at <https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M549-YHL>

[2] A report from FamilySearch.org indicates that the 1915 NYS Census record reports that son of Head of Family, Simeon V. Minnick, Charles S. Minnick, age 6, with birth years estimated to be 1909, living with family. Obtained from FamilySearch.org at <https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:K95G-68W?print=true>.

[3] A 1920 US Census record, obtained from FamilySearch.org reports that Charles Minnick, age 11, was living with his parents, Simeon Minnick and wife Clara J. Minnick, obtained from FamilySearch.org

[4] A 1925 NYS Census Record report for Town of Wilna, Jefferson County, NYS, lists Charles S. Minnick, age of 16, living with his parents... obtained from FamilySearch.org at: <https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KSSX-CX6?print=true> (image is available at Ancestry.com).

[5] A copy of marriage record for Charles S. Minnick and Eva M. Dickinson obtained from the Town of Adams, NY is in possession of Joyce Dickinson Rivers.

[6] 1930 US Census Record for Wilna, Jefferson County, NYS, obtained from FamilySearch.org at <https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:X7Z2-N6P...> <https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33S7-9RCK-HDZ?i=11&cc=1810731>

[7] 1940 US Census report; source: <https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KQ93-2RN>

[8] Charlie's "siren" was a vocal sound he made that mimicked a police siren.

[9] 1930 US Census records Pearl Mullin living with spouse John H. Mullin, and two children. Source: <https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:X7ZL-MN5>

[10] Family Search.org reports Social Security Death Index indicates Pearl Mullin's last place of residence was Jefferson, NY. Source: <https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:JKL9-8ZC>

[11] Social Security Death Index report, obtained from familysearch.org.



# ASK AUNTY JEFF



## AUNTY JEFF AND GRAMMA BEELE'S CANDLESTICKS

By JCNYS Member Nancy "Nan" Dixon

I knew about Gramma Beele early on, since my father mentioned her from time to time during my early childhood, but where she fit into the family was a mystery. No record I ever unearthed mentioned a Beele family, and yet my father could point to the vacant space on the wall of the old log house where her portrait should have been. My father never admitted to knowing her, or ever having seen her, but she was fixed in his memory, or at least her portrait was. And then there were her candlesticks.

They are probably iron, rusty, and never used to hold candles in my time. Instead, they were hunted out at butchering time in the fall, for the only purpose I ever knew them used for: to scrape the bristles off the pigskin before the porker was cut up into hams and shoulders and bacon to be immersed into the smoking barrel to be preserved for winter, after it had soaked in the pickle for the required length of time.

Butchering took an entire neighborhood of men, and the women helped each other to spread a feast after it was done. This was changing works; the men and the women would owe their neighbors a like amount of time or work when pay back came due.

Then recently I was asked to write about those candlesticks. But where were they? I remember the exact spot on the Binns cabinet, a kitchen cabinet bought for Gramma Binns in Canada by my own grandmother. An athletic cleaning woman got up on the counter of the cabinet to wipe the dust off the topmost shelf, and lo and behold, hiding behind a modern portrait that was hiding behind something else, were the candlesticks, entirely invisible for any short person standing on the floor. A communal sigh of relief went up from several members of the family, some of whom had been suspected of absconding with these family treasures. And the mystery of Gramma Beele's name jumped into focus.

I had never seen it in print. Many bits and pieces of family history were and still are, oral. Grandmother Abeel was born Elizabeth Fox, and she left those candlesticks to one of her daughters. We don't know which one; one married a Devendorf, and one married a Wagoner, and both firmly tangled in Aunty Jeff's family tree. Grandmother being shortened by loving grandchildren to Gramma, and her surname beginning



with an "a", generations not knowing her personally called her Grammabeele, as if it were one word. There were no Beeles, but there were plenty of Abeeles, one of whom married the Seneca Indian Cornplant and got into the history books as annoying sir William Johnson, one of whom was the mayor of colonial Albany, and a large family of whom settled in the Mohawk Valley and joined the migration north to Jefferson County, or the Black River Country as they knew it. Two sisters traveled north together and clung together in the county, moving north from the southern part of the Town of Clayton to Wellesley Island, and the candle sticks moved with them. One of them married into the prolific Wagoner family and took the candlesticks with her and there they stayed in the old log farmhouse until they moved back again to the Town of Clayton, where they are an antique treasure.



Unidentified Picture at Stone Mills Museum





## Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

National Headquarters

From the organizations website: "In early 1866 the United States of America — now securely one nation again — was waking to the reality of recovery from war, and this had been a much different war. In previous conflicts the care of the veteran warrior was the province of the family or the community. Soldiers then were friends, relatives and neighbors who went off to fight—until the next planting or harvest. It was a community adventure and their fighting unit had a community flavor.

By the end of the Civil War, units had become less homogeneous, men from different communities and even different states were forced together by the exigencies of battle where new friendships and lasting trust was forged. With the advances in the care and movement of the wounded, many who would have surely died in earlier wars returned home to be cared for by a community structure weary from a protracted war and now also faced with the needs of widows and orphans. Veterans needed jobs, including a whole new group of veterans—the colored soldier and his entire, newly freed, family. It was often more than the fragile fabric of communities could bear.

State and federal leaders from President Lincoln down had promised to care for "those who have borne the burden, his widows and orphans," but they had little knowledge of how to accomplish the task. There was also little political pressure to see that the promises were kept.

But probably the most profound emotion was emptiness. Men who had lived together, fought together, foraged together and survived, had developed an unique bond that could not be broken. As time went by the memories of the filthy and vile environment of camp life began to be remembered less harshly and eventually fondly. The horror and gore of battle lifted with the smoke and smell of burnt black powder and was replaced with the personal rain of tears for the departed comrades. Friendships forged in battle survived the separation and the warriors missed the warmth of trusting companionship that had asked only total and absolute commitment.

With that as background, groups of men began joining together — first for camaraderie and then for political power. Emerging most powerful among the various organizations would be the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), which by 1890 would number 409,489 veterans of the "War of the Rebellion."

Founded in Decatur, Illinois on April 6, 1866 by Benjamin F. Stephenson, membership was limited to honorably discharged veterans of the Union Army, Navy, Marine Corps or the Revenue Cutter Service

who had served between April 12, 1861 and April 9, 1865. The community level organization was called a "Post" and each was numbered consecutively within each department. Most Posts also had a name and the rules for naming Posts included the requirement that the honored person be deceased and that no two Posts within the same Department could have the same name. The Departments generally consisted of the Posts within a state and, at the national level, the organization was operated by the elected "Commandery-in-Chief."

Post Commanders were elected as were the Junior and Senior Vice Commanders and the members of Council. Each member was voted into membership using the Masonic system of casting black or white balls (except that more than one black ball was required to reject a candidate for membership). When a candidate was rejected, that rejection was reported to the Department which listed the rejection in general orders and those rejections were maintained in a "Black Book" at each Post meeting place. The meeting rituals and induction of members were similar to the Masonic rituals and have been handed down to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

The official body of the Department was the annual Encampment, which was presided over by the elected Department Commander, Senior and Junior Vice Commanders and the Council. Encampments were elaborate multi-day events which often included camping out, formal dinners and memorial events. In later years the Department Encampments were often held in conjunction with the Encampments of the Allied Orders, including Camps of the Sons of Veterans Reserve, which at the time were quasi-military in nature, often listed as a unit of the state militia or national guard.

National Encampments of the Grand Army of the Republic were presided over by a Commander-in-Chief who was elected in political events which rivaled national political party conventions. The Senior and Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief as well as the National Council of Administration were also elected.

The GAR founded soldiers' homes, was active in relief work and in pension legislation. Five members were elected President of the United States and, for a time, it was impossible to be nominated on the Republican ticket without the endorsement of the GAR voting block.

In 1868, Commander-in-Chief John A. Logan issued General Order No. 11 calling for all Departments and Posts to set aside the 30th of May as a day for remembering the sacrifices of fallen comrades, thereby beginning the celebration of Memorial Day.

With membership limited strictly to "veterans of the late unpleasantness," the GAR encouraged the formation of Allied Orders to aid them in its various

(Continued on Page 15)

(Continued From Page 14)

works. Numerous male organizations jostled for the backing of the GAR and the political battles became quite severe until the GAR finally endorsed the Sons of Veterans of the United States of America (later to become the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War) as its heir. A similar, but less protracted, battle took place between the Women's Relief Corps (WRC) and the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic (LGAR) for the title "official auxiliary to the GAR." That battle was won by the WRC, which is the only Allied Order open to women who do not have a hereditary ancestor who would have been eligible for the GAR. But in this case the LGAR retained its strength and was made one of the Allied Orders.

Coming along a bit later, the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, similar to the SUVCW but for women, also earned the designation as an Allied Order of the GAR. Rounding out the list of Allied Orders is the Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, which is open to women with hereditary ties to a veteran or who is the spouse, sister or daughter of a member of the SUVCW.

The final Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic was held in Indianapolis, Indiana in 1949 and the last member, Albert Woolson, died in 1956 at the age of 109 years."

JCNYGS Note: See page 17 of the July 2017 *Informer* for a story on Albert Woolson. Albert was a native of Antwerp, Jefferson County, New York.

## 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, New York

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 July 2017 *Informer*.

**Ebenezer Brown.** Born 1751 in Connecticut, Ebenezer Brown served as a private in Captain Stillman's Company, Colonel Jedediah Huntington's 20th Regiment, Connecticut Militia, in 1776. He married Molly Redway, from Connecticut, and later

moved to Lorraine. She died 28 December 1832 at the age of 82, and he on 3 January 1833 at the same age. Both are buried in the village cemetery in Lorraine.

**George Brown Jr.** Born in 1755 in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, George Brown served as a second lieutenant in the 7th Association Company of Falls Township of Bucks County, commanded by Captain Thomas Harvey. He married Susan Harvey and the couple had nine children: Elizabeth, Mary, Martha, George, William, Harvey, Thomas, Susana, Sally Ann and Henry. Mrs. Brown died at the age of 88 on 26 April 1843 at Brownville. George Brown died 1 February 1826 at the age of 71. Both are buried in the village cemetery at Brownville.

**Enoch Bean.** Enoch Bean is buried in the Arsenal Street Cemetery, Watertown.

**Jesse Benjamin.** Jesse Benjamin's grave is in the Clayton Cemetery.

**Nathaniel Butterfield.** Born 22 January 1732, Nathaniel Butterfield died in the Town of Champion, 24 September 1809. He is buried in the Champion Cemetery. John Campbell of Champion, deposes that Esther Campbell was a pensioner of the United States for the services of her first husband, Nathaniel Butterfield, under Acts of 3 March 1843 and 17 June 1844, at the rate of \$74.06 dollars per annum. Esther Campbell died in the Town of Champion on 10 September 1846 and was survived by seven children: Nathaniel Butterfield, Indiana; Benjamin Butterfield, Illinois; William Campbell, Philadelphia, New York; Prisy Crowner, wife of Peter, Ohio; Stillman Campbell, Pennsylvania; Betsey Nutting, wife of Stephen H. Nutting, Philadelphia, New York; and John Campbell, Champion.

**Thomas Bones.** Thomas Bones was an Irishman, born in County Antrim, Ireland, in 1753. He served in Colonel John Durke's 4th Regiment at the Battle of Germantown, 4 October 1777, and was at Fort Mifflin on the Delaware, 12 November 1777. During the winter of 1777 – 1778 he was at Valley Forge, and the next winter he spent at Redding. He was in movements on the east side of the Hudson, and fought at the Battle of Stony Point 15 July 1779. He wintered with the army at Morristown during 1779 – 1780. Thomas Bones appears in the Chester Company, Pennsylvania Militia in 1782. The company was commanded by Captain Jonathan Rowland and Colonel David Wilson. Thomas Bones did considerable confidential work for General Washington. His home was in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and he went north about 1818 and became one of the first settlers in Philadelphia, New York. Bones married Susannah Rowland, the daughter of John Rowland, on 31 January 1795. John Rowland lived at Great Valley, now Paoli, and often entertained General Washington. Susannah Bones died in 1820 at Philadelphia, and Thomas Bones died in the same town in 1830. Both graves were unmarked.



# The "Secret" Codes on Death Certificates That Can Tell You How Your Ancestors Died

From the on-line site: Family History Daily

Finding death certificates for our ancestors is a critically important part of family history research. These important records contain information about when and where our ancestor lived and died and often include names of a spouse, parents, witnesses and, of course, a cause of death.

But the causes of death on death certificates are notoriously hard to read. Certainly, the more we research the better we get at deciphering the meaning of these sloppily written medical texts, but, very often, we are still left scratching our heads. **Luckily there is a "secret" code on many of these documents** that can help you make sense of this information and more fully understand how your ancestor passed.

This often overlooked code (number) comes from the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), or the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems as it is now known in full – and is currently maintained and updated by the World Health Organization.

The ICD was originally developed in the late 1800s and was known as the Bertillon Classification of Causes of Death, after its developer Jacques Bertillon, and later the International List of Causes of Death. The coding system was designed, in part, to provide a unified way to communicate and track causes of death and was used by a variety of nations. The US began using it in about 1898.

For this reason many official US death

certificates after this time include these codes, as do certificates from many other countries at various times. The value to researchers today is that when causes of death are unreadable or confusing on a certificate we can **look up the code and find the cause of death in a clearly written database**. The information is made freely available online by Wolfbane Cybernetic at <http://www.wolfbane.com/icd/index.html>

Note: On the death certificate displayed, provided by JCNyGS, you will note that Mrs. Elizabeth Beaulieu's died in 1917 and the cause of death was "Terminal Pneumonia" Then you see the number 922 written beside it. On the most current Bertillon chart for 1917 (chart dated 1909, Revision 2), the first two digits 92 cross references to Pneumonia, and the third digit 2 stands for "type not stated." Although the cause of death was easily readable in this example, there are times where the chart will help solve the medical examiners noted cause of death.

**New York State Department of Health 71935**  
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS

**STANDARD CERTIFICATE OF DEATH**  
STATE OF NEW YORK

1 PLACE OF DEATH (Dist. No. 144)  
County St. Lawrence  
Town or Village or City Beauchaumont (No.       ) St.        Ward       

2 FULL NAME Mrs. Elizabeth Beaulieu

3 SEX Female 4 COLOR OR RACE White 5 SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED Widowed

6 DATE OF BIRTH 10 (Month) 13 (Day) 1837 (Year)

7 AGE 73 yrs. 1 mo. 8 da. If LESS than 1 day, how many hrs. or min.?

8 OCCUPATION (a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work Home wife  
(b) General nature of industry, business, or establishment in which employed (or employer)

9 BIRTHPLACE Canada

10 NAME OF FATHER Mitchell Gobia

11 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER Canada

12 MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER Not Known

13 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER Canada

14 THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE  
(Informant) Louis Lyo  
(Address) Helen N.Y.

15 PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL Beauchaumont Hall, Nov. 24, 1917

16 DATE OF DEATH 11 (Month) 21 (Day) 1917 (Year)

17 I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>, 1917, to Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>, 1917, that I last saw her alive on Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>, 1917, and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at 9 1/2 A.M. The CAUSE OF DEATH\* was as follows:  
Terminal Pneumonia

18 LENGTH OF RESIDENCE (For Non-Native, Immigrants, Transients, or Recent Residents).  
At place of death: yrs.        mo.        da. State         
(Primary (Registration district))

19 PLACE OF DEATH (If not at place of death) FOR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH ONLY  
Former or usual residence

20 UNDERTAKER James Phillips Massena N.Y.

21 DATE OF DEATH Nov. 21, 1917

22 PERMIT ISSUED BY J. H. Prashaw REGISTRAR  
Date of Issue Nov. 21, 1917

See Instructions on Other Side

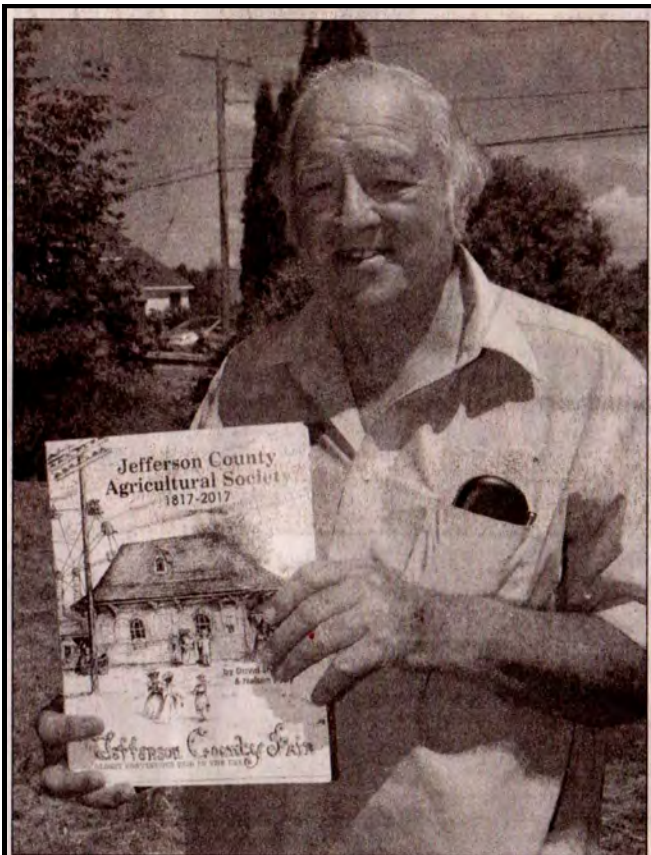


## NEW BOOK RECOUNTS 200 YEARS OF COUNTY FAIR

*Watertown Daily Times* 11 July 2017

**Byline: ELAINE M. AVALLONE**  
eavallone@lowville.com

Hot off the press, the swan song publication of the late David C. Shampine, in partnership with Nelson Eddy, president of the 4 River Valleys Historical Society, is expected to be available at the Jefferson County Fair this week. The historical society sponsored the book which was published by Coughlin Printing Group, Watertown.



ELAINE AVALLONE ■ JOHNSON NEWSPAPER

**Nelson Eddy holds a copy of the book about the history of the Jefferson County Agricultural Society spanning its 200 history and of hosting one of longest continuous running county fairs. Mr. Eddy along with the late David C. Shampine compiled the book.**

Titled "Jefferson County Agricultural Society, 1817-2017," the 228-page 8 by 11 inch paperback coincides with the 200th anniversary of the county fair. It is believed to be the oldest fair in New York State. The front cover of the book features a pen and ink rendition of the old Jefferson County fair ticket booth by Ronald Collins. Interior images were obtained from the *Watertown Daily Times* archives, Jefferson County Historical Society, the Jefferson County Agricultural Society and through private collections, said Mr. Eddy.

The book, at a cost of \$26, will be available at the Jefferson County Fair later in the week at the Jefferson County Grange exhibit in the Exhibition Building said Mr. Eddy.

Before his death, Mr. Shampine, long-time *Watertown Daily Times* journalist and author, told of the writing of the fair history. He said in the summer of 2013, he approached Mr. Eddy who he said had been associated with the Jefferson County Fair for many years.

"I approached Nelson at his doughnuts and lunch booth at the Farmers' Market with the idea of producing a book to coincide with the 200th County Fair," wrote Mr. Shampine in a 2016 email. "I had been thinking that there must have been some interesting stories originating at the fair over the years that are now lost in history. My bet was that some great reading was waiting for history buffs and fair fans. Nelson was open to my proposal, and our research soon was underway."

Mr. Shampine said stories in the book include "a wedding attended by more than 10,000 uninvited guests; two women carrying on a very public argument over their contrary views of whether women should have the right to vote; the day a loose bear disrupted the fair; a race between two professional bicyclists; and two state fairs held in Watertown."

Mr. Eddy said he has been involved with the county fair since 1970. He said in the early years, there were guest speakers at the fair. "A speaker at one of the first fairs was promoting grape farming and vineyards in this county," said Mr. Eddy. "As is what is going on today. It is interesting they had that foresight. They said types of grapes grown in France could grow here."

Mr. Eddy said Governor Rosewell P. Flower was also speaker at the fair. During his research, Mr. Eddy learned of a cheese contest at the fair which resulted in a local cheese being named best in the state and went on to be packaged in small fancy boxes to be exported to Europe.

He noted in the 1800s the fair was only two days as opposed to the six-day event it is now. The \$1 annual membership to the Jefferson County Agricultural Society allowed for a 5-cent admission to the fair and non-members paid 25 cents.

He said one of his favorite stories in the book is that of an exhibit in the early 1890s showing the agriculture of the south which was a popular display.

Mr. Eddy said he and Mr. Shampine had "two different styles." He wrote of the operation of the fair from the inside and his co-author "on outside looking in" telling the private sector's stories. Mr. Eddy said the two

(Continued on Page 18)



(Continued From Page 17)

"jelled together very well." "We worked well together," he added.

Town of Champion historian, Lynn M. Thornton, facilitated the creation of the fair history, helping to edit portions of the book. She said some of her favorite stories involved a pioneering woman, a bear display and a fair wrong doer.

"A pioneering woman was the star attraction at the Jefferson County Fair in 1885," said Mrs. Thornton. "Known as Nellie Thurston of Prospect, N.Y, but born as Ellen Moss in Troy, N.Y, she was celebrated as the first American woman to do solo flights in a balloon-hoisted basket. The article tells of some of her adventures in local flights, including being lost in the wilderness overnight."

"The big bear on display at the trained animal show of the 1904 Jefferson County Fair was the killer of seven men," said the historian. "Such was the claim at the attraction's site on the midway. What the promoter, or anybody else, hadn't counted on was for this alleged killer to be the opening day thrill show - or fright show - on Tuesday, September 20. That afternoon, 'Big Bear,' for a lack of a better name, broke free from his - or her - moorings and galloped lazily across the field toward the southwest corner of the fairgrounds. To find out more, read the chapter entitled 'Bruin on the Run.'"

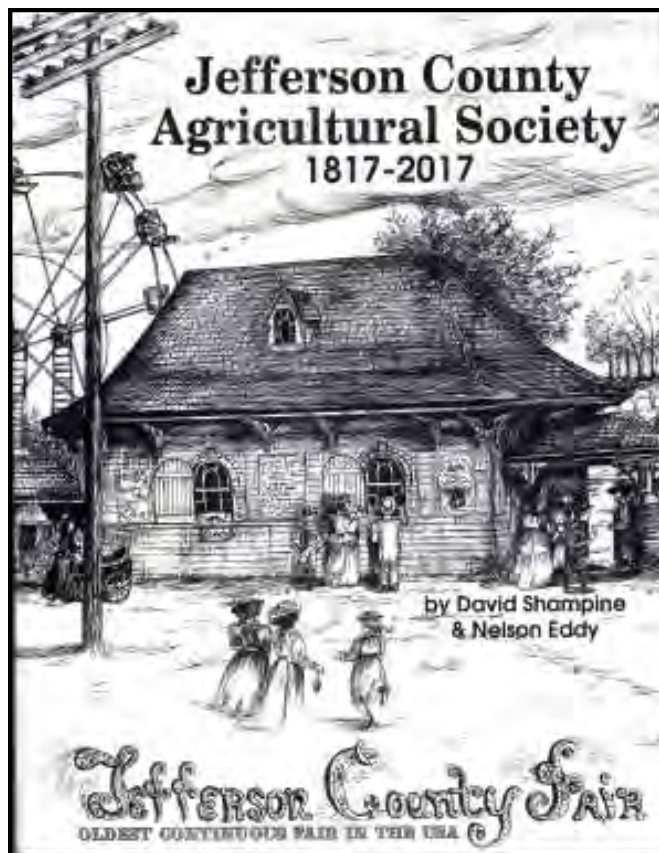
"A 'traveling man' took a step or two in the wrong direction at the Jefferson County Fair of 1908, and ended up with a broken finger," said Mrs. Thornton. "The question was, did Frank Marks intentionally try to interfere with the movement of an automobile transporting the state's governor, or was he the innocent victim of police brutality."

Prior to his death, Mr. Shampine expressed in an email concerning the book's creation thanks to those who aided in the publication. "We would be remiss if we didn't acknowledge some people who have lent us lending hands in our research," wrote Mr. Shampine. "Of tremendous help have been Lisa Carr, *Watertown Daily Times* librarian, and staff members at Flower Memorial Library. Also to our rescue have been Deborah Gillen, a volunteer at the Jefferson County Historical Society, and Darcy Peterson at Jefferson-Lewis BOCES. Lynn Thornton, town of Champion historian, is playing a crucial role as safety backup, just in case a writer's computer crashes, destroying all of his work."

During his time covering the police beat for the daily newspaper, Mr. Shampine wrote a column called "Times Gone By" that appeared every month or so in the Sunday paper. Through History Press in Charleston, S.C., he has published three books featuring the columns - "Remembering New York's North Country: Tales of 'Times Gone By,'" "Northern

Lights - Colorful Characters of Northern New York" and "New York's North Country and the Civil War." Another book, about the unsolved murder of a teacher from Scranton, Pa., titled "The North Country Murder of Irene Izak - Stained By Her Blood" was published in 2010. His last book published, "The Jefferson County Egan Murders: Nightmare on New Year's Eve 1964," has been made into a docudrama.

JCNYS Note: "The 4 River Valleys Historical Society currently has Dave Shampine's last book for sale. It was finished and published after Dave's sad death by 4RVHS President, Nelson Eddy, who worked with Dave throughout the writing process. The book sells for \$28, including tax. Copies are available through Lynn Thornton. It is also available from the Champion Town Clerk, Mr. Eddy and the Second Look Book Store in Watertown. Mail orders can be arranged by contacting Lynn Thornton." Mr. Eddy further commented "Jefferson County Agricultural Society, 1817-2017" will be available through the historical society website, <http://4rvhs.org/> and there are plans to have it sold in local bookstores. It will also be available at Mr. Eddy's place of employment, Petals and Pots Greenhouses, 7663 County Route 8, Cape Vincent.



Titled "Jefferson County Agricultural Society, 1817-2017," the 228-page 8 by 11 inch paperback coincides with the 200th anniversary of the county fair. It is believed to be the oldest fair in New York State. The front cover of the book features a pen and ink rendition of the old Jefferson County fair ticket booth by Ronald Collins.

# How Are We Related? Navigating the Terminology

By LegacyTree Genealogist

*How are we related?* That's a question that we have been asked quite a bit lately, and sometimes determining that exact familial connection with someone else can be confusing.

- What is the difference between a second cousin and a first cousin, once removed?
  - What does the "removed" mean, anyway?
  - If my mom has a cousin, how is he related to me?
- Is my grandfather's sister my great-aunt, or my grand-aunt?

If you have ever felt confusion over these terms, you are not alone!

Most of us know that our parents' siblings' children are our first cousins, and that our parents' siblings themselves are our aunts and uncles. That's easy enough to understand. It's when you get to more distant connections that it becomes confusing.

If you share the same grandparents, there is no difference in the generations, so you are first cousins. If you share the same great-grandparents, you are second cousins. If you share the same great-great-grandparents you are third cousins, and so on.

However, if your *grandparents* are someone else's *great-grandparents*, then you are first cousins once removed,

because there is a generational gap between you. The thing to remember is that the "removed" is used when you and your relative are of different generations. For instance, you and your cousin's child, or you and your father's cousin are of different generations, so there is going to be a "removed" in a description of your relationship.

The numerical value, "once removed" or "three times removed," counts back how many generations you must go to find the common ancestor between you and that other relative.

For example, if your first cousin has children, those children are your first cousins once removed, because your grandparents are their great-grandparents (just one generation). If those children then have children, they are your first cousins twice removed, because your grandparents are their great-great-grandparents (which is two generations).

Similarly, your mom's cousin is your first cousin once removed, because his grandparents are your great-grandparents. There is a generational difference. However, your mom's cousin's CHILD is your second cousin with no "removed" added, because the two of you share the same great-grandparents. There is no generational difference between the two of you, so there is no "remove."

With regards to the difference between great-aunt, grand-aunt, etc. – this one is up to you! They're just different terms that mean the same thing. The siblings of your grandparents can be called either your great-aunts and great-uncles, or your grand-aunts and grand-uncles.

The following chart may be helpful:

Relationship Chart

Common Ancestor	Child	Grandchild	Great-grandchild	Great-great-grandchild	Great-great-great-grandchild	Great-great-great-great-grandchild
Child	Siblings	Nephew/niece	Grandnephew/niece	Great-grandnephew/niece	Great-great-grandnephew/niece	Great-great-great-grandnephew/niece
Grandchild	Nephew/niece	First cousin	First cousin once removed	First cousin twice removed	First cousin thrice (three times) removed	First cousin four times removed
Great-grandchild	Grandnephew/niece	First cousin once removed	Second cousin	Second cousin once removed	Second cousin twice removed	Second cousin thrice (three times) removed
Great-great-grandchild	Great-grandnephew/niece	First cousin twice removed	Second cousin once removed	Third cousin	Third cousin once removed	Third cousin twice removed
Great-great-great-grandchild	Great-great-grandnephew/niece	First cousin thrice (three times) removed	Second cousin twice removed	Third cousin once removed	Fourth cousin	Fourth cousin once removed
Great-great-great-great-grandchild	Great-great-great-grandnephew/niece	First cousin four times removed	Second cousin thrice (three times) removed	Third cousin twice removed	Fourth cousin once removed	Fifth cousin

**How to use this chart:**

1. Locate yourself, or the first person, in the top row.
2. Locate the second person in the first column.
3. The relationship is where the two rows meet.

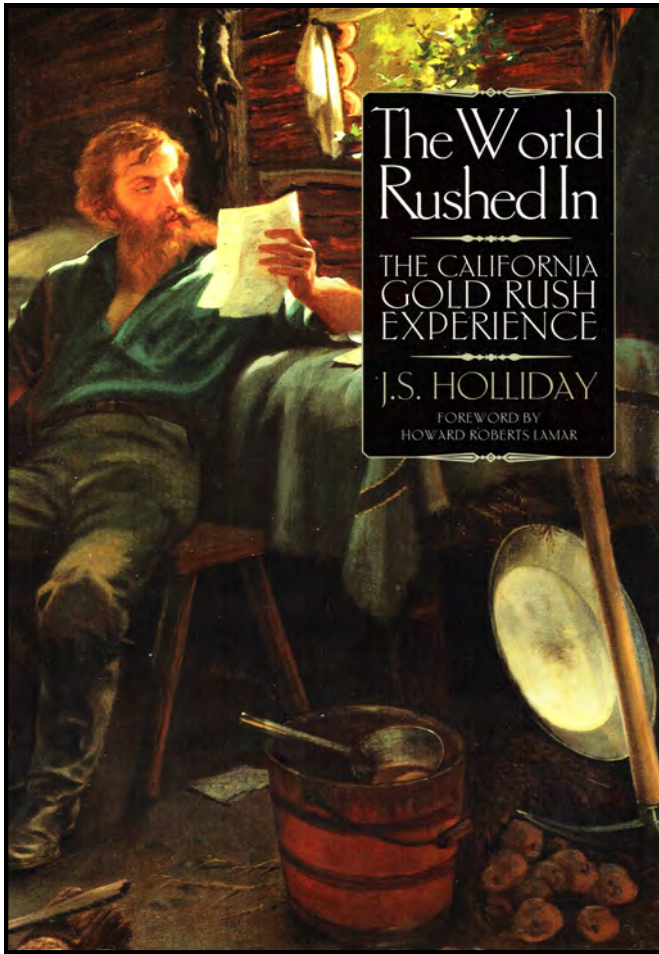
**In this example:**

1. You are the great-great-great-grandchild.
2. Your relative is the grandchild of your great-great-great-grandfather.
3. You and your relative are first cousins thrice removed.



## Gold Rush Classic Profiles Family with Theresa Roots

Book Review: *The World Rushed In*, by J. S. Holliday  
By JCNYS member Roberta D. Calhoun-Eagan



Left to my own devices, I never would have cracked a book about the 1849 California gold rush. It was the last subject that could draw my attention or interest. But upon learning that America's definitive history of this period profiled a man who married a Theresa cousin, our family's very own "California widow," I had to check it out.

Gold was discovered in Sutter's Mill in January 1848, just nine days before the treaty was signed ceding California to the United States at the close of the Mexican-American War. The migration of gold-seekers, coming overland and by sea, began in the Spring of 1849. The total number who traveled from 1849-1855 ultimately included over 300,000, and represented "the largest voluntary mass migration of people in modern history."

One hundred years later, the author of this engaging book made it his life's work to delve into personal accounts of this migration. J. S. Holliday read his first gold rush diary entry in February of 1948. By the time of the book's publication in 1981, an astonishing 33 years later, he had amassed over five hundred diaries and two hundred sets of letters.

Among all the gold rush diaries available to the author, Youngstown, NY farmer William Swain's collection was unique in both its depth and its literacy. Swain's tale was not written specifically for local newspapers back home, meaning it had a freshness and authenticity that many others lacked. Including letters to his wife and brother, Swain's account was nearly unique in its thoroughness, covering the entire 203-day odyssey and return home. Holliday carefully selected from other diaries and letters to fill the rare gaps in Swain's entries.

### History and genealogy of the family

In 1847 William Swain married Sabrina Barrett, daughter of Jefferson County War of 1812 Veteran Silas Barrett and his wife Lucinda Evans of Theresa, NY. (Sabrina's family had left for Youngstown, Niagara, NY in 1845). Barrett was born in Hinsdale, NH, which was also the birthplace of Lucinda and her parents, Uriel and Lucinda Evans. Of note to family historians is the finding by researcher Michael Stottle that among the author's papers at Yale University was a handwritten outline of the Barrett-Evans family genealogy, including names and places long forgotten.

In their profile of this book, Good Reads quoted the San Francisco Examiner: "It is not often that a work of history can be said to supplant every book on the same subject that has gone before it." I encourage readers interested in Jefferson County history to read this book to discover why, "like the Civil War, the California gold rush deserves to be a vivid part of our shared sense of America."

Genealogy notes from Yale Beinecke Library  
JS Holliday Collection

2.

*Continuation of genealogy of Evans and Doolittle family.*

*Children of Lucinda Evans (d. of Uriel E. Evans) and Silas Barrett of Hinsdale N.H. by Jefferson Co NY.*

1. Vestron Ashley	May 11, 1816		Feb. 1835
2. Lucinda	Feb 3, 1818	Carnegie	Nov. 1858
3. Sadley W.	Apr. 3, 1820	Walden Brookline	Nov. 28, 1858
4. Frederick B.	Dec 8, 1822	Mass	Mar 21, 1869
5. Sabrina	Apr 2, 1825	Wm Swain	Mar 14, 1912
6. Egro	Mar 18, 1827	Brighton	Dec 8, 1853

*Lucinda Evans died; her estate came out to Jefferson Co NY. & later care of these children, and married her brother-in-law 1828*

1. Silas, Jr.	Feb 3, 1830	Bachelor	July 1, 1917
2. Phulana	June 25, 1834	Miss	Mar 18, 1860
3. Paulina	Mar. 20, 1837	Unmarried	Jan 26, 1912

*Silas Barrett Sr  
Sadie Evans Barrett*

	Mar 14, 1790.		1828
--	---------------	--	------

*Sabrina Barrett*

	B. Apr 8, 1825	M. July 7, 1847	Mar. 15, 1912
--	----------------	-----------------	---------------

*William Swain  
See "Genealogy of Swain's Heights"*

*Most of the Swain mentioned in mother's letters are mentioned in your mother's genealogy.*

*Grandfather  
Silas Barrett  
Family Book*

## RODMAN WOMAN FINDS BURIED HISTORY IN AREA CEMETERIES

By Craig Fox

As printed in the *Watertown Daily Times* 10/9/2017

You can find a lot of hidden history in the north country's old cemeteries. That's partly why Rodman resident Janet A. Fish spends so much of her time in 13 area cemeteries.

Over the years, she's cleaned hundreds of grave markings of Civil War and Revolutionary soldiers, uncovering some forgotten history. For years, their headstones were ignored — until Mrs. Fish found them. "It's not right," she said. "I think it's really sad."

At this point, she's cleaned the headstones of 673 soldiers from the Revolutionary and Civil wars, including a few of her relatives. The gravestones need a lot of work. They don't have loved ones caring for their graves any more, so Mrs. Fish takes on that role "for people I don't know."

Over time, the old headstones get covered over by lichen that naturally grows on them. But the gray patches often hide who's buried there and the roles they played in the country's history. Many of the headstones include information about what the soldiers did in the wars, all of which would be forgotten because over time, stains grew and covered them.



Janet Fish, left, and her daughter Julie Fish pause after planting a flower at a headstone at the Maplewood Cemetery in Mannsville.

Armed with a plastic canister, she sprays a special outdoor cleaner, called Wet and Forget, to reveal these heroes and their "fantastic stories" once again. Otherwise, they'd be lost forever. She's been able to complete work on just a few of the headstones that need it. Mrs. Fish needs help. With everything going on in the country, she hopes others will come forward to join her in reviving the numerous headstones still out there. But time is of the essence. The work needs to start in the next few weeks. It takes about six months for the outdoor cleaner to work its magic. If it's applied now, volunteers can return in the spring to finally remove the lichen from the gravestones. The lichen material simply is brushed off and falls to the ground.

Old cemeteries are like "open-air museums," she said. A wealth of historical information can be gleaned from the headstones. "You really find amazing stories," she said. "How can you not save history?"

Here are a few of the more interesting names:

- George W. Coleman, who died on Dec. 3, 1862, and his

brother, Winfield, who died on Sept. 17, 1862. They fought at the Civil War battle of Bull Run and were buried in Rodman.

- Lauren T. Cox, a distant relative buried in Maplewood Cemetery in Mannsville, who fought in the Civil War and ended up as a prisoner in three Confederate prisons in Georgia.

- Russel Elsworth died in 1872 at the age of 40. He's buried in Fairview Cemetery in Rodman. He, too, fought in the Civil War and later became a minister. "I just adore Mr. Elsworth," Mrs. Fish said.

A short distance away sits the headstone of a mother and her five children, all of whom died in 1842 from a house fire just across the street from the cemetery. The husband went looking for help and lived.

Out of respect, Mrs. Fish refers to all of the war dead as "Mister," she said. To find out about the soldiers, she also conducts research so others can learn about them and seek out their grave sites. She puts the information and a photo of each headstone on the internet site, "Find a Grave."

Lawrence R. Corbett, vice president of the Jefferson County Genealogy Society, has helped her with research on about two dozen of the soldiers. "She does the dirty work on the ground," he said. Mr. Corbett said several other volunteers have come forward to unearth that history in cemeteries across the county, but few have taken on such a role as Mrs. Fish's. "The work she's done is phenomenal and I'm amazed," Mr. Corbett said.



Janet Fish, left, and her daughter Julie Fish pause after planting a flower at a headstone at the Maplewood Cemetery on Thursday in Mannsville. Mrs. Fish has cleaned more than 650 Revolutionary War and Civil War headstones in 13 cemeteries.

Without Mrs. Fish's interest, all of that history and the soldiers' contributions to the country would stay buried, said Jordan B. Walker, executive director of the Jefferson County Historical Society. Ms. Walker said she wishes that more of an effort had been made over the years at the county level because the neglect is "a disservice to the soldiers."

The cemeteries are an educational means to keep the soldiers' stories alive, she said. "I commend her for all of her work," Ms. Walker said of Mrs. Fish. Some of Mrs. Fish's efforts have received recognition in the past.

Four years ago, she came across an unmarked grave in the North Watertown Cemetery of a former classmate of hers at the old Wiley School. During her work, she discovered that Jack Blake — a 10-year-old boy who had become the first victim of serial killer Arthur Shawcross — was laid to rest in 1972 without a headstone on his grave. She made sure that he got one.



# Jefferson County Queries

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

## ALEXANDER, JONES

I am researching Aaron **ALEXANDER** who lived in Henderson, Jefferson, New York. He was born in Brattleboro, VT in 1787 and moved to Henderson around 1808. He married Betsy (Betsey) **JONES** around 1813. Betsy's parents lived in Herkimer County, NY. Aaron died in 1820. He also did military service in the War of 1812. Together they had the following children: Eli, Naomi, Albert, and one other.

*Brian Rich  
briguy16@gmail.com*

## JENKINS

My father Harold Edward **JENKINS** was adopted in Watertown, NY by John and Alice Maude Watts **JENKINS**. He was told he was born 7 October 1927. They lived in Richville, NY. John was of Welsh descent and was born in England as was Alice. John's brother Albitig also lived in Richville. Harold never knew who his birth parents were and I would appreciate any help identifying them.

*Roy Jenkins  
jwinky2@yahoo.com*

## SANFORD, GARDNER

Betty **SANFORD** was my maternal grandmother, b. March 1919 in Auburn, NY, d. May 1, 2003 in Watertown. Her father was Alfred Burton **GARDNER**. She married Alfred E. **SANFORD**. I would like a copy of her obituary and to contact someone who knew her. She was adopted by the **GARDNERS** and I am trying to find information on her birth family.

*Cindy Pelfrey  
cindykelfrey@gmail.com*

## BOWEN

William Henry **BOWEN** was born 18 Apr 1826 in Jefferson County. He left with his parents and moved to Illinois in 1838. I need the names of his parents which should be on his birth record. If this information is not available in your archives, I would like to hire a researcher.

*George McClain  
George.mcclain@the-marksmen.com*

## HARLOW, AUSTIN

I am looking for a newspaper article or other material (license) on a marriage that occurred on 23 March

1823 in Pamela between Joshua **HARLOW** and Anna Goodrich **AUSTIN**. They lived in Hounsfield.

*Sharon Gibson  
bassngal1@msn.com*

## ROWLAND, SPICER

I am looking for information about the family of George **ROWLAND**. He was listed in the 1850 census as 45 years old; then Fanny 36; Reuben, 18; William, 10; John, 7; and Charles, 5. George and Rueben were laborers. The whole family was supposedly born in Canada. George and Fanny were married in Ogdensburg, St. Lawrence County, NY, ca 1835. George was born in Canada on 14 April 1803. Fanny's maiden name was **SPICER**. They lived in the town of Alexandria, Jefferson County in 1850. I believe they left New York around 1855 and then they went to Iowa. George's military service was with the IA 37th INF B. It appears they lived in Kingston and Prescott, Ontario, Canada, but went back and forth to New York.

*Kathleen Carroll  
kathleen729@comcast.net*

## THOMAS, MILES, DELANO, TIBBLES

I have Arthur E. **THOMAS** who married Anna Emily **MILES** in 1909 and settled in the Rodman area. This Arthur died 27 Dec. 1971 in Watertown. Then I have a Pearl **DELANO THOMAS**, daughter of Mable Jenna **DELANO**. On Pearl's 1922 wedding license to Earl Frederick **TIBBLES**, of Theresa, she lists her father as Arthur **THOMAS**. Are these two different men or one in the same? Write me!

*Thomas LaClair  
tomclair624@yahoo.com*

## WETMORE, ALLEN

I know that Moses and wife Frances (**ALLEN**) **WETMORE** lived in Carthage from a letter written in 1866 by Moses's father. A later Wisconsin History of Prominent Men of Wisconsin says they had two children. One, Emogene was born Sept. 2, 1865 in NY. I am looking for any information about another child that would have been born while they lived there. Moses was also a private in Company B. 97th NY Infantry.

*Janean McKay  
jfmckay@newulmtel.net*

(Continued on Page 23)

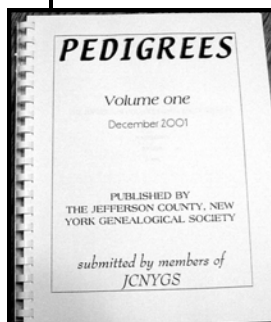


## JCNYGS MATERIALS FOR PURCHASE

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

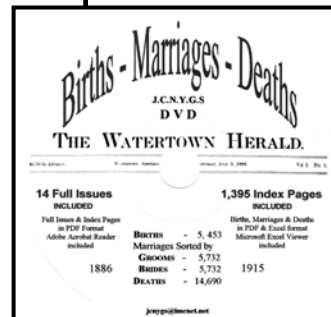
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Check with Greg or Tammy Plantz (above) for  
 availability of hard copy **INFORMERS**

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

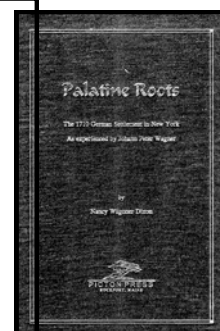


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**The 1710 German Settlement  
 in New York**

**As experienced by  
 Johann Peter Wagner  
 By Nancy Wagoner Dixon**  
**\$40 includes  
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**JAMES, CHRISTMAN**

I am looking for information on Harvey **JAMES**, born in Ellisburg, Jefferson, New York in 1827 and died in Washington D. C. 4 July 1864. He married Emily **CHRISTMAN** (1833-1916) in January 1850 and was living with Emily in their own household at that time. Because the 1840 census doesn't list individuals, it is unclear to which family he belongs. Children's names include: Nancy Jane, Mary Catharine, and Marth Ann Helen Arissa. Harvey's military service is with the Company G, 24th NY Cavalry. Findagrave.com lists identical information on Harvey **JAMES** in two cemeteries, one in Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia and the other in Woodlawn Cemetery, Sandy Creek, Oswego, New York.

Keith Reeves  
[reeveskd@gmail.com](mailto:reeveskd@gmail.com)

**TIBBLES, DAVIS, DRAPER**

Clinton **DAVIS** (1876-1940) married Nellie A. **TIBBLES** (born circa 1879, died unknown) in 1894. Then I have a Nancy Jane **TIBBLES** (1875-1947) who went by Nellie **TIBBLES** and she married Silas **DRAPER** in 1891. Seeking the parents of Nellie **TIBBLES DAVIS**. Write me!

Thomas LaClair  
[tomlaclair624@yahoo.com](mailto:tomlaclair624@yahoo.com)

**PARKS, KIDNEY**

We would appreciate any information on our grandfather, Smith **PARKS** and we believe he was born and lived his childhood in Watertown. His mother's maiden is Ida **KIDNEY** and was married to **PARKS**, first name we are unsure because of spellings. Children's names are Edward and David. It appears Smith's father died tragically shortly after the birth of Smith in an accident in their apartment. This is in the early 1900's. We are trying to piece together **PARK**'s ancestors/genealogy.

Hedy Swift  
[hedyswift@yahoo.com](mailto:hedyswift@yahoo.com)

**WARNER, WRIGHT**

I am searching for any information on Samuel Farnsworth **WARNER** who married Betsie **WRIGHT** on 3 July 1828 in French Creek (Clayton) Jefferson, New York. I have children as: Chester Sheraldne, Joseph, William Farnsworth and Caroline (My GG Grandmother). On an 1870 Iowa Census, Samuel Farnsworth **WARNER** lists that he was born in the state of New York and that his parents were both born in Connecticut.

Marc Paulsen  
[markmoyle@yahoo.com](mailto:markmoyle@yahoo.com)

## INFORMER

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

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Or Current Resident

# JCNYGS PROGRAMS FOR 2018

**January:** There is no meeting for January. Use this month to establish and document your genealogy research goals for 2018.

**12 February (Monday):** Retired Judge Clarence F. Giles Jr. will talk on the history of Penet Square. A treaty was held at Fort Schuyler (formerly Fort Stanwix) 22 September 1788, between the Oneida Indians giving land to Peter Penet. Penet Square is land in Northern Jefferson County and comes with a rich history.

**12 March (Monday):** Francee Calarco, of D. L. Calarco Funeral Home, will give a history of funeral homes of Watertown and talk about funeral home processes as they relate to genealogy and genealogical research. The funeral home routinely gets calls from researchers, and Francee will discuss the more commonly asked questions.

**19 April (Thursday):** Professional Genealogist Jean Wilcox Hibbin. A native of the Chicago suburbs, she now resides in Southern California where she worked as a college professor for thirteen years, returning to pursue her passions of family history and folklore (she holds a doctorate in the latter). She is a national speaker, the Director of the Corona Family History Center, 1st Vice President of the Corona General Society & Past President of the Southern California Chapter of Association of Professional Genealogist, Vice President of the General Speakers Guild, and Western Representative of the International Society of Family History Writers & Editors. Lead researcher for *Genealogy Roadshow*, Jean is excited to speak to members of JCNYGS and the local community. She will be in Jefferson County doing personal research.

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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 IHCS. 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.



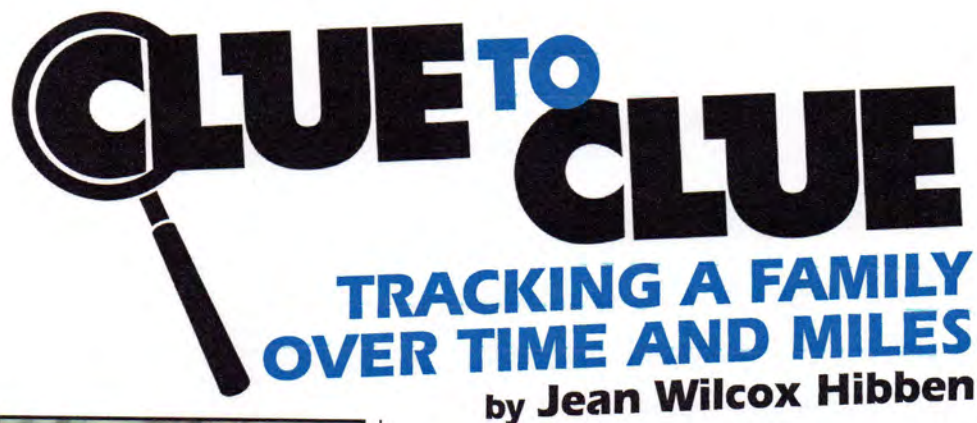
# INFORMER

Volume 25, Issue 2

Annual Dues \$18 Individual \$20 Family

April 2018

## JCNYGS WELCOMES JEAN WILCOX HIBBEN



# CLUE TO CLUE

## TRACKING A FAMILY OVER TIME AND MILES

by Jean Wilcox Hibben



**Jean Wilcox Hibben, Ph.D., M.A.,** is a former Southern California college speech professor with a Ph.D. in Folklore. She is a national speaker and author, and former director and current staff trainer for the Corona, California, Family History Center. Jean has over 40 years of research experience.

See full bio at [www.jcnygs.com](http://www.jcnygs.com).

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:**  
President Tom LaClair, 315-285-5032

**Thursday, April 19, 2018**

**6:00-8:00 p.m.**

Questions and reception follow presentation.

**Church of Jesus Christ  
of Latter-Day Saints**  
**20020 Ives St., Watertown**  
(across from Immaculate Heart Central)

Using various **clues**, Jean will show how you can move from **one piece** of information to the next to **piece** together the **life** of your ancestral family. Steps are illustrated so they can be followed by the **beginner** as well as the **seasoned** genealogist. Use of census, probate, property, and personal records, among others, are explained, along with the importance of **on-site** research.

This presentation is free and open to the public.



Jefferson County  
NY Genealogical Society

### Table of Contents

- 2 To The Editor
- 3 February  
JCNYGS  
Minutes
- 4 March  
JCNYGS  
Minutes
- 5 Daniel V.  
Desormeau
- 6 Social  
Reminiscing
- 8 Jean Wilcox  
Hibben
- 9 Book Review
- 10 Bonnie DeLine's  
Original  
Photos
- 11 Tribute to  
1776 Vets
- 12 What To Do  
With Floppy  
Disks
- 13 Pioneer Roswell  
Wheeler
- 14 Getman Military  
Funeral
- 15 Amanda Presley  
& Lisa Carr
- 15 Watertown  
Taxpayers  
1837
- 17 Villages Had  
Newspapers
- 18 Worth  
Remembering
- 19 Johannes  
Putnam
- 20 Jefferson  
County Civil  
War Draft
- 22 Queries
- 23 JCNYGS  
Materials For  
Purchase
- 24 Programs for  
2018

## INFORMER APRIL 2018

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](http://www.jcnygs.com)

**President:** Thomas LaClair, 17696 Co. Route 181, Clayton, NY 13624,  
[tomlaclair624@yahoo.com](mailto:tomlaclair624@yahoo.com), 315-285-5032

**Vice President:** Larry Corbett, 520 Binsse St., Watertown, NY 13601,  
[lrcorbet@giseco.net](mailto:lrcorbet@giseco.net), 315-323-3118

**Recording Secretary:** Vacant (A volunteer will be asked at each meeting until the position is filled.)

**Treasurer:** Greg Plantz, 21787 Reed Road,  
 Watertown, NY 13601, [tplantz1@twcny.rr.com](mailto:tplantz1@twcny.rr.com), 315-788-5324

**The Informer Committee:** (alphabetically) are Brenda Becker, [bmartinobecker@gmail.com](mailto:bmartinobecker@gmail.com); Roberta Calhoun-Eagan, [dioncalhoun@yahoo.com](mailto:dioncalhoun@yahoo.com); Bruce Coyne, [coynegen@aol.com](mailto:coynegen@aol.com); Anne Davis, [davisa24@verizon.net](mailto:davisa24@verizon.net); Jerry and Marilyn Davis, [maridavis@aol.com](mailto:maridavis@aol.com); Nan Dixon, [nandixon001@gmail.com](mailto:nandixon001@gmail.com); Julie Grace Fish, [fishig196@potdam.edu](mailto:fishig196@potdam.edu); Thomas LaClair, [tomlaclair624@yahoo.com](mailto:tomlaclair624@yahoo.com), (publisher); Greg and Tammy Plantz, [tplantz1@twcny.rr.com](mailto:tplantz1@twcny.rr.com); Beverly Sterling-Affinati, [harborsideservices@gmail.com](mailto:harborsideservices@gmail.com).

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



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

## ANNUAL DUES

Annual dues of \$18.00 individual or \$20.00 family are due July 1, 2018 (unless you paid for multiple years). We have about 15 members who are past due since July 1, 2017. If you are past due, and no longer wish to be a member, please let us know. We prefer not to delete memberships without a note for confirmation but will need to if we do not hear from you soon. If you are unsure, please check the address label on the back cover of the *Informer*. Your dues status is provided. If you have any questions for us, go to [www.jcnygs.com](http://www.jcnygs.com) and use the "contact us" tab to send leadership a message.

## THE COMPLETE LECTURE SCHEDULE

The complete lecture schedule for the 2018 calendar year is available on [www.jcnygs.com](http://www.jcnygs.com). Click on "Monthly Programs." We thank all those who have agreed to speak to members of the Jefferson County NY Genealogical Society. All lectures are free and open to the public. Directions to the lecture site is listed on the lecture schedule.

## THE COVER FLYER

The committee preparing for the visit of Jean Wilcox Hibben has been active since February. Thanks is due Tracy Negus Robertson for preparing the flyer that is on our cover.

## LOST AND FOUND

Can anyone help identify this woman? Her photograph, taken ca 1893, was found in the photo album of my great uncle George Byron Calhoun (1870-1909). I had first assumed it was taken in about 1870, as the chair closely resembles one in a baby picture of George. But a search of old newspapers reveals that the Watertown



Arcade Photo Studio, Hart, Beach & Hart, was formed in the late winter of 1893. This business name does not appear in any available ads or articles after

December of that year. Based on her apparent age, the subject of this portrait may have been one of the oldest women living in the area at the time.

*Arcade Gallery* ART *Paddock Arcade, WATERTOWN, N.Y.*  
HART, BEACH & HART

Roberta Calhoun-Eagan  
[dioncalhoun@yahoo.com](mailto:dioncalhoun@yahoo.com)



# Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society

Meeting Minutes, February 12, 2018  
By JCNYGS Member Tom LaClair

Attendance: Kathy LaClair Handschuh, Anne and Ed Davis, Jerry and Marilyn Davis, Bruce Coyne, Mary Erskine Coyne, Joanne Woodward, Clarence Giles Jr., Kathie Compeau, Jynna W. Brown, Tom LaClair, Hollis Dorr, Bill Bell, Larry Corbett, and George Inglehart. Treasurer Greg Plantz was excused.

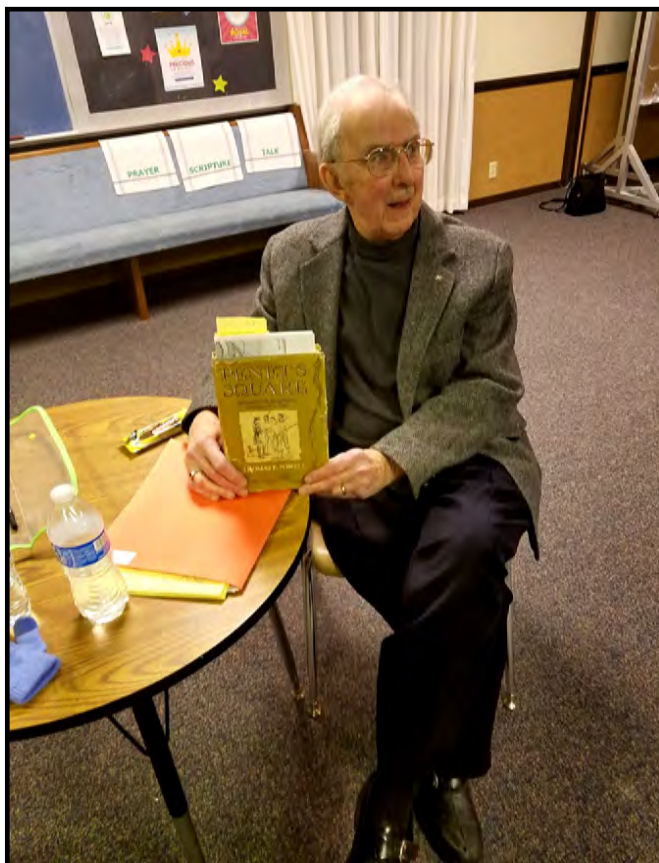
The business meeting was open at 6:00PM. After welcoming members, the financial report was read as prepared in advance by Greg Plantz. The 1 Jan 2018 checking account balance was \$6,231.47. Since then deposits equaled \$148.00. Expenses were Coughlin Printing for \$607.24 (Jan 2018 *Informer*) and U.S.P.S. (P.O. Box annual rental) for \$90.00. The checking balance today equals \$5,682.23. The savings account equals \$404.25 and a certificate of deposit equals \$2,435.39. The report was approved subject to audit by Hollis Dorr and seconded by Bruce Coyne. There was a motion to donate \$250.00 toward the Apr 2018 meeting where professional genealogist Jean Wilcox Hibben will speak. A reception will follow her comments. The business meeting concluded at 6:15 with Marilyn Davis making the motion and Hollis Door seconding.

Time was then turned over to Jerry Davis to introduce Clarence Giles Jr., the guest speaker. Retired Judge Giles Jr. was active in a law practice and worked many wills and estates and has walked through several cemeteries seeking proper ancestry and identifying rightful heirs. He understands the legal side of knowing a person's ancestry. He spoke on Penet's Square.

A treaty was held at Fort Schuyler (formerly Fort Stanwix) 22 Sep 1788, between the Oneida Indians and certain commissioners representing the state of New York, at which time the natives ceded to the state all their domain, but with the express understanding that the state should, "as a benevolence from the Oneidas to Peter Penet, and in return for services rendered by him to their nation, grant to the same Peter Penet, of the said ceded lands, lying to the northward of the Oneida lake, a tract of land ten miles square, wherever he shall elect the same." Judge Giles spoke of the size of the square—10 miles by 10 miles equaling a 100 miles square. The one-mile by one-mile squares are numbered 1 – 100 and can often be referred to within individual land deeds to this day. Penet's Square is about the size of Washington, D.C. Penet's Square, inside Northern Jefferson County, is comprised entirely of the Town of Orleans, two-fifths of the Town of Clayton, and a small section of the Town of Pamela around Perch Lake. The judge spoke of men like Governor DeWitt Clinton, John Duncan

(Attorney to Peter Penet and holder of a Power of Attorney), John LaFarge and James LeRay de Chaumont—all important men in the shaping of the area. Peter Penet never got to do anything with the land or even live there, so the title became very questionable, squatters were angry and took over the land, and then Penet was lost at sea. When it was rumored Peter Penet died, the POA held by John Duncan died as well. John LaFarge eventually bought the square, divided and sold plots of land.

For more information on Penet's Square, go to <http://history.rays-place.com/ny/orleans-ny.htm> or pick up the book *Penet's Square* by Thomas Powell. The Flower Memorial Library in Watertown has two or more copies for viewing.



Judge Clarence Giles Jr. holds his copy of *Penet's Square* by Thomas F. Powell. He poses for the camera after presenting his program on Penet's Square.

**“Silent’ and ‘listen’ are spelled with the same letters.” – Author Unknown**

# Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society

Meeting Minutes, March 12, 2018  
By JCNYS Member Jerry Davis

President Tom LaClair opened a short March business meeting with a large attendance including Bruce and Mary Coyne, Don Dillenbeck, Tom LaClair, George Inglehart, Kathie Compeau, Jeanne Woodward, Jerry and Marilyn Davis, Mary Blanchard, Sharon Delosh, Mary Ransome, Peg Booth, Connie Barone, Jeannie Brennan, M. Russell Lee, Tracy Robertson, William and Mary Dasno, Anne Davis, Loretta Whalen Stamps, Mary Corboy, Jim Eagan, Roberta Calhoun-Eagan and our guest speaker Francee Calarco.

With only a deposit of a \$40 check, the treasurer's report was accepted by a motion from Mary Coyne and seconded by Marilyn Davis. The meeting was adjourned by a motion from Tracy Robertson and seconded by Marilyn Davis. After the program President Tom shared reminders for our April meeting with genealogist Jean Wilcox Hibben on **Thursday the 19th of April**, and the 2018 History and Genealogy Fair on Saturday the 15th of September. He also mentioned that those who have access to Ancestry.com, you can now search the New York State Marriage Index 1881-1967. Tracy Robertson mentioned that they were also available on Archives.org as well. Connie Barone also mentioned the Sackets Harbor Battlefield Historic Site 2018 Schedule of Events as well as the Fort Ontario Conference On History & Archaeology's "Reflections on the Great War 1914-1918" to be held April 21-22 at the Best Western in Oswego.

Jerry Davis introduced Francee Calarco and her presentation on Funeral Homes and Genealogy. The gathering was one of our largest in perhaps years and they were not disappointed. Members and guests from as far away as Rochester, near Utica and Binghamton enjoyed a wonderful presentation by Francee with lots of discussion and questions during the presentation and even more afterwards. From the influence of digital record keeping to funeral homes closing or consolidating and the genealogy information available, it was a great program for our March meeting.

Francee Calarco presents her program



"And even more questions afterwards"

**Funeral Homes**

- ▶ Funeral Homes can provide
  - ▶ Death Certificate Information
    - ▶ Where the certificate was filed ( place of death: city town or village)
    - ▶ Possibly a copy
  - ▶ Obituary Information
    - ▶ Where the obituary was published - newspaper/websites (legacy.com)
    - ▶ Possibly a copy
  - ▶ Cemetery Information
    - ▶ Cemetery, section, lot number, others buried there
    - ▶ Rarely a deed

Images on the slide include a 'Certificate' form, an 'OBITUARY' text block, and a photograph of a cemetery.



## A French-Canadian Patriot of WWI: Daniel V. Desormeau of Watertown and Theresa

By Roberta D. Calhoun-Eagan

On an early spring day in 1887, the infant son of Quebec's Phileas Desormeau and his wife, Frances Whitney of Willsboro, Essex, NY, was baptized as Vital-Damian into the Catholic faith on April sixth.

During his formative years the family moved around a great deal so his father could find work, residing in Hastings and Cornwall, Ontario and finally in Watertown, NY. Nevertheless, the young Desormeau known as Daniel managed to complete a 6<sup>th</sup> grade education. Losing his mother in 1904, Desormeau was then orphaned in 1906 when his father, a stonecutter by trade, fell through an elevator shaft during construction of Watertown's new Solar building.

Unlike his younger siblings who spent years of their childhood in St. Patrick's Orphanage, at age 19 Desormeau was old enough to support himself. He was first listed in Watertown's 1907 city directory as a carriage painter for Babcock Carriage. Acquiring several skills throughout the years, he was employed as a blacksmith by 1910 and afterwards as a skilled mechanic. In 1916 he married Mildred Pearl DeYoung of Theresa, daughter of William F. Dion of Brockville and Ida S. Evans of Barnes Settlement. Desormeau must have been a dashing figure back then, riding an early motorcycle along Theresa's rural roads.

In the autumn of 1917 Desormeau was accepted by a local Army recruiting station. He served overseas as a sergeant first class in France with Lt. James E. Barney's Sanitation Unit from December 1917 through February 1919, leaving for Fort Jay, Governor's Island on October 22, 1917. Very little is known about his war years. Serving with the Babcock Motor Ambulance Unit and presumed to have been a mechanic and



Sgt. Daniel Desormeau during WWI

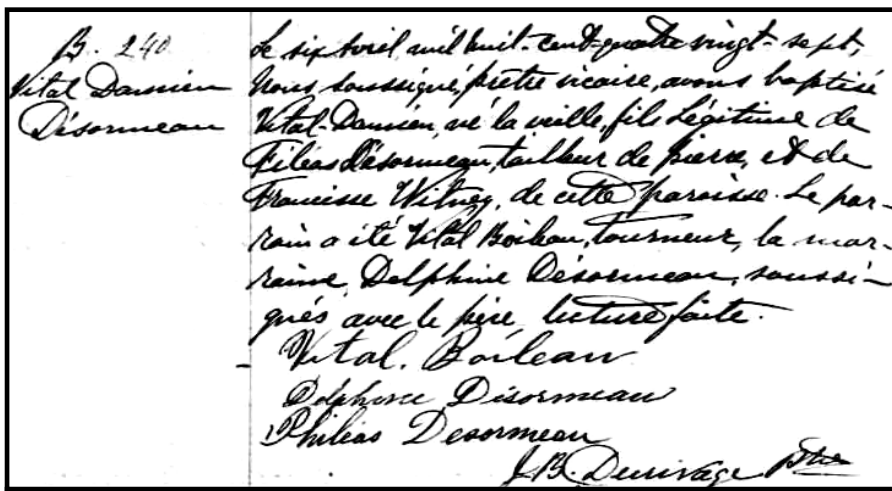
driver, Desormeau almost certainly would have provided first aid to injured soldiers on the front lines.

After the war Desormeau worked as a Babcock mechanic until the company experienced a great fire in 1921, forcing them to lay off several workers. While it is not known whether he was let go, he chose this moment to begin a new life in Theresa as a farm laborer, operating his own dairy farm by 1929.

When he passed away of emphysema in 1965, Desormeau was the last surviving member of the Babcock Motor Ambulance Unit. He is buried at Theresa's Oakwood cemetery. Daniel and Mildred had three children, Douglas Kenneth (1918-2004), Gerald William (1921-2014) and Ida Grace Desormeau Hunneyman (1927-2017). There were twelve grandchildren and now numerous great-grandchildren living in Jefferson County, NY as well as Oklahoma and Florida.

Desormeau's name was inadvertently omitted from the book, *Jefferson County in the World War*, describing Jefferson County men who served in WWI. For years he kept a trunk of mementos from his service, but at one point in the 1960s it was ordered destroyed. A 2018 letter to the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis was answered with the statement that the Official Military Personnel File (OMPF) needed to answer the query was not on file: "If the OMPF were here on July 12, 1973, it would have been in the area that suffered the most damage in the fire on that date and been destroyed." Given the limited information about his service, Desormeau could easily become a forgotten Patriot of World War I.

Nevertheless, it should and will be remembered that after residing in America for a mere fifteen years, Desormeau joined the war effort to serve alongside his fellow countrymen.



Baptism of Vital-Damien Desormeau in Montréal

Watertown Daily Times Newspaper  
As Printed in the November 24, 1923 Edition

## Social Reminiscing Half Century Back in this City

Watertown Today Wonders if Grandparents Could Have Stood the Hectic Complexities of Life of This Age - Private Theatricals in 60's One of Favorite Indoor Sports.

Every once in a while, some philosopher is want to commune with himself after this wise: How would our grandparents have stood the hectic complexities of life today, and how would we of today react were we thrust back into the social world of the '50s and '60s?

No amount of cogitation, of course, can answer that question. The human body has a way of adjusting itself to varying environments, just as the mind, after a sufficient interval, can adapt itself to whatever circumstances one happens to be thrown into. The interesting point to be noted is the extraordinary change in common social pleasures that has come about in the last 70 years or 80. It has been a change from the simple to the complex, following the whole trend of existence, from the sedately to the boisterously gay, from the rhythm of the polka to the mad gyrations of the fox trot.

Watertown's social life of the late '50s and the '60s was a comparatively quiet, peaceful thing, in the first place, the town then boasted few families of real wealth, although there were plenty of the well-to-do class. So, even had the disposition existed, it is altogether likely that Watertown's pleasures would not have been of the expensive order.

There was dancing, yes, but nothing of the sort now common. The quadrilles, schottische, and polka were considered proper. The waltz, then just lifting its head over the horizon, was not generally looked upon with favor, the young folks' parents conceiving it to savor a trifle too much of physical contact.

Kissing games of all sorts were inordinately popular, especially among the younger element. When cards were permitted in the house--- which wasn't always--- the favorite games were whist, euchre, double bezique and cribbage. Many of the stricter church goers looked on cards as the "devil's book" and would have nothing to do with them.

One of the most prized forms of indoor entertainment was private theatricals, and charades also ranked high in popularity. Immediately after the Civil War, The Drummer Boy of Shiloh was performed with zest by members of Watertown's social set. Of professional stage pieces, there were few, but now and then a negro minstrel company would strike the town, holding forth in the venerable Washington Hall, where the

Y.M.C.A. now stands. There would be the inevitable parade around Public Square; and the day following the performance the jokes and stories "put across" would be gravely discussed by the village folk -- or such part of them whose religious or moral scruples did not forbid their attendance at the minstrel show.

In those days, a church served one main purpose only—as a center of worship. There was no thought of gymnasiums, men's club houses, grills in which to hold "sales" of suppers; they would have been considered entirely superfluous. The whole community was church-going, and Sunday was strictly observed. No pleasure horses were used on that day except to convey the old or weak to church. People ate caraway seeds during the sermons, which was of a length sufficient for four modern discourses; and they stood during both the "long" and the "short" prayer. There was daily reading of the Bible in the family, and family prayers were strictly the rule.

The First Presbyterian Church, established in 1803, was then, as now, practically the leading Protestant Church in town. Two of its old-time ministers were Rev. Isaac Brayton and Rev. George Boardman. Rev. Mr. Brayton built the house (at 143 Clinton street) which was later purchased by John Lansing, father of Robert Lansing, former Secretary of State. John Lansing's daughters, Miss Katherine T. E. Lansing and Miss Emma Lansing now live in the house.

The old-fashioned circus always made a hit in Watertown, where it was more cordially received than in New England towns. There, the circus was considered the straight road to perdition. The old circus lot was where Trinity church stands, and the elephants were sometimes to be found on the lot where the Knights of Columbus clubhouse is built (148 Stone street) --- also occasionally in the tract of meadow now covered by the Flower block.

Norris Winslow, long gone to his reward, created a furor of interest one winter by building an ice skating rink in a vacant lot along Keyes avenue. Young Watertown - and a good share of older Watertown too --- sped about that rink most of the winter. There were fires along the edge of the rink where chilled toes could be warmed, and fingers stiffened by the cold restored to their normal limberness.

Watertown around the Civil War period was a pretty good sized village, of some 6,000 souls, and the most of the streets as we know them today had not even been thought of. Washington street was then the fashionable residential street, but Stone and Clinton streets vied with it. Sterling, Benedict and Arsenal also were lined with the houses of the city's "400."

Of more absorbing interest than the social customs themselves, however are the people who carried them

(Continued on Page 7)



(Continued From Page 6)

out. Needless to say, by far the majority of Watertown's aristocracy of the 60's has passed away. There used to be in this town a group of some 25 young people, nearly of an age and all of the same social clan, who practically dominated society as it then existed. They could be found at the head of any movement for pleasure, and so congenial were they that never a rift appeared in the harmony that characterized their activities.

This group of young people largely intermarried, and so it happened that six of the ten couples celebrated their golden weddings here. These celebrants were Fred Sherman, who married Sarah Hubbard; Fred Farwell, who married Mary Yale; John Knowlton, who married Susan Flake; George R Hanford, whose wife was Anna Wood; George W. Knowlton, who married Gertrude Ely; and Levi Johnson, whose bride was Louise Clark.

Others of that merry group were George Massey, Mary Massey, Hattie Yale, Charles Sherman, Robert Sherman, Florence Harger, Mary Harger, Fred Ely, Fred Lansing and Sarah Sherman, a daughter of George C. Sherman, whom he married.

Still other families that gleamed brightly in Watertown's social sky of the '60s were the Storeys, the Angells, the Merrills, the Paddocks, the Woodruffs, the Woods, the Mullins, the Hubbards, the Huntingtons, the Bagleys, the Clarks, the Fairbanks and the Adkins.

A few homes in the town stood out particularly as social centers. There is the Lucius Sherman house at the corner of Clay and Sterling streets, where St. Paul's Episcopal church is now, the Ambrose Clark residence at Stone and Massey streets, the Huntington home at Benedict and Stone, the Edward Massey place, located at what is now the Massey street home of Emma Flower Taylor, the Hart Massey residence, now the bureau of charities, the Adkins home in Sterling street and the residence of the picturesque Jason Fairbanks in Arsenal street.

But probably the real center of social gayety in Watertown in the '60s was the house (at 167 Clinton street) built by Wooster Sherman and now occupied by George W. Knowlton, who as a young man was often entertained beneath its hospitable roof. The Shermans were a large family and teemed with the spirit of a "good time" so that the rooms of their home rang almost continuously with the laughter of young people.

Some of the beliefs held by our grandfathers in the '60s seem amusing enough today. For instance, appendicitis was called inflammation of the bowel, pneumonia was known as lung fever, and water was generally regarded as offal and was forbidden the sick. Sweetbreads were given away to those hardy enough

to eat them. English walnuts, even when sprinkled with salt, were looked on with suspicion; and it was popularly supposed that the eating of tomatoes brought on cancer.

The confectionery delights of the children were long sticks of colored candy, gum drops, chocolate drops, molasses candy, licorice drops and "Jackson balls." Spruce gum was chewed and so was tobacco—liberally.

Iron deer or maidens were common as front yard "ornaments" but there was a woeful scarcity of bathtubs. When these were available, they were used only on the proverbial Saturday night. During the week, the tubs did very well at holding potted plants, which were thus easily watered.

JCNYS Note: Vice President Larry Corbett transcribed and submitted this article. He added the street addresses in parenthesis.

## HUESTED GLASS PLATE NEGATIVE COLLECTION

At the Jefferson County Historical Society

Jefferson County Historical Society posted this on this on their Facebook page January 22, 2018:

"We are very lucky to have a guest curator and photographer as our collections volunteer today! Kent Bolke works at the 10th Mountain Division and Fort Drum Museum and is also an avid photographer on the side! He is working on digitizing our Husted glass plate negative collection for the benefit of our museum and patrons!

Once he gets the photos taken he will then put them into Photoshop and invert the negative and we will have a perfect photograph! I'm sure Husted never could have imagined this technology when he set about taking nearly 15,000 photos of Jefferson County to record its people and history at that time!

Our glass plate negatives are very fragile and very sensitive to light, temperature, humidity, and oils. This is a wonderful preservation and recording step for all of the plates, so they can be stored safely without constant moving."

**"Someday is not a day of the week." – Author Unknown**

## JCNYGS Welcomes Genealogist Jean Wilcox Hibben

Guest Lecturer Thursday, 19 April 2018, at 6PM

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints  
building, Watertown

**Jean Wilcox Hibben; PhD, MA**, has been involved in family research for over 40 years. A former Board-Certified genealogist, she is a member of the National Genealogical Society (NGS) and is on the following Boards: the Genealogical Speakers Guild, the International Society of Family History Writers and Editors (currently 1st Vice President), the So. Calif. Chapter of the Assoc. of Professional Genealogists (current President and past APG board member), and the Corona Genealogical Society (President and webmaster). She maintains her own website with information about her presentations, CDs, articles, projects, etc.: [www.circlemending.org](http://www.circlemending.org).



Jean is associated with the Corona California Family History Center (former director, current staff trainer); she was the lead researcher for the 2013 Season of the PBS television program *Genealogy Roadshow* and did research for *Follow Your Past*, appearing on Travel Channel in March and April 2016. A native of the Chicago suburbs and retired college speech

professor, she holds a master's degree in speech communication and doctorate in folklore. Jean is a national speaker known for her entertaining, as well as informative, presentations and is a frequent writer for various genealogy publications. With Gena Philibert-Ortega, the two form Genealogy Journeys®, hosting genealogy cruises and a series of podcasts (launched in 2016), dealing with Social History. Their blog is <http://genaandjean.blogspot.com> where information on both endeavors can be found.

A former square dance caller, Jean has been playing guitar for about 50 years, learning a variety of other folk instruments along the way. She sees a connection between family history and music because, in learning about our forebears, we try to piece together the various elements of our ancestors' lives to create a complete (or as complete as possible) picture of who



From Jean's website

they were in their homes, families, occupations, religions, and activities. Their musical interests/involvement should be considered part of this whole picture, or circle, of their lives and that is the primary focus of much of her writings.

Jean's philosophy is that "who we are is a compilation of our experiences and associations as well as our biological connections. When we understand our ancestors, we can better understand ourselves. By doing this, we can complete our personal family circles." This connects to her mission statement: "My goal is to assist others in their efforts to connect generations (past to present), completing the family circle."

**Her lecture is "Clue to Clue: Tracking a Family over Time and Miles":** Using various clues, this presentation shows how to move from one piece of information to the next to piece together the life of an ancestral family. The steps used are illustrated so that they can be followed by the beginner as well as the seasoned genealogist. Use of census, probate, property, and personal records, among others, are explained, along with the importance of on-site research.

There will be a Q & A session after her comments. In addition, a reception at the church will follow the lecture. The event is free and open to the public.

**"Try to live your life so that you  
wouldn't be afraid to sell the family  
parrot to the town gossip."  
– Will Rogers**



## There Were Giants in The Earth in Those Days

(Genesis 6:4)

### *Fourteen Generations of the William Cole Family in America*

A book written by DuWayne H. Hansen

In early 2016, DuWayne and JCNYS President Tom LaClair began corresponding. DuWayne is an out-of-state member of JCNYS and the society was seeking articles for the *Informer*. DuWayne shared news of a book he was working on. "It would be nice to have an article or two printed about Benjamin Cole Jr. and Nathan Cole, brothers who settled at Pamela Four Corners and LeRay shortly after the turn of the 19th century.

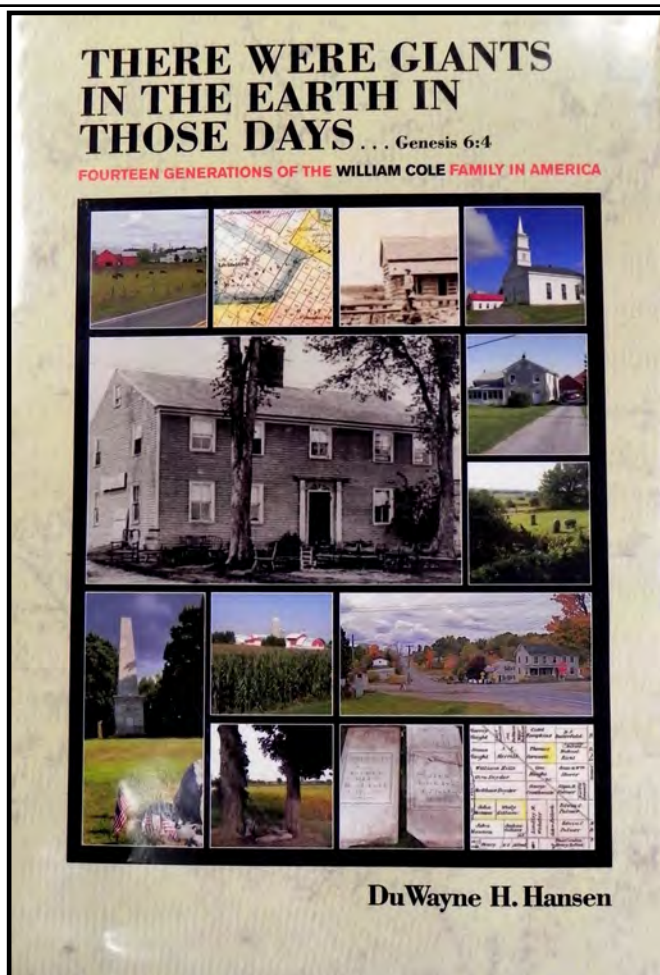
Quite a lot has been written about another Benjamin Cole who came to the area somewhat later and lived, I believe, in Adams Township. The Benjamin Cole Jr. I investigated came to Watertown about 1802, cleared a sizeable farm about a mile west of Pamela Four Corners, and resided there in the stone house he built until 1837 when many members of the family, but not all, migrated to Upper Canada.

Nathan Cole lived many years in the LeRay Township and reared a very large family. He is buried in Sanford's Corners cemetery. Many of his sons were prominent farmers and owned significant amounts of land, most of which are now encompassed by Fort Drum."

In researching for the book, notably the chapter on Jefferson County, it was some 10 years ago that DuWayne consulted with Terry Mandigo, a long-time volunteer at the Flower Memorial Library Genealogical Department in Watertown. In Nov 2017, DuWayne graciously donated a complimentary copy to the library and assured readers the content was carefully researched and documented with more than a thousand footnotes along with hundreds of sources.

The book contains 18 Chapters and 777 pages. Chapter 12 is some 90 pages long and focuses on the "Black River Country" and discusses the search for fertile land and the arrival of Benjamin Cole Jr. to Jefferson County. He goes on to talk of schooling at Pamela Four Corners as well as Benjamin Cole Jr.'s stone house (that still stands and is beautifully restored), and then Benjamin Jr. and Charlotte Cole, Horace Cole, Nathaniel Cole, Cynthia Cole Stewart, Dorastus Cole, Mahala Cole Davis, Ira Simon Brown Cole, Benjamin Adam Cole, The Schell family, the Keyser family and farm, Charlotte Cole Keyser, William Secum Cole, Sylvester Cole, Bestsy Cole Fox, Jarius Rich Cole, John Cole, and Polly Cole. Chapter 12 closes with Nathan Cole—Pioneer Settler in Pamela and LeRay.

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



According to the bio in the flap of the book's jacket, DuWayne Hansen grew up in central Wisconsin and has always been fascinated by U.S. history. His interest in historical genealogy developed later in life after the death of his mother and with the onset of retirement. This book on the William Cole family in America is the culmination of more than 10 years of research and writing.

Inquiries about the book or how to purchase a hard copy may be made by writing to Rifle Press, P.O. Box 282, Bath, Ohio, 44210-0282. Hard copies may be purchased from the Press for \$45.00, which includes postage.

**"You never truly understand something until you can explain it to your grandmother."  
– Albert Einstein**



## Bonnie's Original Photos

These two original photos are in the possession of Bonnie Louise Quencer DeLine of the Town of LeRay. Her maternal grandfather was Norman Brown Townsend and all the Townsends in these two photos are in her maternal ancestry.

Photo on Right:  
Class Picture of 1909  
– This photo was published in a local newspaper many years ago. Here is what was written:  
"Pupils of District No. 5



school, Philadelphia, which was known as the Cattail Corners school, and which is now part of Camp Drum, posed for a picture in observance of Arbor Day in 1909. Front, left to right, Wesley Kesler, Francis Fults, now in Oneida; his brother, Clarence Fults, now in West Winfield; Norman Townsend, now Pamela Four Corners, owner of the picture; and Sanford Maine; rear, Miss Grace Frost, now Mrs. Grace Grapotte, 316 South Massey street, teacher; Ernest Fults, brother of Francis and Clarence, now West Winfield; George Townsend, Syracuse, brother of Norman Townsend; Ivan Cornwell, Clara Bickford, and her sister, Caroline Bickford."



Photo on Left:  
Written on the reverse:  
"James G. Townsend,  
436 N. Washington St.,  
Carthage, New York.  
Seated—Sabra  
Townsend, Ellen Berry,  
Jennie Mulvaney, Delia  
Nash Dawley, James  
Townsend. Standing—  
Charles Starkey,  
Charles Gill, Gale  
Blanchard." Although  
the exact date is  
unknown, Sabra was  
born in 1877 and her  
brother James in 1881.  
If you would like a  
digital copy of either  
photo, contact  
JCNYGS leadership.



## 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, New York

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 January 2018 *Informer*.

**Samuel Barr.** Samuel Barr married a girl named Anna and died 17 January 187x. He is buried in Hillside Cemetery, Champion.

**Abiel Carpenter.** Born in Woodstock, Windham County, Connecticut, on 20 June 1750, Abiel Carpenter served in the Revolution in several enlistments under his father, Captain John Carpenter. He was enlisted at Roxbury, Massachusetts, and served as a private in the Massachusetts Continental Line stationed at Springfield, Massachusetts, to protect the arsenal and military store. He married Mary Sherman and the couple moved to Jefferson County. In 1831, he was placed on the pension roll of that county. His wife died 5 April 1837, in the Town of Adams at 73. Abiel died in 1840, probably in Adams also. Although his gravestone has not been found, his wife's is in the Rural Cemetery in the Village of Adams.

**Captain John Carpenter.** John Carpenter was born 22 February 1739 and married Mercy Morgan. He died 12 January 1805 and is buried in Adams Village Cemetery.

**Philip Carpenter.** Born 29 March 1765 in Nine Partners, Philip Carpenter served as a private in the New York Continentals. He was placed on the pension rolls 4 March 1831. He married Mary Rhodes and moved to the Town of Brownville. On 13 November 1836, at the age of 72, he died in the Town of Brownville. His wife was remarried in 1841 to Jacob Brazee, who died 26 December 1860. Mary Brazee died 27 June 1871, at the age of about 103. Philip Carpenter and his wife are buried in Stone Cemetery, Pillar Point, Town of Brownville.

**Joel Calkins.** Joel Caulkins was born 27 January 1760 and served as a private in the Revolution under Ensign Camp in Colonel John Mead's regiment. He enlisted in the fall of 1776. After marrying Bethiah Barras, he and his wife moved to the Town of Worth, Jefferson County. His wife died 27 January 1835, at the age of 72, and he died 7 February 1848, at age 91. Both are

buried in the Steers Corners cemetery in the Town of Worth.

**Ebenezer Burpee.** Ebenezer Burpee was born in Lancaster, Massachusetts, 31 January 1760. He served in the Revolution at various times from 1775 to 1780. He was with Captain Paul Revere's (Artillery) Regiment from 1778 to May 1780. On 14 November 1789, he married Elizabeth Weston at Jaffrey, and the couple later moved to the Town of Lorraine, Jefferson County. He died 4 February 1832, at the age of (unreadable), in the Town of Lorraine, and his wife died 1 September 1848, at the same place. Both are buried in the Village Cemetery in Lorraine.

**Isaac Butterfield.** Born in 1765, Isaac Butterfield enlisted in May 1782, in the Continental Army for three years in Captain Moses Dustin's company of Colonel Henry Dearborn's regiment, and was afterwards called to Major William Scott's Battalion. He enlisted as a private at Swanzey, and received an honorable discharge, selling both his land rights and discharge papers. On 8 July 1784, he married Orpha Howe at Westmoreland, New Hampshire, in a ceremony performed by Rev. Ebenezer Bailey. The couple later moved to Sackets Harbor, Town of Hounsfield. Born in 1764, his wife died 1 December 1839, at Sackets Harbor. Isaac Butterfield died 30 April 827, at Sackets Harbor. Both are buried in the Sackets Harbor Village Cemetery.

**William Butterfield.** William Butterfield died 17 January 187x, and is buried in Fairview Cemetery, Rodman. His first wife was Sally T., and his second wife was Sally N.

**We received the following from JCNYGS member Phyllis Putman of Chaumont, New York. "In the January 2018 *Informer*, an article by Craig Fox (page 31) references an interview with Janet Little Fish which mentions the Coleman brothers. The article says that they are buried in Rodman, but it doesn't say that their grave has a double tombstone purchased for \$75.00 by their mother. They were both wounded in the battle of Mantissas, apparently not seriously, however the medicine of the day could not quell the onslaught of infection and both died. Marion Coleman and Roberta Coleman Carpenter have compiled a 63-page booklet about the brothers. This booklet includes the letters the men wrote while in the army, including their final letters. The booklet was printed by MRS printing which means that it is now out of print, however there are 27 copies in 27 area libraries. I urge anyone interested in the human side of the Civil War to borrow a copy from your local library. It is a very sad, but worthwhile look, at this terrible war from the viewpoint of those who participated."**



## WHAT TO DO WITH FLOPPY DISKS?

By Dick Eastman

*The Daily Online Genealogy Newsletter*

<https://blog.eogn.com/>

December 28, 2017

Do you or someone you know have lots of files saved on floppy disks? A lady contacted me recently and asked how she could read her old floppy disks that she had saved from many years ago. It seems her present computer does not have a floppy disk drive in it. I suggested she do something NOW to save the disks. Before long, floppy disks will be about as useful as buggy whips.

Actually, there are **THREE** separate problems:

The first problem is that floppy disks were never designed for long-term storage for years and years. The manufacturers usually stated ten to twenty years' life expectancy for floppies if they were stored in ideal conditions. A typical residence isn't ideal.

In addition, floppy disks have always been highly sensitive to dust, condensation and temperature extremes. As with any magnetic storage, it is also vulnerable to magnetic fields. If the disk isn't stored in optimum conditions, the data will disappear because of these vulnerabilities. In many cases, data will disappear from floppies in much less than ten years.

The second problem is the one my correspondent mentioned: she no longer owns a floppy disk drive. In fact, the manufacturers stopped including floppy disk drives on new computers years ago. Luckily, you can still purchase floppy disk drives today although they are becoming rare.

If possible, see if someone you know owns an older computer that includes both a floppy disk drive and some method of copying information from floppy disks to some other media. Possibilities are to transfer across a network, transfer on the Internet, copy to a flash drive, or maybe to "burn" to a CD-ROM.

If you cannot find an older computer, you can purchase an external USB floppy drive that plugs into the USB port of most any modern Windows or Macintosh computer. The drives typically cost \$10 to perhaps \$30. You can see a selection of USB 3 1/2-inch floppy disk drives for sale today at <http://goo.gl/Krtc1>.



Dick Eastman

If you have an even older 5 -1/4-inch floppy, your search will be more difficult. Very few of the older disk drives were ever manufactured with a USB connection. However, if you are willing to open the computer and bolt in an internal floppy drive, you might still be able to find a few on eBay.

The third, and possibly the biggest, problem of all is the information stored on the disk. Even if the data has not disappeared, and even if you can copy the files to more modern media, can you find a program today that will read the files created by a program ten or twenty years ago? For instance, if you have files created by Roots 3 (a popular genealogy program of the 1980s), you will have difficulty finding any program today that will read information stored in that old format. To my knowledge, Roots 3 files can only be read by Roots 3 or later versions of the same program. Unfortunately, no program today can read Roots 3 files. The same is true for data saved in old versions of Personal Ancestral File, Family Tree Maker, or genealogy programs that have since disappeared from the marketplace, such as The Family Edge or Generations Grande Suite.

My advice:

1. Copy the files NOW! Whatever is stored on a floppy disk may disappear at any time. Save it while you can. Copy the files to modern media.
2. Attempt to open the files with a modern word processor or genealogy program or even a simple ASCII file viewer, such as Windows Notepad. If you are lucky, you may be able to read the information.
3. If you cannot read the files, post messages on online forums asking for assistance from anyone who still has an old computer with the old software installed. For instance, if you find someone who still has Roots3 installed on a computer someplace (and if they also have the optional Roots 3 program that creates GEDCOM files), they could import your data and then export it in GEDCOM format. The information then can be read by any modern genealogy program.

For more information about GEDCOM files, see my "GEDCOM Explained" article at <https://blog.eogn.com/2014/05/24/gedcom-explained/>.

Whatever you do, don't get trapped in the obsolescence problems again. Copy your data often to whatever new media has recently become available.

Note: Dick Eastman has been writing *The Daily Online Genealogy Newsletter* for 21 years. He has been involved in genealogy for more than 35 years. He has worked in the computer industry for more than 40 years in hardware, software, and managerial positions. By the early 1970s, Dick was already using a mainframe computer to enter his family data on punch cards. He built his first home computer in 1980.



## PIONEER ROSWELL WHEELER

7 Feb 2018

Ms. Nan Dixon: I have completed the profile of another of my Jefferson County Wheeler pioneers, Roswell Wheeler. Please let me know if it needs a change in file format or content to be placed on the Jefferson County GenWeb site. My thanks to all the co-coordinators for the ever increasing amount of information that is available on your GenWeb site. Best regards, Vanessa Herring.

10 Feb 2018

Gentlemen (Bruce Coyne, Larry Corbett, Jerry Davis and Tom LaClair): I am so little involved with the *Informer* any more that I feel I can now safely suggest Jerry can tuck this sort of kudo in wherever it will fit. You guys are doing all the work and you should get the credit. Bless you! I never could have done it! I look on it as Bill's memorial. We started out with a blank sheet, and blank brains.

Thanks, Nan

## PIONEER ROSWELL WHEELER

Profile completed by Vanessa Herring

ROSWELL WHEELER (son of JAMES WHEELER and RACHEL \_\_\_\_\_) was born 11 May 1790 in Chesterfield Twp, Cheshire Co., NH. He married PHILA MILLS (daughter of CHAUNCEY MILLS and RUTH DOOLITTLE), born 15 Sep 1792 in Winchester, Litchfield Co., CT (town record spells her name "Fyler"). She was a twin of Fanny Mills.

Roswell Wheeler came to Henderson, Jefferson County about 1810, and lived with his brother Ephraim among the residents of Bishop Street. (John Bishop was a neighbor of the James Wheeler family in Chesterfield, NH.) Roswell was a private in Captain McNitt's Company of New York Militia in the War of 1812. He married Phila Mills about 1820. By 1840, Roswell's small family had moved to Smithville, in Adams Twp. They and their two children moved west to DeKalb County, Illinois in 1855. Roswell Wheeler died in DeKalb County, Illinois between 15 Mar 1855 (when he sold land in Jefferson County before leaving for Illinois) and 1 Jun 1859. (He was present on the 1855 Illinois State Census at Clinton, DeKalb Co., but not on the 1860 US Census or the 1860 US Census Mortality Schedule for DeKalb Co.) Phila appears to have died about 1864. (She was on the 1860 US Census and had given testimony of the birth of daughter Orissa's child for her Civil War Widow's pension in 1862, but when Orissa reapplied for benefits in 1866, two other women gave testimony of that event instead.) The burial locations of Roswell and Phila Wheeler are as yet unknown.

Children of Roswell and Phila Wheeler:

1. Orissa Wheeler b. about 1830 (NY) d. 1 May 1878 (WI)\*  
m. Albert B. Pierce (13<sup>th</sup> IL Vol Inf, Co. E, died 7 Jan 1862 in winter camp.)
2. Dempster Wheeler b. about 1835 (NY) d. 3 Jul 1864 (GA)  
(did not marry –105<sup>th</sup> IL Vol Inf, Co. K, killed in action outside of Marietta, GA.)

\*Orissa P. Wheeler Pierce stayed in Dekalb County until after 1873, her last request for a pension increase, which was denied. She became a seamstress to supplement her pension, and moved to Orion, Richland Co., WI. She is buried there, in Orion Cemetery. Son William M. Pierce made his way back to his mother's birthplace, Jefferson Co, New York. He died there on 2 Oct 1916 and is buried in Adams Rural Cemetery.

References:

- 1) *The History of Chesterfield*, Cheshire County, N.H. by Oran E. Randall, 1882.
- 2) Land Deeds of Jefferson Co., New York, Book L2, Pg 70, Heirs of Ruth Mills to Jesse Smith.
- 3) Annals and Family Records of Winchester, CT. by John Boyd, 1873.
- 4) United States Censuses of 1810-1830, Henderson Twp, Jefferson County, New York.
- 5) US Land Warrant No. 23712, Roswell Wheeler, assigned to Philo Wheeler.
- 6) United States Censuses of 1840-1850, Adams Twp, Jefferson Co., New York.
- 7) Land Deeds of Jefferson Co., New York, Book 126, Pg 410, Roswell Wheeler to O.M. Stanley.
- 8) Illinois State Census of 1855, Clinton, DeKalb Co., Illinois.
- 9) 1860 US Census Mortality Schedule for DeKalb Co., Illinois.
- 10) United States Census of 1860 for Afton Twp, DeKalb Co., Illinois
- 11) Civil War Widow's Pension Application File of Orissa P. Pierce.
- 12) Roster of the 13<sup>th</sup> Illinois Volunteer Infantry.
- 13) Roster of the 105<sup>th</sup> Illinois Volunteer Infantry.
- 14) FindAGrave, Orion Cemetery, Orion, Richland Co., Wisconsin.
- 15) United States Census of 1880, Worth Twp, Jefferson Co., New York.
- 16) FindAGrave, Adams Rural Cemetery, Adams Twp, Jefferson Co., New York.

**"The time is always right  
to do what is right."  
– Martin Luther King**

## OVER 1200 ATTEND WORLD WAR I MILITARY FUNERAL IN THERESA

Introduction by JCNYS Member  
Roberta D. Calhoun-Eagan

*While killed in France on September 5, 1918, the remains of Elias Edwin Getman did not arrive back home in Theresa until June of 1921. The funeral was held from the home of his widowed mother, Laurretta Reynolds Getman. Born in Theresa in 1890, the 28 year old farmer was the son of Edson Getman and bore the name of his grandfather, a Civil War veteran and proprietor of the Theresa's well known Getman House hotel. Having served with the 308<sup>th</sup> Infantry, Getman met his death in the Argonne Forest.*

*Two months after the funeral the first meeting of the Elias Getman Post No. 847 of the American Legion met in Alexandria Bay. In the spring of 2012 an Eagle Scout from Fort Drum Troop 25 paid tribute to Getman and 12 other World War I Gold Star servicemen by constructing a pergola beside the monument for Jefferson County soldiers in Deferiet. The following article describes a small town military funeral of a century ago after Elias Getman died.*

### All Theresa Pays Honor to Soldier Funeral of Elias Getman Held Sunday Military Tributes Given

Firing Squad and Legion Post at Grave—Organization  
in Line of March in Cemetery  
*Watertown Daily Times, 13 Jun 1921, page 13,  
columns 1-2*

Theresa, June 13. --One of the largest attended funerals ever held in this village took place here on Sunday afternoon when what seemed to be the whole countryside turned out to honor the memory of Elias Getman and pay respect to the sorrowing family. The attendance at the burial services in Oakwood cemetery, military in character, was probably well over 1,200 people and some estimates were up to 1,500.



Elias Edwin Getman  
(1890-1918)

The funeral services were held at the family home in lower Main street and there the house and lawn were filled to overflowing. Rev. D. D. Waugh, rector of the Church of the Redeemer in Watertown, and a former rector of the St. James Episcopal Church here, officiated.

At 1:30, members of the American Legion formed in line in Commercial

street in front of the G. A. R. post rooms and they were followed by the Theresa fire department in uniform, of which organization Elias Getman was a member before going into the service overseas. Theresa lodge, F. and A. M., followed next in line and the Theresa chapter, O. E. S., followed in a body as the last division in the long line of marchers that proceeded to the Getman home.

The organizations, in open rank formation, stood at attention as the casket, billowed high with splendid floral pieces, was brought from the home after the service and carried through the ranks. The bearers, Theresa World War men, were Chester Bauter, Merrill Townsend and Rexford Davis, as ex-soldiers and Roy Strough, Harold Giltz and Rosco Landmake as ex-sailors.

The line of marchers to the cemetery was a long one and was headed by the Alexandria Bay band, playing a funeral march. Following the band were the World war veterans and the firing squad. Following the line of autos carrying the relatives, came a detachment of the Red Cross nurses. The Eastern Star was the next organization in line and was followed by the fire department and the Masonic bodies.

At the grave the Masonic service was used, Dr. J. R. Sturtevant with the master of the lodge, Jesse LaFave, giving the ritual, assisted by the Rev. A. E. Budd, who acted as chaplain, and Rev. D. D. Waugh, both members of the craft.

The Legion members gave their comrade their parting service and the firing squad came to attention, as did the entire assemblage as the band played "The Star Spangled Banner." Then came the sharp, quick commands of the officers of the firing squad, and the rifles crashed out in three volleys their parting military salute. Bugler Charles Campbell of Alexandria Bay gave the last clear call of "Taps," and the people of the countryside said farewell to their fellow townsman who had given the supreme sacrifice.

Getman Family Plot, Oakwood Cemetery; RDCE photo







## Amanda Presley

is the Reference Librarian over the Flower Memorial Library's Genealogical Research Department in Watertown. Her duties include aiding and assisting the public in genealogical and historical research with a focus on Jefferson County

and the adjacent counties of Lewis, St. Lawrence, Oswego and the province of Ontario, Canada. For more information, please visit: <https://www.flowermemoriallibrary.org> and select Genealogy.

**“Change is inevitable – except from a vending machine.” – Robert C. Gallagher**



## Lisa M. Carr

is the newest addition to the City of Watertown Clerk's office. You can visit Lisa if you are seeking birth, marriage, and death certificates for ancestors who resided in the city limits. Lisa is one of two deputy clerks assigned to the office on Washington Street and has worked as a deputy since December 2017, after working

nearly 30 years as a research librarian at the *Watertown Daily Times*. She recommends researchers visit <http://www.watertown-ny.gov/> and select "Vital Records" tab for more information on time limits and costs requesting certificates.

## WATERTOWN'S TAXPAYERS OF 1837 AS SHOWN BY RECORDS

As Printed in the *Watertown Daily Times* Newspaper  
Saturday Afternoon, February 9, 1929

Old List Reprinted From *The Times* of 1891 Gives Complete List of Those Accessed with Exception of Residents of Factory Street.

*The Times* presents herewith the first of a series of two articles on assessments and taxes in Watertown in 1837. The article are reprinted from *The Times* of 1891 and no changes have been made so they should be read as of that date. In 1837 Watertown had 4,000 inhabitants, Martin Van Buren had just been inaugurated president of the United States, succeeding Andrew Jackson. Dewitt Clinton had just retired as governor of New York state and Joseph C. Yates had been inaugurated. Silas Wright and Nathaniel Tallmadge were in the United States senate from this state.

An interesting batch of old books and documents have been sent to the office by Mr. R. H. Huntington, cashier of the City National bank, to be turned over to the Jefferson County Historical Society. The books are still in good condition, and the papers and letters are well preserved with one or two exceptions, where the rats have feasted on them and destroyed some of the reading matter. Among these documents are the pathmaster's records of Watertown for 1837 and 1838, highway accounts for 1837, 1838 and 1842, old letters, subscriptions lists, agreement papers, a plan for the battle at Sackets Harbor in 1813, which never was fought, and other highly interesting records of those by-gone days. The oldest paper bears that date of Oct 12, 1813, being a true extract of orders issued from headquarters at Sackets Harbor, for a battle and encampment at that place.

One of the papers is an agreement made Jan 1, 1830, and signed by Dyer Huntington, Daniel Lee, J. Foster, P. Gleason, P. S. Johnson, G. W. Wells, L. Paddock Farrington, J. Marion, R. Goodale, R. Sherman and H. Cooper, all of whom agreed to pay \$5 each, annually, to Col. R. Nickles on condition that Nickles or others furnish constantly running water in the houses of the above named subscribers. That annual amount must have been a low water tax in those days, but it is probable that the terms of the agreement were never fulfilled.

The memorandum of the agreement for the construction of the Black River Literary and Religious Institute (now known as the high school building on the corner of State and Mechanic streets) has been badly devoured by the rats, but they have been kind enough to leave a portion of the document, which gives a bit of information concerning the old school building, minus the rear addition which is used for recitation rooms. The main portion of the building was constructed in 1838 by Jacob Cramer, father of Norman  
(Continued on Page 16)

(Continued From Page 15)

Cramer, of this city. He agreed to do the job for \$5,150 and the trustees gave him the contract February 13, 1838.

Another document is a memorandum of a journey made by William Huntington, grandfather of Cashner R. H. Huntington, from Watertown to Connecticut and return. He gives the details of the trip and his expenses, which amounted in all to \$10.21.

Dyer Huntington was pathmaster away back in the thirties, and the records he kept of that office form a part of the collection which is soon to be donated to the historical society. He was a fine penman. Among his records is a small book in which he wrote the names of all property owners and taxpayers of Watertown in 1837, with the exception of those who lived on Factory street. The list is as follows:

Washington street – Charles Perkins, John Brown, Noah A. Perkins, Landon Reeve, John F. Hodgkins, Josiah Beals, Herman D. Hough, M. Weeks, Peter Horr, Cyrus Brown, Richard Hooper, William Clark, Charles P. Phillips, Francis Maynard, Richard Low, Israel Symonds, H. Staley, D. D. Otis, Dr. A. Throwbridge, O. V. Brainard, O. C. Utley, L. Hannahs, William Ruger, ----- Reynolds, William Collins, C. F. Symonds, Count Hilsen, George Benedict, Hotel Company, Jefferson County Bank, Joseph Kimball, W. H. Shumway, George Camp, Joseph Mullin, E. Barber, William Case, F. A. Duane, William Southam, Jacob Yerden, Mrs. Sherman, P. G. Keyes, A. Ely, Horace Hun, L. H. Burton, William Wood, Owen McConnell, Orville Hungerford, Robert Lansing, F. W. Hubbard, J. Butterfield, Abner Baker Jr., Edmund Hall, Egbert Ten Eyck, Andrew Newell, Jacob Luce, O. W. Davis, Patrick O'Brien, Giles S. Prior, John Clark, John Adams, Dexter Hungerford, Philo S. Johnson, John Safford, Silas Marvin, Dyer Huntington, E. W. Symond, D. C. Gridley, Mrs. S. Clark, A. S. Green, N. Ripley, Nelson Delong, John L. Copeland, I. Copeland, Knowlton & Rice.

Clinton street – George C. Sherman, Eli Farwell, M. W. Gilbert, Silas Clark, B. F. Hotchkin, Clark Rice, Lawrence Hayes, L. W. Alexander, Patrick Kenyon, Clark Wilson.

Massey and Madison streets – James Content, H. M. Budroe, Jerry Dwyre, Joseph Monshall, Joseph Boudiott, Velile Monier, Justin W. Weeks, Justin Weeks, Joseph Lanosh, John Manor, Michael O'Roake, Francis LaRock.

Sterling street – L. Paddock, W. Y. Buck, A. Frazier, Mrs. Beckwith, Benjamin Cory, J. H. Meigs, Arch Fuller, Joseph Avery, Silas Bacon, Charles Buck, W. Butterfield, A. N. Crose, W. H. Robinson, L. H. Munson, John Richardson, Washington Gennet, Dr. Reuben Goodale, H. M. Redway, Moses Bacon, J. W.

Baker, T. G. Seward, A. Watson.

Woodruff street – now called Franklin street. W. H. Sigourney, A. B. Turner, William Smith, George Smith, William Boon, A. B. Hodgkins, John Kemp, D. Dodge, Don M. Turner, D. Redfield, James Redfield, W. J. Sikes, H. Bidwell, James Fitzpatrick, Patrick Hanley, Benjamin Henshaw, John Smith, William Carr, Edward Piffer, Francis Lafavre, Alex. Laclare, Joseph Green, John Lacy, Anthony Emely, James Foley, Milton Lelong, Joseph Budroe, Joseph Crandall, M. Sterling.

State street – E. B. Wilkinson, William Horth, Walterman Horth, George Main, Riley Weaver, E. R. Weaver, John M. Farlow, Patrick O'Connell, John Howard, H. Emerson, James Carroll, Thomas Robertson, John House, W. H. Wager, F. W. White, Simeon Smith, E. Wood, B. F. Berry, James Deaver, James Vallett, George Perkins, J. Brown, James S. Scott, Francis Lamon, James A. Northup, Richard Munk, Pratt Cook, L. Jones.

Public square or Mall – N. W. Streeter, Artemus Rugg, E. Gilson, Alonzo Bissell, Clark Hewitt, D. Potter, L. L. Soper, S. Johnson, A. J. Peck, John Smith, Dr. Willard Spaulding, Hugh Scanlon, J. Gorman, W. B. Johnson, Erastus Cook, Phillip Hickey, Willis Davison, Dr. John Alley, James Ally, Dr. R. Walton.

Arsenal street – Jason Fairbanks, L. N. Lucas, John Fay, Samuel Buckley, P. G. Keyes, A. Throwbridge, Charles Clark, S. F. Bates, L. G. Hoyt, N. M. Woodruff, Thomas Cole, Daniel Mason, Samuel Way, B. Mather, George Boudiette, Henry Allen, Jacob Basinger.

Court street – A. Cady W. K. Hawks, Francis Ladue, W. Ford, J. Rich, O. B. Van Wormer, Michael Higgins, Thomas Higgins, Patrick Higgins, A. Dressor, L. Gardner, Joseph Wingate, J. H. Johnson, A. N. Parmeter, H. P. Dwight, Augustus Hodge, J. Whitney, Peter Haas, George Haas, W. McDonald, Alex. McDonald, Henry Shannon, Martin Yerdon, John Morris, John Akins, Seth Otis, H. Smith, John Mortimer, A. Tubbs, Dr. A. Rogers, Alex. Hogg, B. Burton, Joseph Goodale, Thomas White, Hosea Palmer, Chauncey Calhoun, B. Baltuff, T. Myers, Harvey Foster.

Jackson street – James M. Clark, James Tepkin, Thomas Harcourt, R. A. L. Hobertson, L. Austin.

River street – John McMullin, James Fisher, Nicholas Vodra, L. L. St. John, John Curry, Thomas Whitney, Charles Turcott, L. Lynch, W. Whitney, Stephen Coon, Daniel Whitney, Alfred Filcox, John Vory, John Steward, Andrew Mills, Patrick Cammel, Stephen S. Delong, Henry Floyd, Andrew Munkhouse, W. – ympton, Sherman Brooks, T. McGuire, –onsider Rice, D. Cole, Matthew Glynn, Henderson Howk.

Bebee Island – C. D. Mellotte, William Holmes, William Barker, Thomas Barker, Rodney Case, William Eldwood.

JCNYGS Note: This historical newspaper article is 100 percent transcribed as originally printed in 1929. Nothing has been added nor removed.



# Many Jefferson County Villages Had Weekly Papers in 1800s Most Died With Gaslight Era

From an Unknown Jefferson County Newspaper  
15 October 1944

**WATERTOWN** - Will peace bring a revival of the weekly paper as a medium of service for the village and rural community?

Forty years ago, almost every Jefferson County village had its own paper. There were *The Antwerp Gazette*, *Theresa Gleaner*, *Philadelphia Advance*, Clayton *On the St. Lawrence*, Alexandria Bay *Thousand Island Sun*, Cape Vincent *Eagle*, Adams *Jefferson County Journal*, *Dexter Press*, *Black River Press*, *Carthage Republican* and *Carthage Tribune* and *Mannsville Press*.

A few of them are in existence, but the majority have ceased publication or merged with the survivors. Many of the communities enjoyed local publications for long periods. Theresa's first weekly appeared in 1848. It was *The Chronicle*. Its editor, William Fayel later became editor of *The St. Louis, Missouri, Republican*. *The Chronicle* endured for 28 weeks, when publication ceased and Theresa was without a paper until Maj. J. H. Durham, later of Cape Vincent, gave the village a special edition of his *Carthage Weekly* in 1875. This, too, was short lived and a successor, *The Advertiser*, brought out in 1881, lasted two years, being followed by the Theresa edition of the *Antwerp Gazette*.

### THE GLEANER FOUNDED

It was not until the late A. C. Strough established *The Theresa Gleaner* in the '90s that the community enjoyed continuous service. Strough published *The Gleaner* regularly until his death a few years ago. Then it merged with the Rice publications, issued from Philadelphia, and ceased with the absorption of the properties by *The Carthage Republican Tribune*.

The 1870's and 1880's were great years for the weekly newspapers. It was in 1889 that the *Black River Herald* was born under the editorship of P. B. Mereness. Its life was brief, as was that of its successor, *The Press*, that existed thru the 1890's.

*The Antwerp Gazette* also appeared in that flowering age of the weekly, but it enjoyed a longer and more profitable existence than some of its neighbors and it was highly esteemed for its editorial alertness. Founded by James M. Beaman in 1873, it was purchased a year later by James W. VanSlyke, who sold it in 1888 to Myron H Bent, from whom it was purchased by Duane H. Fuller, in 1892.

### BENT CRITIC OF T. R.

Bent went to Washington, D. C., where he became a correspondent and a severe critic of the Roosevelt

administration, concerning which he published a book a few years before his recent death. *The Gazette* was absorbed by *The Carthage Republican Tribune*, which publishes an Antwerp section of the news and advertising.

Three years before *The Gazette* came out, Miss M. M. Smith, one of Jefferson county's first women journalists, founded *The Antwerp News*. It was discontinued just before *The Gazette* appeared.

Before leaving Antwerp, VanSlyke established *The Philadelphia Monitor* in that village in 1883, and three years later *The Theresa Sentinel*, all of which were published in the Antwerp plant and were continued by Bent and Fuller. *The Gazette* and its associates were nine-column publications, usually of four pages.

Its issue of July 1, 1891, devoted three columns to "Booming Black River," then a lively industrial village, as appears by the enumeration of its manufacturing plants; Jefferson Pulp & Paper Co., Black River Pulp Co., Empire Wood Pulp Co., Laing & Clark foundry and machine shop, Willcox coffin and casket factory, Black River Bending Co., Woolcott Lumber Co., D. Dexter's Sons and H. C. Dexter chair factories and Remington & Sons Pulp & Paper Co.

*The North County Advance*, with its able and enterprising publisher, the late DeWitt C. Aldrich, is the best remembered Philadelphia weekly. At its office in later years were printed *On the St. Lawrence* of Clayton, and the Theresa paper. After the *North County Advance* lost its guiding genius, it was merged with *The Carthage Republican Tribune*, now serving all of the Northern Jefferson county, save Alexandria Bay.



## ON PRESIDENTS DAY A TALE OF TWO NORTHERN NEW YORK RESIDENTS WORTH REMEMBERING

By Staff Writer Chris Brock  
*Watertown Daily Times Newspaper*  
Friday, February 16, 2018

Philadelphia, New York — As we pause on Monday to commemorate Presidents Day, it's notable that there is a man buried here who rubbed elbows with Gen. George Washington.

And in Watertown, a man who was laid to rest in Brookside Cemetery followed the body of President Lincoln to its grave in 1865 during that president's funeral train from Washington, D.C., to Springfield, Ill.

According to *Times* files, Thomas Bones "did considerable work for Gen. Washington. His home was in Philadelphia, Pa., and he went north about 1818 and became one of the first settlers of Philadelphia, N.Y."

His great-great-great-granddaughter, Margaret Annette (Bones) DeVito, 88, lives in Watertown. She has collected historical data on Thomas Bones and, along with Mechelle Francis, historian for the village of Philadelphia, provided the following information:

- Mr. Bones was born in County Antrim, Ireland, in 1753. He was forced out of the country. Mrs. DeVito said that according to a family history document, "He was always in trouble, political and religious. He was given money by his sympathizers to come to America. He had revolutionary ideas."

- He stood in the yard of the state house in Philadelphia, Pa., in July 1776 and heard the Declaration of Independence read aloud.

- He served as a "Freedom Fighter" in Col. John Durke's 4th regiment at the Battle of Germantown, Pa., in Oct. 4, 1777, and was at Fort Mifflin on the Delaware in November 1777 when the British laid siege.

- He took part in the battles of Brandywine in Pennsylvania in September 1777 and at Mammouth, N.J., in June 1778.

- During the winter of 1777-78, he was at Valley Forge. He wintered at Morristown, N.J., in 1779-80, where he was a messenger for Gen. Washington.

- He married Susannah Rowland, the daughter of John Rowland, in 1795 in Perkiomen, Pa. John Rowland lived at Great Valley, Pa., now Paoli, and often entertained Gen. Washington. The Bones children: James, William, Thomas, Rowland, Jane (aka, Ann J.) and Lyle.

- Thomas and Susannah arrived at the then-Quaker settlement of Philadelphia, N.Y., in May 1820, and

purchased 435 acres of farmland from Thomas and Elizabeth Townsend. Susannah lived for only 89 days in her new home. She died in July 1820 at age 53.

- The Philadelphia community has had ceremonies over the years honoring Thomas Bones. In June 1976, his great-great-granddaughter, Rachel Helen Bones (Mrs. DeVito's aunt), who died in 1997 at the age of 100, was a guest of honor. Events included laying a memorial tribute to Thomas Bones at his grave at the long closed Quaker cemetery behind the Philadelphia Primary School off Sand Street. He died in 1830 at age 77.

- One of Thomas Bones's children, Lyle Frederick Bones (1808-1868), settled in Carthage. His son, Frederick Lyle Bones Sr. (Mrs. DeVito's great-grandfather), built the Bones building in the village. The building still stands at 262 State St., part of the State Street Historic District.

- Ann J. Bones, a non-Quaker, married Seth Strickland of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, N.Y., in 1835. Seth was disowned at the LeRay monthly meeting on Dec. 26, 1857 for "marrying out." He owned a Limburger cheese factory in the Strickland Corners area of Philadelphia. The couple is buried in Philadelphia, N.Y.

### Funeral Detail

A. Judson Marshall of Watertown died in 1911. In Brookside Cemetery, on the road behind the chapel about 50 yards heading east, his grave marker reads: "1st Sargt Co K 9th Vet Res Corps  
An escort to the remains of President Abraham Lincoln"

Sgt. Marshall, a native of the town of Orleans, was one of a guard of honor of 25 soldiers that accompanied President Lincoln's body on the funeral train from Washington, D.C., to Springfield, Ill.

He also stood guard over the president's body in Washington.

According to *Times* files, Sgt. Marshall was a member of Co. B of the 94th New York Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War. On re-enlisting, he joined the 9th Veteran Reserve.

The 9th Veteran Reserve Corps was once known as the "Invalid Corps." During the Civil War, it was a way of utilizing sick and wounded soldiers in lighter garrison duties.

Lincoln was buried in Springfield on May 4, 1865.

Sgt. Marshall preserved special memorial timetables of the funeral train "which he had in his possession when he died," the *Times* reported.

Sgt. Marshall died at his home at 1267 Arsenal St. on March 2, 1911. He was 78.



## 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, daughter of the 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 a 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 his 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 series of sketches. Her father, Norris Stone, was a twin. 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 NEW YORK CIVIL WAR DRAFT

As Printed in the *Watertown Daily Reformer*  
Newspaper August 26, 1863  
Transcribed by Members of JCNYS

JCNYS Note: In mid-1863, some 1,825 plus men were drafted for the Civil War. Each of the 22 towns was given a quota based on their population size. Most, if not all, of these drafted men's names can be found on Jefferson County GenWeb <http://jefferson.nygenweb.net/cwar.htm>. However, we decided to bring you the list of names in the *Informer*. The first six towns, in alphabetical order, are represented in this issue; the remainder coming in subsequent issues. This article provides names of men formally drafted. Whether they were mustered into service, were exempt because of medical reasons, paid for an exemption from the draft, or were replaced by a substitute soldier is unknown. If your ancestor is not listed among these names, this does not mean they did not serve; it only means they were not part of the July 1863 draft as listed in this newspaper article; other newspapers ran articles and although the names are similar, they are not always identical. Several names listed, in this article, were routinely abbreviated. Here are the more common ones: Wm. stands for William, Geo. stands for George, Chas. stands for Charles, Jno. stands for John, and Jas. stands for James, Thos. stands for Thomas. If needed to verify the spelling of a name, go to <https://www.facebook.com/JeffersonCountyNyGenealogicalSociety/> where each town's list of names is scanned directly from the newspaper.

"The *Daily Reformer* Newspaper, Wednesday, 26 August 1863:

"The Draft—For the convenience of reference for ourselves as well as the public, we repeat in our edition today, the whole proceedings under the draft. It will be found convenient to all to have the whole list of drafted men for Jefferson County in one paper and for this purpose we repeat what were in yesterday's edition. We have not yet been able to supply all who have called for lists, and this arrangement will enable us to do so."

**Town of Adams.** The whole number of names put in was 337. The quota to be drawn was 98. John Patterson, Edward Henry, Lyman Sanders, Palmer Whitehead, Franklin Babcock, George McCarty, Foster S. Thompson, Farl A. Williams, Marvin M. Boomer, Wm. Brownell, George Gregory, George Stokes, Ora Thompson, Franklin E. Cowles, Henry S. Randell, Lester A. Bosworth, Sent H. Perkins, Beloni Tyler, Austin Richards, Herbert E. Babcock, Bliss W. Burdick, Allen Wilder, Orrin McKee, George D. Bralnard, Morgan Strickland, George B. Lewis, Edward Oatman, Henry R. Phillips, Enos G. Clarke,

Daniel D. Bessett, Leander R. Green, Geo Martin, John Watson—colored, Wm. Gould, Thos. Kelley, Hugh B. Williams, Eli Brownell, Lester Musky, Francis McMullin, Chas Hammond, Wm. H. Ellsworth, Gilbert C. Hryar, Dechois Green, DeAlbert Bealls, Geo. Allen, Wm. D. Leonard, Chas. D. Tyler, Giles A. Hall, Daniel Grummond, Geo. Nunn, Daniel H. Parham, Ezra Saunders, Hiram Segur, Daniel Nolton, J. Melona Green, Chas E. Allen, Francis Muzzy, Luther Heath, Frank P. Eaton, Henay D. Bartlett, Geo. Woolworth, G. Ross Bell, Hiram Thomas, Wm. Andrus, Wm. Kinyon, Thos. P. Jones, Lemuel Fynney, Albert M. Greenley, Jas. R. Watson—colored, Issac B. Willis, Jas. Martin, Clelan Horton, Herman L. White, Henra K. Tint, Denning Green, Isaac Whitford, O. D. Green, B. Franklin Lee, E. J. Marsh, G. B. R. Whipple, Amasa B. Harmon, Wm. H. Nichols, Henry J. Richmond, Don Collas Babcock, Edmund W. Green, Merrill Fausett, Wm. Green, Wm. Pullman, Timothy O Connell, Jno. W. Bartlett, Mm. Dixon, Myron Stanley, Orris S. McNeil, Nahan H. Emmona, Elleott Elmer, Truman Oatman, Henry Antis.

**Town of Alexandria.** The whole number of names put in was 425; number required 117. Anthony Cross, N. O. Stephens, Lewis Place, Joseph Tasse, Wm. Whelock, A. J. Case, Charles Bartlett, Nicholas Cook, Anson Harder, Halsey Mackumber, Stephen Griffen, Tho. Vandergoff, Wm. A. Dillen, Nathaniel Freeman, John Lee, Henry Dimon, Sherman Corban, John H. Overarker, Phileas Gillett, Geo. Quincer, Amos Willer, Samuel Pates, Moses Lackey, Jerry Acmar, Lexis Cruson, Thos. Conant, Wm. Gadney, Harvey Nemyres, Nelson Serartout, H. S. Kane, Frank Bryer, Charles Weaver, Jas. Deane, Ashal Hough, Lewis Bancine, Joseph Draper, Benjamin Sales, Leroy White, Geo. Deans, John Shelley, Jos. Miles, Peter Rabeo, John Rabeo, Hiram Blackman, Constant Reed, Oscar Godfrey, Christer Ahles, Phillip Duncer, Michael Keern, D. D. Bollar, Jno. Anders, Geo. R. Cook, Daniel D. Miller, Jas. Norton, Wm. Magran, Wm. S. Hibbard, Clark Swan, Chas. R. Harris, W. Sheldon, Alvero Holloway, Wm. Miller, Jno. Robinson, Sam McCombs, Edward Trumbly, Horace B. Hoyt, Isaac J. Robinson, Leonard Bekalhaut, Morris Bashaw, Asa Eddy, Michael Mc Corden, Geo. L. Roof, Leon Lenicol, Gilbert France, Jno. Makepeace, Joseph Countryman, Wesley Spaulsbury, Henry Harrison Ge., Chas Woodworth, Clark Briggs, Alsom Folton, A. A. Dewey, Chas. Tuttle, David Shannon, Chas. Phillips, Lewis King, Orrin Barnes, Thos. Kirtle, Chas. Thompson, Mark W. White, Fred Jernl, Mathew Ryther, Asa Bowen, Sidney Griffin, Hiram Bolds, Jas. McCalester, Stephen Smith, Dr. Loid Lewis, Valentine Neighrot, Alonzo King, Sidney Avery, John Daily, Stephen Fisher, Andrew Shannon, Ebenezer Campbell, La Fayette Steele, Levi Holcomb, Joel Hinman, Josiah Adams, Rufus Taylor, Benton Walton, John Hadley, Wm. Kiskey, Henry H. Wescott, Henry Dayton, Levi Bowen, Jas. Hagens, Jas. Hoffman.

(Continued on Page 21)

(Continued From Page 20)

**Town of Antwerp.** The whole number of names put in was 302; number required, 89. Gilbert S. Sawens, Chas. Manchester, Chas. Carman, Jno. Rice, Jno. Dixon Jr., Lawson Chapin, Wm. Johnson, Ben Bennett, Wm. Hicks, Jackson A. Kinney, Jos Roderick, Western Ellis, Thos. Jarnham, Wm. Gill, Martin Brainard, Henry W. Woodward, Wm. Carpenter Jr., Bradford Sterling, Brayton A. Woodcock, Dewit Carpenter, Thos. A. Parker, Northop Bemis, Newman Wovart, Wm. G. Fell, Albert King, Alvin Walton, Hartwell H. Bent, Robert Scott, Michael Farley, Patrick Harris, Jas. Carman, John Dickson, Jas. D. Garham, Smith Bellinger, Geo. Bidsdale, Elias Lewis, Darin C. carpenter, Erastis W. Cross, Julius Shanks, Norman Mosher, Ahi Mosher, John V. Mager, Elsir Williams, Dewam Suell, Wm. Scott, Chris Keller, Julius Gill, Nelson Cross, Albert Hold, Ezekial Howe, John Class Jr., Geo Mack, Henry Bennett, Geo. H. Hopper, Hoz Bailey, Chas. Caul, Wm. M. Johnson, Chas. H. Brown, Wm. P. McAlister, John C. foot, Ezra Mack, David Cook, John Marsh, Harvey Webster, Gilbert Rennals, Reuben Eddy, Henry Caul, Josis Miller, Orvid Ford, John Baxter, John Foster, Seldon Ryder, Clark Weston, Jas. C. Gardner, Milo King, Victory Kitts, Solomon A. Frude, Chas. Drake, Jas B. Huntley, Wm. Marquick, Warrin Coolidge, Luther Conklin, Spencer F. Craves, Amos Streeter, Bennett N. Brown, Chas. Kelsey, Edward Ferrill, Daniel **Gilligan**, Oliver Stowell.

**Town of Brownville.** The whole number of names put in was 344; number required, 100. Irvin Walrath, Wm. Parridge, Wm. Mackey, Henry Mack, O. L. Kane, Henry Elder, Franklin Mathers, Asa Carpenter, Franklin Crape, Geo. Ransom, Seth A. Warren, Harvey Jones, Morgan Moffett, Asahel Roach, Jos. Lindley, Henry Wilson, Freeborn Baker, Wm. Parker, Jas. Cortley, Josiah McWayne, Jno. Foster, Andrew Taylor, Chester Lloyd, Henry A. Reed, David Liverson Jr., Jno Lonsdale, Isaac Shaver, Wayne Hearsley, Jas. Francis, Edward Spicer, John Johnson—aged 22, Halsey Crapo, Jas Frisby, Deforest Parish, Benjamin Smith, Wm. Smith, Edward Allen, Jas. Parish Jr., Henry Conklin, Jno. D. Burlingame, Addison Van Dewalker, Jas. B. Ackerman, Daniel T. Berry, Thos. Jackson, Henry Lepper, Henderson Howk, Jno. Kenan, David Gould, Jno Conklin, Wm. Sheldon, Ingalls P. Reed, Peter LaPatre, Spencer Lee, Jas. Bigwood, Henry Sheley, Jas. S. Welch, Wallace R. Hill, Alanson Sprague, Oscar M. Wood, Jno. Scott, Watson Allen, Chas. H. Rounds, Jno. Stock, Philander Beardseely, Jas. Gillen, Myron Van Allen, Jno. Chism, Leroy Ostrander, Albert O. Lard, Jas. Horton, Hiram Groat, Rolls R. Jones, Elam Rockwood, Brucy Moffet, Jno. D. McAfee, Perry Allen, Jno. H. Hayes, Henry G. Lee, Elisha Rogers, Bruce Mahew, Hiram Kenny, Judson Grant, Wm. Ross, Jno. Atwater, Jno. Gray, Simon Van Patten, Jacob Easterly, Jno. Freeman, Michael Kelley, Orville Sanford, Frank Smith, Elon Peck, Wm. H. Lonsdale, Jno. M. Cowen, Joseph Christy, Jno. Snooks, Dyer C. Reed, Winfield Carpenter, Edward Seeber, Kendrick Babcock.

**Town of Cape Vincent.** The whole number of names put in was 311; number required, 91. Edward Cornwall, Seth L. Dickinson, Wm. A. Armstrong, David Gardner, John Constance, Joseph Sanders, Geo. Monroe, Robt Irvin, Henry A. House, Henry Weever, Thomas Comerford, Peter A. Fuller, Joseph Pontsey, George Miller, James McMullin, Andrew Miller, A. N. Damon—clergyman, John Rhinebeck, Rami Peo, Casy Eldred, Joseph Reed, Henry Sweetman, John G. Roseboom, Levi Hallady, Gideon L. Kelsey, Felix Monroe, George Fecker, George Shipman, Wm. Buskin, John Fralick, Hiram Hill, Jas. DeGroot, Wm. L. Huntington, Alfred Estes, Horace Potter, John Aubertine, Elisha M. Moore, Lewis Bourguin, Stephen Tio, Wm. Phillips, Jos. Marshall, John Radley Jr., Henry S. Humphrey, Aaron K. Tuttle, Julian Poe, Michael Rhinockie Jr., Jason D. Powell, Victor Fields, John Doctor, Henry Booth, Adolphe Iselin, Francis Cornier, Norman Ross, Orlando F. Osborne, Clay H. Gitto, Antoine Seymour, Lazarus S. Hammond, Edward M. Esselstyne, Charles F. Bates, Thos. Cooper, John Robbins, Geo. Scobell, Peter Field, Frederick Granger, John McCaulay, Geo. Fralick, John Dolan, Phillip Reeves, Archibald Graham, Geo. H. Reasoner, Wm. Lamphear, Theodore Favre, George E. Herrick, Chas. Rodgers, C. W. Byam, James Cole, James Howard, John Marchand, Judd Latiffe, Peter Favre, Wm. E. Shafer, Francis Baramer, Chas. Humphrey, John Cannon, Isaac Mentz, Mathew Romain, Wm. Connell, Joseph Hammond, Sidney Vincent Jr., Joseph Hemple, Albert Fish.

**Town of Champion.** The whole number of names put in was 177; number required, 45. Harrison Mix, Truman Sly, Patrick Noon, Jared A. Kilborn, Geo. C. Carter, Abmer Greenfield, Chas. Searl, Lysander Babcock, Elisha E. Barr, Orlando Twing, Geo. Hughs, Ward Loomis, Homer Holcomb, Egbert E. Wilmot, Truman Buck, Porter Hall, Mathew Plunket, Joseph Randall, Egbert H. McNitt, John W. Hilliker, Duane H. Peck, Palmer Green Jr., Milton H. Goodnough, Wm. S. Ellis, Harlow L. Pierce, Erwin M. Merrill, Elijah Chard, Frank Brownell, George Stowell, Amasa B. Dowd, David D. Whittaker, Sylvester Loomis, Adam Sterling, Dwight A. Goodrich, Chas. Draper, Luke S. Byrne, Frederick H. McNitt, Hamilton B. Wait, Wm. E. Roberts, Morris Griffin, Paul Larue, James R. Kilborn, Obed W. Pierce, Raynard Anderson, Ambrose Stoddard.”

To be continued in the July 2018 Informer.

**A recent message was received in February 2018 from JCNYS member Edna G. Mitchell of Alexandria, Virginia: She wrote, “The most recent newsletter of the Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society was great – contents and lay out better than newsletters of some of the nationwide societies. Keep up the good work.”**



# Jefferson County Queries

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

## ADDRESS, VELEY

Harold **ADDRESS** allegedly was born abt. 1920 in Alexandria Bay, apparently after the 1920 census was taken. In the 1925 New York State census, he appears as grandson of Wm. Harvey and Mary Jane (**VELLEY**) **ADDRESS** in 1000 Island Park hamlet. Harold is missing in 1930. In 1940 (and 1935), Harold is listed as son (not grandson) of the **ADDRESS** family now in the Fineview hamlet. Who does the civil birth record show as his parents?

*Hollis Veley  
rockveley@aol.com*

## GOODRICH

Albert Alfred **GOODRICH** is my second great grandfather. He was born in Jefferson County on June 22, 1816. However we can find no record of his parents. He moved to Lake County, Ohio and was married there in 1840. He died in Willoughby, Ohio on February 6, 1888. His grave marker references his birth in Jefferson County. Looking for any information about his parents. He also had a brother named Daniel. *Michael Goodrich  
mgood32108@aol.com*

## ROGERS, CHASE

I am researching Isaac **ROGERS** born 1759 in Westerly, Washington County, Rhode Island and died January 27, 1846 in Adams, Jefferson County, New York. He is said to be the son of another Isaac **ROGERS**, perhaps born around 1721, and Sarah Rose, both of Rhode Island. Isaac married Rhoda **CHASE** about 1782 in Hoosick, Rensselaer County, New York. He is buried in the Union Cemetery in Adams Center with his wife. His is said to have served in the Revolutionary War. Among his children's names are Nathan, Elisha and Stephen.

*Lucas Rogers  
beaconluke@gmail.com*

## LEAF, LAPEIRE

I am looking for an obituary for an Andrew Ernest **LEAF**. He was born in 1907 and died June 1969. He is buried in Three Mile Bay Cemetery. His wife was Betty Jane **LAPEIRE**. A child's name was Ernest. *Dee Mullenix  
kraftdee@live.com*

## STURDEVANT, STURTEVANT, MONTGOMERY

Owen **STURDEVANT/STURTEVANT** was born July 30, 1824 in Ellisburg, Jefferson, New York and died May 3, 1887. Does anyone know who his parents or siblings were? He is my brickwall. He married Anna **MONTGOMERY** in Sangamon Co., IL in 1848 and both died and are buried in Maquon, Knox Co, IL. He served in the 67th IL Vol Inf. Children's names are Alice, Frank and Mary.

*Jennifer Cook  
geefee@mtco.com*

## SARTWELL, STARTWELL, GOTHAM, SIGOURNEY

I am researching Daniel **SARTWELL** and have no information on his birth. It may have been about 1810 in NY (age 40 in 1850 census). His parents are unknown as well as the date of his marriage to Hannah **GOTHAM**, daughter of Henry, Jr. and Patty **SIGOURNEY**. It is unknown when he died, since he is not in the 1860 census. Hannah **SARTWELL** is listed as widow in 1860 census. Children's names are George, Kimball (aka Daniel Kimball), Mary Louisa, Reuben, Charles and Lucas. His occupation was a lawyer and living with his family in Theresa, Jefferson County, New York (1850 federal census). The family is listed in the town of Theresa in the 1855 state census, where it was noted that Daniel had been in that town for 39 years. In the town business directory (1840) he is a lawyer (under the name of **STARTWELL**). If possible I need death date of Hannah also.

*William Krul  
krulmarc1963@gmail.com*

## GRAHAM

I purchased an old steamer trunk that probably dates back to the turn of the 20th century. On the front is stenciled the name and address: Patricia A. **GRAHAM**, 337 Broadway Ave W, Watertown, NY. I was just curious if there had been someone by that name who owned the trunk, and if there are any relatives of hers who may be interested in this for family memorabilia. *Karen Wong  
karenwong545@yahoo.com*

## REAUME, REUME, REAMER, REMER, MONTONDO

Jeremiah **REAUME** was born in Canada about 1797. The last name of his wife Julia (b. abt 1799 and d. 1900 in Natural Bridge) is unknown. Their child Louise was married to Nelson **MONTONDO**. They had lived in Watertown, Great Bend and Theresa. The name **REAUME** has several spellings including **REUME**, **REAMER**, and **REMER**.

*Denise Bordeaux  
DBsquirl@aol.com*

## HILL, HILLS, ECKLEY, HENDERSON, McAULEY, McCauley

I am looking for ancestors of Joseph Ruben **HILL/HILLS**. He was born April 10, 1835 in Jefferson County, NY and died January 24, 1899 in Storm Lake, Buena Vista, Iowa. March 15, 1862 in Henry County, Illinois, he married Charity Jane **ECKLEY**, daughter of John **ECKLEY** AND Abigail **HENDERSON**. Joseph was in the Civil War with the 124th Illinois Infantry 1862-1863. His father is unknown and his mother's first name is possibly Elizabeth who first married

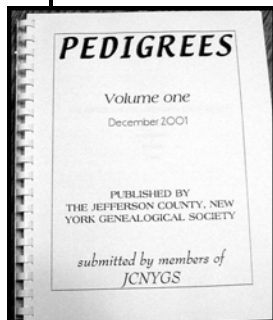
(Continued on Page 23)

## JCNYGS MATERIALS FOR PURCHASE

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

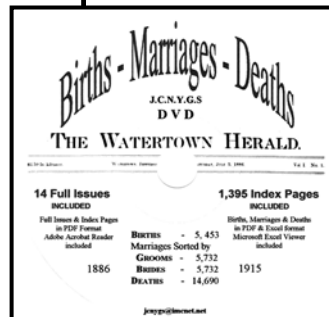
**PEDIGREE BOOK I  
&  
PEDIGREE BOOK II**  
Each Book \$20.00 plus  
\$5.00 for postage

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



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

\$25 plus \$5 for  
postage  
Checks made out to  
**JCNYGS**



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**

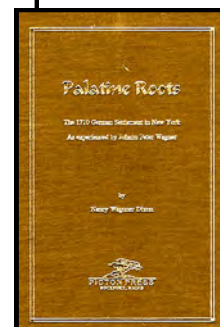
The Will Book contains will abstracts  
dating from 1830 to 1850. The book  
contains 194 pages, two maps, and a  
chart showing the formation of  
Jefferson County Towns. \$15.00 +  
\$5.00 for postage. Checks made out to



**PALATINE ROOTS**

The 1710 German Settlement  
in New York  
As experienced by  
Johann Peter Wagner  
By Nancy Wagoner Dixon

\$40 includes  
Postage  
Checks made out to  
**JCNYGS**



James **McAULEY/McCAULY** and had children: Sarah L.  
and William Henry. Marriage #2 was to Unknown **HILL/  
HILLS** who was Joseph's father. The names of children  
include: Marsha, George, Sarah L., Delilah, Joseph Jr.,  
Henry, Alonzo, Benjamin and Nellie.

*Darlene Gutwein*  
[ddgut466@yahoo.com](mailto:ddgut466@yahoo.com)

buried. Chester supposedly relocated to Scriba,  
Oswego County. I haven't found much on Chester  
either. Benjamin was married to Mary Ann **CUMMINS**  
and lived from 1770 to about 1833. Chester married  
Jane **PROSSER** and lived from 1812 to 1885. Any help  
or suggestions would be appreciated.

*Dianne Parks*  
[kateandallie2@aol.com](mailto:kateandallie2@aol.com)

**MEACHAM, EDDY**

I am researching Sylvester **MEACHAM** who was born in  
Jefferson County 17 May 1801. His parents, Simeon  
**MEACHAM** (b. 1766) and Hannah **EDDY** (b. 1769? and  
d. abt. 1802) apparently were among the first settlers in  
Adams, arriving about 1801. Sylvester and his older  
brother George moved to Michigan abt. 1825. The family  
seems to have been Congregationalists. I am looking for  
any record of Sylvester's birth in 1801.

*Scott Meacham*  
[Meacham@gmail.com](mailto:Meacham@gmail.com)

**LAWTON, CUMMINS, PROSSER**

I am researching Chester and Benjamin **LAWTON**,  
grandson and son of Oliver **LAWTON**, a patriot who  
served in the Revolutionary War. Benjamin was in  
Antwerp, Jefferson County in 1830, per the census. I do  
not know when or where he died and where he is

Submitted to the JCNYGS Facebook page by a  
recent visitor: "Hi, I am currently writing about the  
Dempster family history. If anyone needs, I have a  
ton of information on the Dempster's of Jefferson  
County. I would be happy to provide info. Thank  
you, Kristopher Dempster, Columbia, South  
Carolina. My email is [kdempster@sc.rr.com](mailto:kdempster@sc.rr.com)"

JCNYGS Note: "Do you have an ancestral photo, or  
story you would like to see published in the  
*Informer*? If you have Jefferson County New York  
ancestors that you would like to see their one or two  
page story published, go to [www.jcnygs.com](http://www.jcnygs.com)  
and select the "contact us" tab. The *Informer* is a  
publication for all members. Respectfully, your  
JCNYGS leadership.

## INFORMER

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

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# JCNYGS PROGRAMS FOR 2018

**19 Apr (Thursday):** 6:00PM. Professional Genealogist Jean Wilcox Hibben. *Clue to Clue: Tracking a Family over Time and Miles.* Using various clues, this presentation shows how to move from one piece of information to the next to piece together the life of an ancestral family. The steps used are illustrated so that they can be followed by the beginner as well as the seasoned genealogist. Use of census, probate, property, and personal records, among others, are explained, along with the importance of on-site research. This is a special opportunity to hear from a professional genealogist. A reception will follow the lecture.

**14 May (Monday):** 6:00PM. President Thomas LaClair will discuss the Influenza Epidemic of 1917 and 1918. He will talk about how the stateside flu epidemic, along with WWI soldiers traveling to and from overseas, affected Jefferson County's population.

**11 Jun (Monday):** 6:00PM. Ann Fillhart and her Wiley Middle School class will discuss Revolutionary Soldiers and events they have learned through their research process. Bruce Coyne, President of the Thousand Island Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, is providing the class guidance and support, as needed.

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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 IHCS. 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 25, Issue 3      Annual Dues \$18 Individual \$20 Family

July 2018

## ***“Don’t Let History be a Mystery”*** **~ 4th Annual History & Genealogy Fair ~**

- ✓ Family Event Open to the Public
- ✓ 20 plus Organizations Exhibiting
- ✓ Meet Historians & Genealogists
- ✓ 4 Person Panel & Guest Speaker
- ✓ Networking Opportunities
- ✓ Join Research/Heritage Societies
- ✓ See Inside the Paddock Mansion
- ✓ Delicious BBQ Meals Available



Jefferson County  
NY Genealogical Society



**Jefferson County Historical Society**  
**228 Washington St., Watertown**  
**Saturday, 15 September 2018**  
**10:00 AM – 3:00 PM**  
**\$5.00 donation requested at the door**

### Table of Contents

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>2</b> To The Editor   | <b>15</b> Flu Can Kill Tens of Millions: In 1918,<br>That’s Exactly What It Did |
| <b>3</b> April JCNYS Minutes                                       | <b>16</b> Watertown High School Grads 1898                                      |
| <b>4</b> May JCNYS Minutes   | <b>17</b> Growing Pains With The State<br>Vitals Law of 1881                    |
| <b>5</b> June JCNYS Minutes  | <b>18</b> 1812 Daughters To Place 22 Markers                                    |
| <b>6</b> American Influenza Epidemic                               | <b>18</b> Dexter Cemetery Grave Marking   |
| <b>9</b> James Brady Blacksmith Shop                               | <b>19</b> Death Certificates—<br>St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center                |
| <b>10</b> Dead Branches On Your Tree?                              | <b>20</b> Jefferson County Civil War Draft                                      |
| <b>11</b> Bicentennial Tribute to Veterans of 1776                 | <b>22</b> Queries   |
| <b>12</b> Ask Aunty Jeff   | <b>23</b> JCNYS Materials For Purchase  |
| <b>12</b> The 13th Annual Reunion of the<br>Mud Street Schoolmates | <b>24</b> Programs For 2018   |
| <b>13</b> When Unexpected African Roots Emerge                     |   |

## INFORMER JULY 2018

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](http://www.jcnygs.com)

**President:** Thomas LaClair, 17696 Co. Route 181, Clayton, NY 13624,  
[tomlaclair624@yahoo.com](mailto:tomlaclair624@yahoo.com), 315-285-5032

**Vice President:** Larry Corbett, 520 Binsse St., Watertown, NY 13601,  
[lrcorbet@gisco.net](mailto:lrcorbet@gisco.net), 315-323-3118

**Recording Secretary:** Vacant (A volunteer will be asked at each meeting until the position is filled.)

**Treasurer:** Greg Plantz, 21787 Reed Road,  
 Watertown, NY 13601, [tplantz1@tcny.rr.com](mailto:tplantz1@tcny.rr.com), 315-788-5324

**The Informer Committee:** (alphabetically) are Brenda Becker, [bmartinobecker@gmail.com](mailto:bmartinobecker@gmail.com); Roberta Calhoun-Eagan, [dioncalhoun@yahoo.com](mailto:dioncalhoun@yahoo.com); Larry Corbett, [lrcorbet@gisco.net](mailto:lrcorbet@gisco.net); Bruce Coyne, [coynegen@aol.com](mailto:coynegen@aol.com); Anne Davis, [davisa24@verizon.net](mailto:davisa24@verizon.net); Jerry and Marilyn Davis, [maridavis@aol.com](mailto:maridavis@aol.com); Nan Dixon, [nandixon001@gmail.com](mailto:nandixon001@gmail.com); Thomas LaClair, [tomlaclair624@yahoo.com](mailto:tomlaclair624@yahoo.com), (publisher); Greg and Tammy Plantz, [tplantz1@tcny.rr.com](mailto:tplantz1@tcny.rr.com); Beverly Sterling-Affinati, [harborsideservices@gmail.com](mailto:harborsideservices@gmail.com).

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



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

### From The President

We are pleased to bring you the July 2018 *Informer*. We were honored to welcome Jean Wilcox Hibben in April. The society has long welcomed wonderful speakers from many walks of life, however it was a privilege to have an accredited genealogist speak at JCNYS. Thank you, Jean! The May meeting was dedicated to a century past—100 years ago, the world simultaneously experienced a World War and a Flu Pandemic. Undoubtedly your family was affected—either someone fought in the WWI or died of the influenza—or both. In June we were pleased to hear from Ann Fillhart, and some of her students, on their research of Revolutionary era soldiers. Ann does a terrific job keeping both history and genealogy alive in her classroom. Lastly, you’ll find two articles related to DNA in this edition. DNA research and capabilities continue to grow, and these two articles were both printed in the *Watertown Daily Times* and we felt were worthy of sharing. Thank you for being a member of JCNYS and reading our quarterly newsletter.

### \$ DUES ARE DUE \$

The subscription year runs from 1 July to 30 June. Dues remain \$18.00 per year for individuals or \$20.00 for two members in the same household. Your dues cover printing of the quarterly newsletter, the *Informer*, and the costs associated with maintaining the society website. There are no paid staff members at JCNYS—all positions are filled

with volunteers. Check your *Informer* mailing label for the status of your dues.

### ELECTIONS

Elections for JCNYS leadership for the Oct 2018 – Sep 2019 calendar year will be held at the 10 Sep 2018 meeting. All members in good standing are encouraged to attend and vote. Members are also encouraged to run for the office of President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer. For more information, contact a member of the presidency. See the inside cover of the *Informer* for contact e-mail or addresses.

Occasionally JCNYS leadership is asked if we know anyone who does research for hire. Although not a formal endorsement,



here is a local Jefferson County contact that we are sharing with our readership. “**Timeless Genealogy**” – The owner recently wrote: “I am flexible—usually I charge \$15.00 an hour with a breakdown showing the times spent if someone is looking for something special or one line. I give a printed tree along with a genealogy report that includes all the sources. If someone wants me to do a whole tree or large section I can work with them on a set price. Or if someone only wants to spend \$100.00, per se, I can get as much done as I can do. I enjoy helping people and the research of finding ancestral information. For more information, e-mail: [timelessgenealogy@gmail.com](mailto:timelessgenealogy@gmail.com) or call 315-778-5736 or send letter mail to P.O. Box 440, Chaumont, New York 13622. They can also be found on Facebook.

# Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society

Meeting Minutes, April 19, 2018  
By JCNYSGS President Tom LaClair

April's meeting deservedly earned a bit more hype—it was a special evening where the society, as well as a host of other societies, associations, and chapters, partnered to present nationally recognized Genealogist speaker Jean Wilcox Hibben. No attendance was kept however over 100 people were present: members, prospective members, family and friends; some coming from Canada. The meeting opened at 6PM where Jim Eagan, JCNYSGS member, and President, Sons of the American Revolution, Empire State Society, led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Next, Mary Ransome, JCNYSGS member, LDS Church member, and member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, LeRay de Chaumont Chapter, gave an invocation. Being it was a special lecture, the normal meeting financials, discussions, and topics for vote were tabled until May's meeting.

After the pledge and invocation, Tom introduced Jean Wilcox Hibben for her program, **Clue to Clue: Tracking a Family Over Time and Miles.** Jean excitedly shared her years of experience and demonstrated how various clues align to show researchers how to move from one piece of information to the next to piece together the life of an ancestral family. The steps used were visually illustrated in PowerPoint so that they could be followed by the beginner as well as the seasoned genealogist.



Jean showed examples using census, probate, property, and personal records. Her presentation came with laughs, jumps for joy over successes found, and brick wall challenges that we all experience in research. She connected with the audience as many related to the

genealogy ups and downs she spoke of. Members of the audience gained new ideas and thoughts for steps to do next. The best part of attending a society meeting is gaining ideas from others. This lecture left many wanting to go home and research tonight. No photography of the slides, or recording of the

presentation, was permitted.

After the presentation, which included questions and answer time, Tom invited Ann Fillhart, Mary Ransome, and one of Ann's Middle School students to come forth and present a gift basket to Jean—to thank Jean for coming to Jefferson County and giving us a cost-free lecture presentation. We closed the meeting at 7:30 and proceeded to a reception at the church—hats off to



the reception committee for doing such a great job. Jean was kept busy for the next half hour as people visited her with one-on-one questions.

In closing these minutes, we say thank you to the dedicated planning committee for all the work that went into the April 19th lecture. From the genealogy displays, the programs and flyers, the guest dinner at Shuler's, to the program involvement, the gift recognition, and concluding with the reception. We thank the church leadership for the cost-free use of the church building for this, and other society meetings. We also thank those who planned and participated in the April 22nd Dexter Cemetery grave marking for War of 1812 Soldier Edward Freeman, Ancestor of Jean Wilcox Hibben. A fitting and touching tribute (See page 18 for pictures).

Note: You can find Jean Wilcox Hibben's bio in the April 2018 Informer.





## Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society

Meeting Minutes, May 14, 2018

By JCNYS Members Tom LaClair & Larry Corbett

Attendance: Jerry Davis, Tom and Judy Wood, Mary Ransome, Clif Schneider, Kathryn Maschel, Tina Thorp, Mary Blanchard, Tracy Robertson, Bob Hensel, Joanne Woodward, Kathie Compeau, Tom LaClair, Lawrence Corbett, George Inglehart, Peggy Distefano, Jim and Bette Lathan, Greg and Tammy Plantz, Bill and Mary Dasno, Wally Keeler, Ann Fillhart, Larry and Connie Barone, and Jeannie Brennan.

The business meeting was open at 6:00PM by President Tom LaClair. After welcoming members the financial report was read by Greg Plantz. The checking account balance was \$5,230.09. The C.D. was \$2,437.52. The savings account was \$404.53. Reimbursements were paid to three members for Genealogist Jean Wilcox Hibben visit in April; to Tracy Robertson \$31.75 for posters; Tom LaClair \$118.32 reception food and supplies; and \$40.00 to Natural Heritage Trust (Connie Barone) for Jean's appreciation gift. A vote was approved to pay Harborside Services \$98.00 for internet services rendered. The finance report was approved subject to audit by George Inglehart and seconded by Jerry Davis. Being no other business, this portion of the meeting concluded at 6:15 with Tracy Robertson making the motion and Mary Dasno seconding.

The lecture topic was the 1918 – 1919 Flu Pandemic. Tom LaClair and Larry Corbett teamed to give the lecture.

President LaClair began by offering a slideshow presentation overview of the scope of the pandemic, a worldwide epidemic which killed an estimated 60-100 million people, far more than died in the World War which occurred at the same time. He spoke of events which occurred in Watertown during the month of October, 1918, the peak of the epidemic, including the death of Rev. Father Haffey of St. Patrick's church who had become ill while tending to the sick and dying in the parish. He showed photos of people carrying out their work while wearing gauze masks in an attempt to prevent catching the flu, which in ten percent of the cases was followed by an often fatal bout of pneumonia. In all more than 300 people died in Watertown.

Vice President Corbett continued by discussing the local reaction, as published in the local newspapers at the time. He spoke of the order that closed all of the schools, churches, movie theaters, pool halls, and other places of assembly, an order that lasted for four weeks. He told of many families which suffered multiple losses, and of the especially tragic fatalities of mothers and newborn children.

Ann Fillhart related the story of three of her relatives, one, a trained nurse who went to Syracuse to assist in caring for the sick and who caught the disease and died. Another was the first nurse in Jefferson County to die of the illness. The third was a great-uncle who died at age 19.



President Tom LaClair begins with his portion of the 1918—1919 Flu Pandemic program



Vice President Larry Corbett concludes the program with his portion of the 1918—1919 Flu Pandemic



## Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society

Meeting Minutes, June 11, 2018  
By Tom LaClair, JcNYGS President

Audience members included: Larry Corbett, Tom LaClair, George Inglehart, Bruce Coyne, Mary Erskine-Coyne, Steven Guy, Angela Clinkscales, Shannon Moffett, Mary Blanchard, James Proulx, Patty Proulx, Tom and Judy Wood, Patricia Donahue, Sarah Gee, Thomas Gee, Robin Carrasco, Nancy Dixon, Jerry Davis, Jessica Beutenmuller, Donald Johnson, Kathie Compeau, Joanne Woodward, Peggy Distefano, Otis Rumble, Theresa Stolz/Baird, Sarah Weir, Jean (Tina) Thorp, Rod and Jen Voss, Lorie Autole, Faulone Assim, William and Mary Dasno, Jim and Roberta Calhoun-Eagan, Ann Davis, and several others we missed getting on the sign-in sheet.

The business meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Vice President Larry Corbett. He welcomed the regulars as well as the many first-time visitors. An audience of 60 or more was on hand. Treasurer Greg Plantz was out-of-town, so the financial report was tabled until July—no known changes occurred in June. Jerry Davis gave an update on the July *Informer* and stated the quarterly newsletter was ready to go once tonight's minutes were added. Jerry thanked all members of the review committee for their timely review and feedback. Tom LaClair noted that member Paul Beers Jr. recently won the 2018 North Country Historical Writing Contest and was recognized by Assemblywoman Addie Jenne. No new business was brought forth. Larry Corbett concluded by giving a review of upcoming summer lectures. The business portion concluded at 6:10 with a motion by Jim Eagan and seconded by Anne Davis.

Larry then introduced member Bruce Coyne, President of the Thousand Island Chapter Sons of the American Revolution (SAR). President Coyne, in-turn, introduced Ann Fillhart, sixth-grade teacher at H. T. Wiley Intermediate School. Ann challenges her students to learn about history—whether it be family history or learning about people known throughout national and world history. So tonight, Ann brought 15

“truly remarkable men and women. The students took on a project to research Revolutionary War soldiers using census records, pension rolls, regiment records, recorded battles, and much more.” They also created a tree for each patriot on Acedstry.com, to aid others searching for information.

<u>REVOLUTIONARY WAR</u> <u>SOLDIER</u>	<u>STUDENT</u>
--	----------------

- |                    |                                       |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Nathan Baker       | Aida Lugo                             |
| Abel Bassett       | Sarah Johnson                         |
| Lamberton Clark    | Jonah Stone                           |
| John Cobb          | Willa Overton                         |
| Benjamin Cole      | Wyatt Mandigo                         |
| Thomas Converse    | Khadija Kayani                        |
| Jesse Davis        | Tristan Smithers                      |
| Henry Hatevil Fall | George Weir                           |
| Aaron Farr         | Evan Autote                           |
| Anthony Flansburgh | Cameron Baird                         |
| James Gloyd        | Mason Rumble                          |
| Abraham Hodges     | David Carrasco                        |
| Abner Hubbard      | Parker Moffett                        |
| Jesse Leavenworth  | Weston Beutenmuller<br>& Adrian Payne |
| John Losee         | Lillie Gee                            |
| William Maynard    | Johnathon Porco                       |
| Felix Powell       | Annette Gould                         |
| Timothy Tamblin    | Connor LaPorte                        |
| Gershom Tuttle     | Brady Adams                           |
| Daniel Wharry      | Weston Beutenmuller                   |
| Samuel Wood        | Maya Voss                             |
| Freedom Wright     | Hailey Thomas                         |
| Phineas Wright     | Adrian Payne                          |

After the presentations, Jim Eagan, New York State, “Empire State” President, SAR, congratulated the students and discussed several SAR awards programs available and encouraged submissions. President Eagan also spoke of the CAR—The Children of American Revolution—and challenged anyone eligible to join. Thousand Islands Chapter President, Bruce Coyne, then presented each student a specialized SAR certificate for their great work. Bruce, Ann, and the students then posed for a group photo. The meeting formally closed at 7:10 with delicious apple pie and brownies provided by Ann Fillhart. Parents, students, and guests remained and mingled for roughly 30 more minutes.



## FLU CAN KILL TENS OF MILLIONS: IN 1918, THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT IT DID

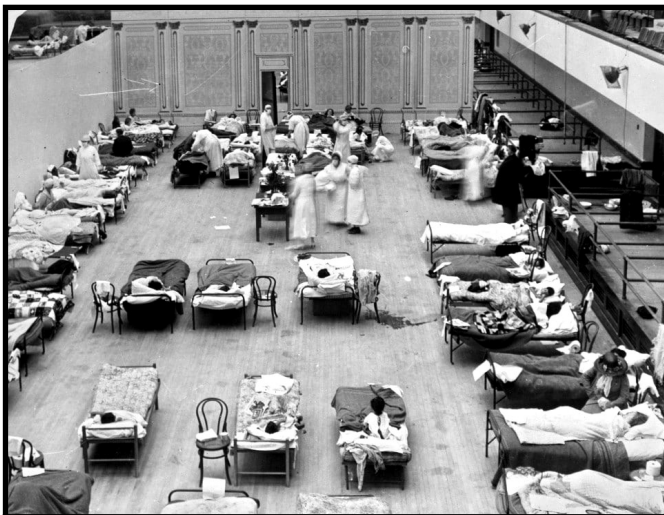
A *Washington Post* Article  
As Published in the *Watertown Daily Times*  
Sunday, February 4, 2018

The flu arrived as a great war raged in Europe, a conflict that would leave about 20 million people dead over four years.

In 1918, the flu would kill more than twice that number — and perhaps five times as many — in just 15 months. Though mostly forgotten, it has been called “the greatest medical holocaust in history.”

Experts believe between 50 and 100 million people were killed. More than two-thirds of them died in a single 10-week period in the autumn of 1918. Never have so many died so swiftly from a single disease. In the United States alone, it killed about 675,000 in about a year — the same number who have died of AIDS in nearly 40 years.

As the country muddles through a particularly nasty flu season — one that the Centers for Disease Control says has killed 24 children in the first three weeks of January and 37 since the start of the flu season — the 1918 nightmare serves a reminder. If a virulent enough strain were to emerge again, a century of modern medicine might not save millions from dying.



American Red Cross volunteer nurses care for influenza patients in 1918 in a makeshift hospital at the Oakland Municipal Auditorium in California. (Library of Congress/AP).

“You think about how bad it was in 1918, and you think surely our modern medical technology will save us, but influenza is the Hollywood movie writer’s worst nightmare,” said Anne Schuchat, CDC’s deputy director, at a recent seminar on the 1918 pandemic.

“We have many more tools than we had before, but they are imperfect tools.”

One hundred years ago, a third of the world’s population came down with what was dubbed the Spanish flu. (It got its name when the king of Spain, Alfonso XIII, his prime minister and several cabinet ministers came down with the disease.)



St. Louis Red Cross Motor Corps personnel wear masks in 1918 as they hold stretchers next to ambulances in preparation for victims of the influenza epidemic. (Library of Congress/AP).

The flu brought life to a standstill, emptying city streets, closing churches, pool halls, saloons and theaters. Coffin makers couldn’t keep up with demand, so mass graves were dug to bury the dead. People cowered behind closed doors for fear they would be struck down.

In Philadelphia, news stories described priests driving carts through the streets, encouraging people to bring out the dead so that they might be buried.

In New York there were accounts of people feeling perfectly healthy when they boarded the subway in Coney Island and being taken off dead when they reached Columbus Circle. Entire families succumbed.

In Tyler County, West Virginia, John Linza, his wife and two of their sons died on the same day. Two other sons died just days before them. The last Linza, an infant, died the day after his parents.

In the southwestern tip of Virginia, J. W. Trent, his wife and two sons fell ill. They were preceded in death by all four of their young daughters — Hattie, Mary, Ellen and Ruby. In 10 weeks, the flu killed 20,000 in New York City and produced 31,000 orphans.

There is debate among historians about where the flu first surfaced — did it come from China or a British encampment in northern France or rural Kansas? But it spread worldwide practically overnight.

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By the end of November, 50,000 had died in South Africa, where at its peak flu killed 600 people each day. In Egypt, the death count reached 41,000 in Cairo and Alexandria by January. In Tahiti, trucks roamed the streets of Papeete to collect the dead, and great funeral pyres burned day and night to incinerate the bodies.



Policemen wearing masks provided by the American Red Cross in Seattle, 1918. (Library of Congress/AP).

Normally the most vulnerable to influenza are infants, whose immune systems are not yet up to the test, and the elderly, whose ability to fight disease diminishes with age. In 1918, more than half the people it killed were in the prime of their lives.

Many died within hours, turning blue from lack of oxygen as they coughed foamy blood up from their lungs and bled from the nose, ears and eyes.

The Spanish flu infected the upper respiratory tract and then dove deep into the lungs with viral or bacterial pneumonia. How did it kill so many young healthy adults? Their immune systems attacked the influenza invader with such force that it killed them.

One Army doctor, quoted by historian John M. Barry, author of the bestseller, "The Great Influenza," described the scene at a base hospital in Massachusetts: "When brought to the [hospital] they very rapidly develop the most vicious type of pneumonia that has ever been seen. Two hours after admission they have the Mahogany spots over the cheek bones, and a few hours later you can begin to see [the blueness] extending from their ears and spreading all over the face.... It is only a matter of a few hours then until death comes.... It is horrible." Yet President Woodrow Wilson was unwilling to take any action that would compromise the war effort.

In early October, even as the disease was sweeping through military bases, killing soldiers and sailors by

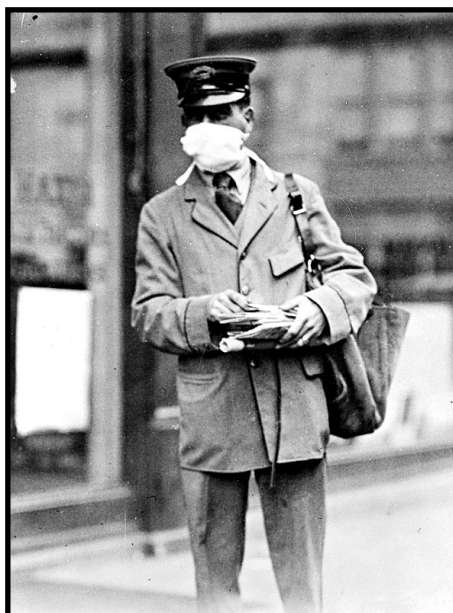
the thousands, U.S. Surgeon General Rupert Blue warned against rushing to see doctors with "mild cases of influenza."

"The present generation," Blue said, "has been spoiled by having had expert medical and nursing care readily available." Then as now, the catch phrase was "a touch of the flu." The flu rolled in every winter, enveloping people in a fog and fever that lasted a few days and lingered for a week or two. It was something to be endured, but not many people died from it.

And so it began in 1918.

To comprehend what came next — and why it is possible that a deadly strain of influenza could rear up 100 years later to kill tens of millions — requires an understanding of the disease.

The world's most successful vaccinations against measles, polio, tetanus and small pox generally work in the same way. They introduce a minuscule amount of the disease so that if it ever arrives in full-blown form, the body will recognize and neutralize it with an immune system counter attack.



United States Postal Serviceman delivers mail. (Library of Congress/AP).

Influenza, however, never gives the immune system a stable target. Instead, it can transform itself into something that appears innocent to the white blood cells and enzymes intended to wage war against it. That explains why a vaccine against the flu is a hit-or-miss proposition, based on the best guess of scientists about

what flu strains are most likely to emerge six months later. This year the CDC estimates flu vaccines will be 30 percent effective against infection.

In 1918 there were no flu vaccinations, and it would not have mattered anyway. After the "touch of the flu" that proved deadly only here and there during the spring, the influenza apparently mutated into a killer. By early autumn the public face of America and the Western world had a gauze mask on it. People wore them to church, the military marched in them, police

(Continued on Page 8)

(Continued From Page 7)

posed for photos in them and doctors wore them to visit patients. In Seattle, anyone who tried to board street cars without a gauze mask was arrested.



A street car conductor in Seattle in 1918 refusing to allow passengers aboard who are not wearing masks. (Library of Congress/AP).

The masks served little purpose. The fine spray of a sneeze creates a cloud of more than half a million virus particles, and the virus can live for hours on any hard surface where they settle. Four women who gathered to play bridge in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in November prudently wore six-ply cloth masks. Three of them were dead the next day.

The frightening spread of the disease led to official and self-imposed quarantines. Schools, theaters, bars and other gathering places were ordered closed. Mothers were told their children should be confined to their own yards. In New York, officials so feared transmission on overcrowded subways that they ordered people to work staggered shifts. People covered from contact with anyone who might carry the disease. A doctor in Philadelphia spoke of driving from the hospital to his suburban home without seeing another person or vehicle on the streets.

Many flu victims died in their homes of starvation, and not the disease, because they were too weak to seek food and no one dared bring it to them.

■ ■ ■  
A century later, science has revolutionized the medical profession, producing miracle drugs and surgical procedures that no one could have imagined in 1918. But when Thomas Frieden stepped down as head of the CDC last year he was asked in an interview what keeps him awake at night. "We always worry about pandemic influenza because this has the potential to kill so many people," he said. "We stockpile antivirals for an emergency. But much more is needed to both track influenza better around the world and develop a better flu vaccine."

A "touch of the flu" kills up to 646,000 people worldwide each year, sometimes as many as 56,000

of them in the United States. Since 1918, there have been three flu pandemics. (An epidemic is when an infectious disease spreads rapidly to many people. A pandemic is a global disease outbreak).

"Obviously, we still have no control over the virus," said Barry, the historian who gave the keynote speech in 2004 when the National Academies of Science gathered to discuss pandemic influenza. "In a lot of ways, we're arguably as vulnerable, or more vulnerable, to another pandemic as we were in 1918 because there's more economic interdependence." A universal vaccine — one that will protect against every possible flu strain — isn't expected to emerge any time soon.

"One hundred years after the lethal 1918 flu we are still vulnerable," warned Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), at a Smithsonian seminar on the 1918 pandemic. "Without a universal vaccine, a single virus would result in a world catastrophe." Could a 1918 scenario repeat itself?

"It's clear that we have a much greater capacity to respond, and we would expect to respond more effectively to a 1918-like virus, but we could have (a strain) more transmissible and more severe," Daniel Sosin, the CDC's deputy director for preparedness said at a recent Council on Foreign Relations forum.

One of the scant protections against another pandemic is the global reporting system that tracks emerging strains. If a 1918-like flu were to present itself, the system would, at least, alert the rest of the world to its deadly potential.

Jeffery Taubenberger and Ann Reid were the first researchers to sequence the genome of the influenza virus that caused the 1918 pandemic. "The most important thing to do is not just to understand 1918 as a historical phenomenon," said Taubenberger, an NIAID virologist, "but as an example of what could happen in the future."



A typist wearing a mask to protect from the influenza of 1918. Photo Quest/Getty Images.



## James Brady Blacksmith Shop

Researched and Written by Sharon Bourquin  
Thousand Island Museum, Clayton, New York  
As Published in the *Thousand Island Sun* Newspaper  
21 October 2015

This week's picture takes us to the small hamlet of Rosiere, once a bustling place with stores, including a meat market, a sawmill, a post office, the St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church and later a railroad station for the Rome Watertown and Ogdensburg Railroad. The picture is one of the earlier businesses, a blacksmith shop owned by James Brady.

James was born in 1864 in Canada, the son of Thomas and Catherine Brady who had immigrated to Canada from Ireland. In 1885 he moved to the United States and settled in Cape Vincent. He was married to Frances Donohue, daughter of John and Mary Ann Donohue from S. Lake Leeds in Canada. The Brady family included three children, John, William and Margarette, as well as a nephew Thomas Donahue who came to live with them as a baby.

The blacksmith shop was an important part of the community as the place where you could have tools made, wagons repaired, farm equipment sharpened as well as having horse drawn implements designed and made. The blacksmith was necessary to life in the 1800's and early 1900's before the advent of the automobile. Usually acting as a farrier; he also custom made horse shoes, an important item when horses

were used for everything from working on the farms to traveling from place to place. Often a gathering place for the community, Mr. Brady's shop was designated by the Town Board of Cape Vincent as a polling place for the third district of Cape Vincent for many years.

In November 1909, Mr. Brady decided to give up the blacksmith business and move on to another trade. In December of that year, the family moved to Weedsport, NY where Mr. Brady opened a meat market. The family noted in the local paper, *The Cape Vincent Eagle*, that they hoped the friends they made in Weedsport were as true and steadfast as those at Rosiere. Over the next few years, the family often returned to Rosiere to visit those friends left behind.

The blacksmith shop was leased to Vincent Chavoustie of Three Mile Bay. In 1913, the blacksmith shop was purchased by Claude Vautrin. By 1915, Mr. & Mrs. Shultz of Evans Mills had moved to Rosiere to conduct a blacksmith business.

On the door of the blacksmith shop, you can see an advertisement for Sure Shot Tobacco. This chewing tobacco was very popular at the time, advertisements said "it touches the spot". A tri-fold baseball advertising display for Sure Shot, circa 1910, recently sold for over \$7,000.

If you are interested in learning more about the businesses that were once a part of the river communities, or just have an interest in history, stop in at the Thousand Islands Museum in Clayton. You can find them on the web at [www.timuseum.org](http://www.timuseum.org).



## DEAD BRANCHES ON YOUR TREE?

As Published in the Capital District Genealogical Society Newsletter, Vol 36. No. 1 ~ Feb 2018

Faced with a dead branch on the family tree? Use the clever tools that seasoned genealogists turn to when they're stumped: "Old School" paper and pencil! Our ancestors more than likely engaged in the naming pattern of their culture – honoring grandparents, parents, aunts, uncles, or benchmark individuals – individuals who in some manner contributed to the success, wellbeing, or honor of the family. Below are the most common, and perhaps best known, naming patterns.

The traditional naming pattern for the male children born into a family was:

The eldest son would be named after his paternal grandfather.

The second son after his maternal grandfather

The third son after his father.

The fourth son was named after the father's oldest brother.

The fifth son was named after the father's second oldest brother or the mother's oldest brother.

Usually, this naming pattern for the sons was used across economic, social, and religious backgrounds.

A similar pattern existed for naming the daughters in a family:

The first daughter was named after the maternal grandmother.

The second daughter was named after the paternal grandmother.

The third daughter was named after the mother.

The fourth daughter was named after the mother's oldest sister.

The fifth was named after the father's oldest sister.

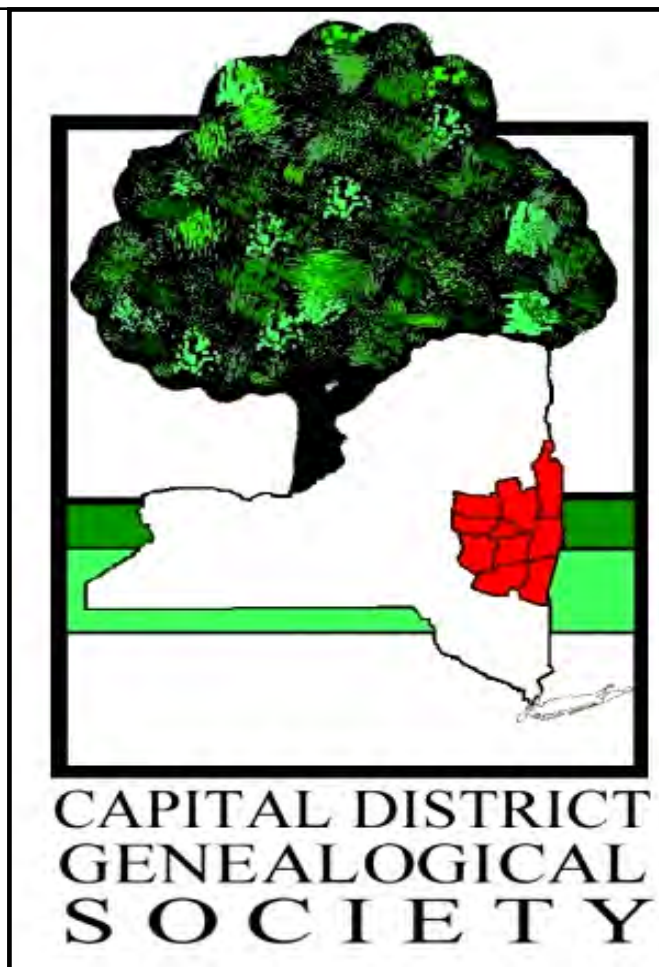
The female pattern was not as strict as the males. Frequently, among the wealthy in the late 19th century, we see girls' names influenced by fashion or flowers: "Violet", "Rose", "Lily", etc.

And then just when we think we have it figured out... there are more twists and turns! Consider the following:

In your research, you may sometimes find two or more children of the same name within the same family. This usually indicates the death of an older child of this name but not always... sometimes parents simply liked the name... a lot! In Germany the tradition was for sons to have a common spiritual first name with different secular middle names. As an example: John Lewis, John Albert, and John Karl.

An unusual middle name may indicate the maiden name of the mother or grandmother.

The terms "Senior" and "Junior" following the name did not necessarily imply a father and son relationship, as it does now. It could have been an uncle and nephew who had the same name and lived near each other or it could be



a grandfather and a grandchild living together. It could even be two unrelated individuals with the same name but of different ages who live in the same area.

"Cousin" was widely used to mean an extended family member, not the specific legal definition we understand it to be today.

And sometimes, children were named after a deceased spouse. As an example; if a first wife died and the husband remarried, the first daughter born to the new couple was often given the name of the deceased first wife.

Obviously, a lot of thought went into naming a baby.

So, the next time you get stuck, go "Old School" with paper and pencil to diagram your ancestor's multiple siblings and their offspring and the offspring's offspring! Or, you can kick it up a notch and go "High Tech": Post-it Notes – one for each ancestor – and a big blank wall! Regardless of which tool you use, by identifying the naming pattern unique to your family you just may discover a new branch of the family tree!

Note: The Capital District Genealogical Society (CDGS) is in the Albany, New York region. Under a mutual share agreement, CDGS receives our newsletter, the *Informer*, and JCNYS receives their society's newsletter.

## 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, New York

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 11 of the April 2018 *Informer*.

**Ethel Bronson** is buried in Maplewood Cemetery, Town of Rutland.

**John Carter.** Born 18 December 1761, John Carter served as a private in Captain Colfax's Company in Colonel Herman Shift's Regiment of the Connecticut Line. He enlisted in December 1780 for three years at Cornwall, Connecticut, and was discharged 2 October 1783, at West Point. He married Susannah Bliss 14 March 1785, at Kent, Litchfield County, Connecticut. He was placed on the pension rolls 27 May 1819 and he and his wife moved to Smithville. In his pension are mentioned his sons Joseph of Henderson; Jefferson aged 18 and Newman, 15. He had lived at Edmonston, Otsego County, for 10 years, and before that in Middlefield, Pittsfield, Massachusetts, and North Berlin. His wife died 9 September 1842, at Smithville, and he on 18 September 1845, at the same place. The following appeared in a newspaper of the day: "The subject of this notice was a soldier in the Revolution and fought the battles of his country under the eye and direction of the great and good Washington. We trust also that he was a soldier of the Cross and had fought the good fight of faith and – hold the eternal life, whereunto he was called and witnessed a good profession. He was a member of the Congregational Church of Smithville, and for many years appeared to have arrived at an unusual degree of maturity of Christian character. All day before his death he was actively engaged in a variety of domestic duties, attending a Sabbath school celebration, and during the day was evidently smarter than usual. In his departure from this world his aged widow is called to mourn the loss of the companion of her youth and the comfort of her old age. They had been married a little more than 63 years. He was esteemed for his virtue and excellent qualities. A man of integrity of character and uncommonly industrious habits. In the death of such a one there is a lesson of instruction for all." John Carter and his wife are buried in the village cemetery at Smithville, Town of Henderson.

**Solomon Cleveland.** The son of Enoch and Deborah Fassett Cleveland, Solomon Cleveland was born 26 February 1754, at Canterbury, Connecticut. He served as a private in the Continental Line, and was in the Battle of Hubbardstown. He was granted a pension 14 April 1818. About 1778 he married Martha Rathbone at Canaan, Connecticut. She was the daughter of Job and Abigail Russell Rathbone, and was probably born in Stonington, Connecticut. The couple had eight children; Almeda, Solomon, Enoch, Patty, Abigail, Samuel, Lydia and Fassett. Martha Cleveland died 25 December 1850, at the age of 91, at the Town of Wilna. Solomon died 16 June 1844, also at the Town of Wilna. Both were buried at the Sand Hill Cemetery, Town of Wilna.

**John Cobb.** Born in 1757 in Rhode Island, enlisted 12 January 1780, in Captain Lewis' Company, Colonel Green's Continental Line. He served until 15 June 1783 and was discharged at Saratoga. Besides his service in Rhode Island, he was active in the Battles of Fort Miffin, Redbank, Monmouth, and Kingsbridge. He was placed on the pension roll 24 September 1818 at the age of 69. The 1850 Census of the Town of Adams, Jefferson County, shows a John Cobb, age 54 years, born in Rhode Island. This would probably be the son of John Cobb.

**William Collins.** William was born 25 October 1759 at Stonington, Connecticut. According to his headstone he served in the Revolution on the Pension Rolls of 1830. He married Polly Ross of Stonington and came to Jefferson County about 1820, settling in what is now the Town of Orleans. William and Polly were the parents of the following children: Polly, John, Rachael, Tracy, Sophia, William and Lydia.

**Jesse Coleman.** The son of Josiah and Elizabeth (Root) Coleman, Jesse was born 15 October 1764, in Hebron, Connecticut. He served in the Revolutionary War as a private in the 1st Independence Company, raised in the Town of Westmoreland, commanded by Captain Robert Durkee, 4th Connecticut Regiment, and his service commenced 1 January 1777. His name appeared on the company roll of August 1777. He married Pauline Studley of Sharon, Litchfield County, Connecticut, on 6 July 1788, and later took her to the Town of Rodman. Pauline Coleman died 15 August 1828, aged 62, at Rodman. On 25 January 1829, he married Sarah Bettie Babcock at Copenhagen. She died 25 November 1861 in the Town of Rodman. Jesse Coleman died 24 June 1851, at age 88, in Rodman. He and his wives are buried in Fairview Cemetery, Town of Rodman. His will gives the names of his children as: Fanny, Maria, Fidelia, Lucius and Julius. Julius remained at home while the rest of the children moved to Wisconsin and other western states. Miss Nina Coleman of Watertown is a descendant of Julius Coleman.

## ASK AUNT JEFF



### Coming Home Again

Jean Wilcox Hibben, PhD, MA  
25 May 2018

It is said that “you can’t go home again,” but what about when the home was not your personal location, but that of your ancestors? Over a year ago I wrote an article for the *Informers* called “Home was Always Jefferson County,” about my third great-grandfather who always seemed to return to Jefferson County, even when circumstances called him away at various times. It struck me that he must have had a deep love for that territory to continuously find himself back in that region. When I visited the area back in the early 2000s, I had a sense of “being home” and may have experienced a bit of what g-g-g-grandfather felt. Jung talks about “ancestral memory” – that we hold (in our DNA?) a bit of the memories of those with whom we share a blood bond. I don’t know if that was what I experienced, but I know it was a strong sense of belonging.

Returning to Jefferson County this past April (2018) brought back the same feelings, but with greater intensity. Perhaps that is because I had spent so much more time in the 15+ years of research that I knew things that, previously, I had just suspected. Research can do that to a person – connect us more securely to our ancestral past. But it was also a result of the warm and generous behavior of the people of Jefferson County and surrounding regions, who treated me like a long-lost daughter of the territory. I know that my ancestors were closely connected to Jefferson County – and Brownville, Lyme, Chaumont, Depauville, Dexter, and Clayton, in particular – and that means that my family and likely those of the people reading this knew each other, worked together, worshipped together, and maybe even shared family ties with each other. That connects us. And I thank you for the experience of getting to know you – some individually, many as a group of dedicated genealogists and historians of Jefferson County, New York.

It may have been unseasonably cold while I was in Jefferson County, but the warmth of those who showed me around the region, planned and attended the presentation I was honored to give, and planned and executed a lovely and meaningful ceremony for Edward Freeman, my g-g-g-grandfather and War of 1812 veteran, at Dexter Cemetery, kept me from feeling the chill in the air. One can be warmed by more than a fire or stove.

The rest of our journey went smoothly, and I accomplished more research endeavors (thank you for directing me to the historical society in Fonda), but the experiences in Jefferson County will be kept in my memory as a high point of the trip. And, in response to one of the many lovely cards and notes I received, yes, I will be coming “home” again . . . you can count on it!

JCNYGS Note: A transition is among us. Jean Wilcox Hibben is our newest contributing writer to the Aunt Jeff column. Nan Dixon, long time *Aunt Jeff* writer, is thrilled to welcome Jean to the column. Jean will take the lead role as *Aunt Jeff* however Nan says she plans to write from time to time. Nan—we greatly appreciate all your many interesting and informative *Aunt Jeff* articles and we look forward to seeing several more! Jean—we welcome you to the column and earnestly look forward to your insight and advice!

**“If nothing ever changed,  
there’d be no butterflies.”**

**– Author Unknown**

### THE 13TH ANNUAL REUNION OF THE MUD STREET SCHOOLMATES

As provided to JCNYGS Facebook page by Vice President Larry Corbett: “*Watertown Daily Standard*, Black River, June 29, 1923. The 13th annual reunion of the Mud street (now Pleasant street) schoolmates of half a century ago, was held Thursday at Black River, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hall. More than 70 guests were present, including original schoolmates and their families. Of the former scholars there were present, Mrs. Alice Wilson Hall, Black River; Frank Zapf, Great Bend; Louis B. Zapf, Felts Mills; Enos Briggs, Great Bend; Frank Ford, Mrs. Myra Conway, Mrs. Lucy Slade Wilson, Mrs. Stella Slade Sterling, Julia Wilson Bailey, Mrs. Jennie Hibbard Brown, Philadelphia; Mrs. Nettie Bowman Morris, Watertown; Anna Hibbard Cross, Carthage; Emma Converse Hibbard, Evans Mills; Addie Bowman Wrape, Frank Bowman, Eugene Childs, Leraysville; Fred Hibbard, Mrs. Phoebe Wilbur Taylor, Adams; Henry Miller, Felts Mills; Nellie Miller Petty, Sterlingville; and George Wilson, who is the only one of the whole number still living in the same district and on the old homestead very near the “little red school house” on Pleasant street, in the town of Leray. Letters were read from Frank Smith of Philadelphia, Pa.; Mrs. Emma Pennimen Otis, Marietta, O.; Mrs. Alonzo LaFave, Theresa; and Mrs. Sarah Clintsman Flanders of Mannsville, who taught in the district.”



## WHEN UNEXPECTED AFRICAN ROOTS EMERGE

By Tara Bahrapour of the *Washington Post*

Printed in the *Watertown Daily Times*  
February 21, 2018

As more Americans take advantage of genetic testing to pinpoint the makeup of their DNA, the technology is coming head-to-head with the country's deep-rooted obsession with race and racial myths. This is perhaps no more true than for the growing number of self-identified European-Americans who learn they are actually part African.

For those who are surprised by their genetic heritage, the new information can often set into motion a complicated recalibration of how they view their identity.

Nicole Persley, who grew up in Nokesville, Va., was stunned to learn that she is part African. Her youth could not have been whiter. In the 1970s and '80s in her rural home town, she went to school with farmers' kids who listened to country music and sometimes made racist jokes. She was, as she recalls, "basically raised a Southern white girl."

But as a student at the University of Michigan "My roommate was black. My friends were black. I was dating a black man." And they saw something different in her facial features and hair.

"I was constantly being asked, 'What are you? What's your ethnic background?'"

While African-Americans generally assume that they may carry non-African DNA dating back to sexual relations between masters and slaves, many white Americans like Persley grow up believing that their ancestry is fully European, a belief manifested in things from kitschy "100 percent Irish" T-shirts to more sinister racial "purity" affiliations.

Now, for under \$100, it has become increasingly easy to spit into a vial and receive a scientifically accurate assessment of one's genetic makeup. Companies such as 23andMe and Ancestry.com provide a list of countries or regions where the predominant genetic traits match those of one's forebears. (There is no DNA category for race, because a genetic marker for it does not exist.)

In recent years, multiracial Americans have increasingly entered the national consciousness. Between 1970 and 2013, the portion of babies living with two parents of different races rose from 1 percent to 10 percent, the Pew Research Center found. From 2010 to 2016, those who identified as being of two or more races grew by 24 percent, according to census data, a jump that could have had as much to do with the changing way in which Americans identify themselves as an actual increase in the racially mixed population.



**Nicole Persley, seen standing between her parents while she was in high school, was drawn to African-American culture from an early age; after a DNA test, she learned her great-uncle had been a famous African-American architect in Georgia. (Family photo).**

But when the mixing happened several generations back, it can take people by surprise. While little data exists comparing people's perceptions with the reality of their ethnic makeup, a 2014 study of 23andMe customers found that around 5,200, or roughly 3.5 percent, of 148,789 self-identified European-Americans had 1 percent or more African ancestry, meaning they had a probable black ancestor going back about six generations or less.

The discovery elicits a range of emotions. Given the fraught history of slavery and racism, finding out that one is part African makes some people feel vulnerable, even defensive, while others celebrate the discovery. At the DNA Discussion Project, an initiative at West Chester University in Pennsylvania that surveys people about their perceptions of their genetic makeup before and after DNA tests, 80 percent of the 3,000-odd people they have so far surveyed self-identify as white. Of those, two-thirds see themselves as of only one race, and they are more likely to be shocked and unhappy with their test results than those who identify as mixed or other races, according to a peer-reviewed paper conducted by the project.

But for some, white identity trumps DNA. If the test result is too disruptive to their sense of self, they may rationalize it away. One white supremacist who discovered he had African DNA claimed on the white nationalist website Stormfront.com that the testing company was part of a Jewish conspiracy to "defame, confuse and deracinate young whites on a mass level." Members of white nationalist groups have advised those who discover non-Aryan heritage to rely more on genealogy or the "mirror test," as quoted in a sociological study of Stormfront members discussing ancestry-test results. ("When you look in the mirror, do you see a Jew? If not, you're good," one commenter wrote.)

(Continued on Page 14)

(Continued From Page 13)

“For me, the number one takeaway is how easily people reject science,” said Anita Foeman, a professor of communication studies who co-directs the DNA Discussion Project, whose respondents are mostly in and around Philadelphia. (In a sample of 217 self-identified European Americans from the project, 22 percent learned that they had African DNA.)

“Many whites would get a new story and say, ‘I’m still going to call myself ‘white,’ or ‘I’m still going to call myself ‘Italian,’” Foeman said. “They started to less see race as genetic and more a question of culture and physical appearance.”

The project found certain groups — younger people and families, for example — to be more open to the news. “Women just tend to be more flexible in terms of racial identification,” Foeman said.

**TECH LEADS TO CONNECTIONS:** In an era when technology is partly blamed for an increased sense of polarization, it is perhaps ironic that a technological advance is helping to blow up some of that. And because users can connect with relatives on the DNA registries, some white test-takers have been fascinated to find fourth or fifth cousins who are black.

The test results can present an intriguing puzzle. When a significant amount of African DNA shows up in a presumably white person, “there’s usually a story — either a parent moved away, or a grandparent died young,” said Angela Trammel, an investigative genealogist in the Washington area. “Usually a story of mystery, disappearance — something.”

For Persley, 46, the link turned out to be her grandfather, who had moved away from his native Georgia and started a new life passing as white in Michigan. He married a white woman, who bore Persley’s father.

But in researching her genealogy after college, Persley discovered that her grandfather’s brother, her great-uncle, continued to identify as African American back in Macon and became a celebrated architect. A recent genetic test confirmed that Persley’s DNA is around 8 percent African.

“That was a bombshell revelation for me and my family,” said Persley, now an artist and real estate investor in Boca Raton, Fla. She doubts her father knew. “My father had already passed away, so I could not ask him. It would have been, I think, a very difficult conversation to have with him, and I don’t think he would have been pleased. ... I’m absolutely proud of my genealogy and my heritage, but I think my father would have thought I was dishonoring his father, because it was a secret and I dug it up.”

Her mother was flabbergasted.

“Her jaw dropped,” Persley said, “and she said, ‘Oh my gosh, I was married to a black man, and I didn’t even know it!’ “

Persley now recalls hints in her father — his laugh, his mannerisms — that remind her of black friends and makes her sad about connections that were lost.

“To me, that’s the real tragedy of it,” she said. “His father had to completely reinvent himself and cut everyone in his family off, and that’s so tragic.”

For Brendan Lordan, 18, of Wallingford, Pa., the test also helped fill in missing family lore. He grew up believing that he was German and Irish, and had known about all his relatives except for a great-great-grandmother.

“Nobody knew her name or who she was,” Lordan said. She had had three sons, but they were taken away from her as infants. “When she was on her deathbed, one of them was allowed to go in and talk to her for a few minutes, but only with the light off.”

The family assumed it was because she was socially inferior to the boys’ father, perhaps a prostitute. But when Lordan’s DNA test came back 4 percent African, another narrative emerged: that she was black but her sons had been light enough to pass as white.

**RACE BY DEGREES:** Comparing his test results to the family history made the fair-skinned Lordan reconsider his assumptions.

“The rule in the Old South was a drop of African blood makes you African,” he said. But now that the drops can be measured, “it sort of made race seem a lot more arbitrary. You’d never think I had African heritage just by looking at me. ... It’s sort of made me disregard race more.”

Still, those drops have had a potent effect on people’s identities. For some whites, even a smidgen of African ancestry was commonly referred to as “the taint,” said Harvard University African and African American studies professor Henry Louis Gates Jr. “That said it all: that it was something to be ashamed of, something dark and dirty.”

Gates, whose PBS show “Finding Your Roots” helped actor Ty Burrell and singer Carly Simon discover that they had African ancestry, said he hopes that mounting awareness of the complexity of DNA will help lead to greater understanding across racial and ethnic lines.

“One of the pleasures I get from doing ‘Finding Your Roots’ is to show that we’re all mixed and that for 50,000 years everybody’s been sleeping with everybody — and that makes me blissfully happy, because my enemy is racism,” he said.

(Continued on Page 15)

(Continued From Page 14)

Often, African DNA is hard to source. Lisa Gross, 55, a sixth- or seventh-generation Kentuckian, grew up hearing she had Native American ancestry, a common narrative for families with unexplained dark complexions. So, in 2014, she mailed in her saliva sample to find out.

The results showed her to be mostly European, but while there was a trace of Native American DNA, “the bigger surprise was that I have a significant amount of sub-Saharan markers,” she said. “I was thrilled. I thought, ‘Wow — where’s that? Where did that come from?’ ... It’s someone within the last 10 generations. That would go back to about 1600.”

Gross’ relatives came to the New World in the mid-1700s, so the African DNA contribution may have happened in Europe, she said.

“In the best-case scenario, it’s someone who is not in servitude, who was not a slave,” she said. “It’s a free person who enters into the relationship of their own free will, who is not coerced, who is not commanded. That is what I hope. But history tells us that that is probably not the case.”

As DNA tests become more commonplace, Foeman hopes that they will help shift the cultural paradigm. “We are living at a time when people think they have to stick in their camps, but I think people are getting exhausted by that,” she said. “It’s an opportunity for us to reboot the conversation about race.”

For Persley, it did. “I felt kind of like a spy, because if I was in a group of white people and they were throwing around the n-word or racist jokes, I felt like I couldn’t idly stand by anymore,” Persley said. “I became kind of an activist. I’d say, ‘Don’t talk like that around me. It offends me — stop.’”

Gross, too, said that the discovery made her realize how artificial some cultural narratives can be. “In this day and time,” she said, “I think that we need to be open to these experiences, and when you think about the concept of race and ‘I’m 100 percent this,’ it’s almost laughable.”

## FRIENDS COULD BE FAMILY — FAMILY COULD BE UNRELATED

WHAT PEOPLE ARE FINDING OUT FROM DNA SITES

By Danielle Braff, *Chicago Tribune*, January 3, 2018

Printed in the *Watertown Daily Times*  
January 17, 2018

When she was an infant, Karen Heiting was abandoned on a doorstep of a church in downtown



### Karen Heiting Chicago Tribune Online

In the *Watertown Daily Times* the photo was credited to Tribune News Service and the description read:

Karen Heiting was dropped off at a church in downtown Chicago as an infant. She found her family using ancestry.com last year and met her brothers, pictured in the photograph, Ed Biancalana, left, and Ray Biancalana, who live in Northern California.

Chicago. She wasn’t born in a hospital, and she had no identifying information. She was “Jane Doe.”

“There was no information whatsoever about my heritage,” said Heiting, who was adopted when she was 7 months old and is now a 57-year-old executive assistant living in a Chicago suburb. “I never thought I’d find any relatives.”

Just until a few years ago, many family trees were created by interviewing older relatives, an option not available to Heiting. But today, she was able to swab the insides of both cheeks and send her DNA to ancestry.com.

Heiting was shocked to discover that she had blood relatives who looked just like her and that a family reunion was in order.

“There was a party with all the cousins, and everyone wore a name tag saying how they were related to me,” Heiting said. “To walk in and look at my half-brothers’ faces, and eyes and bone structure — it was so overwhelming for me to see these people.”

People across the globe are using DNA companies, including 23andMe, MyHeritage, Ancestry and Family Tree DNA, to find relatives — in addition to creating digital family trees that go back hundreds of years. And while DNA tests at the doctor’s office may cost upwards of \$400, these are typically less than \$100 and are just as accurate, said Jennifer Stagg, a naturopathic doctor in Connecticut and author of “Unzip Your Genes.”

“These tests are really accurate, and the technology is pretty advanced,” Stagg said. “The equipment is less expensive now, and with the volume, that always brings down the price.”

(Continued on Page 16)



(Continued From Page 15)

James Pylant, Texas-based editor of *Genealogy Magazine*, has tried tests from 23andMe, MyHeritage, Ancestry and Family Tree DNA.

The tests confirmed the accuracy of his paper trail, and in some cases, it was the missing piece of his family tree puzzle: It proved his family's kinship to Abraham Lincoln, Pylant said.

"I've also used DNA to answer questions about the people held in slavery by my ancestors," he said. "I've located living descendants of slaves and offered to give them DNA test kits. Our families share a historical connection, but are we also blood relatives?" he asked.

Every time someone submits DNA through one of the tests, it's uploaded into the system, so as each company grows, users have a better chance of finding matches.

MyHeritage, for example, has 93 million global users and has created 39 million family trees via 8.3 billion historical records, said Rafi Mendelsohn, spokesman for the company. "Our system scans the other family trees to see if the names on your tree is on their trees, and we match them, so we organically match and expand," Mendelsohn said.

While similar technology is used for each company, they offer slightly different services. MyHeritage includes all sorts of family history records, such as yearbooks and newspaper clippings.

After adding his own DNA, Mendelsohn (yes, he learned that the Felix Mendelssohn, composer with a slightly different spelling of his name, is a distant relative) received a newspaper article about his late grandfather's basketball team's victory. "I shared it with my family, and it's a family heirloom," he said.

Family Tree DNA is one of the tests that offers the Y-DNA test, so you can discover more about your direct paternal or maternal line, Pylant said. The Y-DNA test is based on the Y chromosome that the father passes to the son (so it only applies to men taking the test).

"This test is helpful when trying to learn if two men with the same last name or similar surname share a common ancestor," Pylant said. It also offers the mtDNA test, which looks at the mitochondrial DNA that a mother passes to her sons and daughters, though the son can't pass his inherited mtDNA along to his children.

Other tests are known for their sheer size. Ancestry.com existed as the leading commercial genealogy site long before it began offering DNA kits, so a larger percentage of kit buyers had already uploaded family trees to their accounts, Pylant said. Still, all four offer autosomal DNA kits, and users can find matches and the estimated ethnic origin of their parents on any of them.

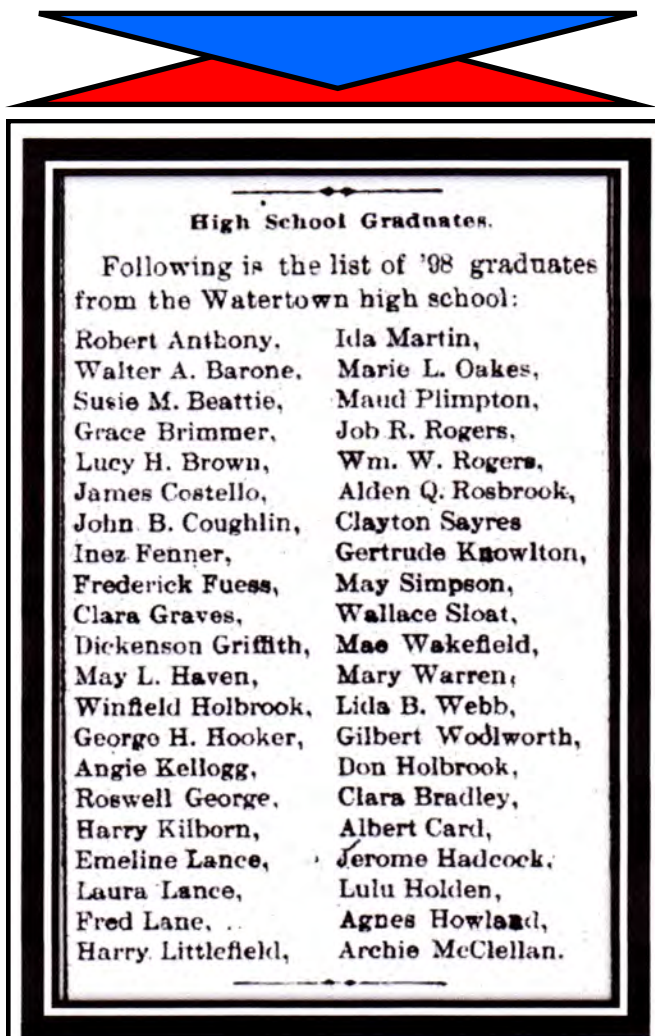
Dominick Miserandino, a consultant in Long Island, had always been curious about his family history, so

he submitted his DNA to ancestry.com. He learned that his old baby sitter was his eighth cousin, and he took a trip to Canada to reconnect with other distant cousins he'd discovered. "Since then, we've been very much in touch, we FaceTime and we've had these great moments," Miserandino said.

But the information others receive has been shocking. Tracy Tennant had always believed that a certain man was her father, based on the information her late mother had given her. Although she never met her father, his name was on her birth certificate — and in 2014, two years after her mother died, Tennant reconnected with him.

But in 2016, she and her father took a DNA test and learned that they weren't related. "My mother had been keeping a secret all those years," Tennant said. Her real father had been a married, failed Hollywood actor who had died in the 1980s, and through ancestry.com, Tennant also learned that she had half-sisters.

Be prepared for anything. Your friends may become family in an instant. Or your family could be unrelated to you with just one swab.



The Watertown Herald newspaper, Saturday, 25 June 1898

## GROWING PAINS WITH THE STATE VITALS RECORDS LAW OF 1881

Birth, Marriage, and Death Records. New York began statewide registration of births, marriages, and deaths ("vital records") in 1880-1881, under supervision of the State and local Boards of Health. The law was implemented in 1881, however, it took several years for the law to take hold not only in major cities, but most certainly in smaller towns and villages across the state. Although the following newspaper account was pulled from a St. Lawrence County newspaper, the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors was challenged with the same problems and concerns:

As printed in *The Daily Journal*; Ogdensburg, New York, November 28, 1891.

Board of Supervisors of St. Lawrence County—Proceedings of Annual Meeting of 1891—Official Report. To the Honorable Board of Supervisors of St. Lawrence County: The Judiciary Committee to who was referring the question whether the fees of persons filing vital statistics are a town or county charge, do respectfully report: That if such fees are charges they are town and city charges and not county charges. The only statute in force on the subject is Section 5 of Chapter 270 of the laws of 1885 as amended by Chapter 309 of the laws of 1883. Your committee further reports that the provisions of such statute are not such as to make it clear that such fees are legal charges but it is in the practice in some towns to allow claims for such services not exceeding fifty cents for each such registration and the pretty uniform practice has been allowed 25 cents for each such registration, that being the fee provided by the Board of Supervisors for the like services by a resolution or act made in 1880 by the Board of that year in pursuance of a law passed that year but since repealed. Signed, L. C. Lang, L. P. Hale, G. W. Hurlbut, Committee.

The committee also presented the following letter bearing upon the same subject: State Board of Health, Albany, November 17th, 1891. L. C. Lang, Esq, Canton, New York.

Sir:— Your favor of the 14th received this day. You ask us to advise you as to what are the fees of physicians, clergyman, etc., for registering births, marriages, etc., and whether such fees are a town or county charge.

In reply I beg to say in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 270 of the laws of 1885, under which all local Board of Health are organized and by which the registration of vital statistics is provided for, no fee is allowed physicians for reporting births or deaths to the registrar of vital statistics, and no fee is allowed clergyman for reporting the marriage he performs to the same officer. The law requires the Board of Health of each town, village and city in the state to make the registration of vital statistics complete within its jurisdiction. The law gives it ample power to do this work. The law makes it the duty of the physician in

attendance upon a birth to write out and deliver to the parent or guardian, the birth certificate, upon the form prescribed by the state Board of Health. The law allows no fee for this work. It is made a part of the physician's professional duty and he is guilty of a misdemeanor if he fails to discharge it. The physician is not required to bring the certificate of birth to the office of the Board of Health. He is merely required to write it out and sign it and hand it to the parent or guardian of the child. It is the duty of the parent or guardian of the child to bring this birth certificate to the office of the Board of Health for record. The parent or guardian gets no fee for doing this. He is required to do so by law and it is a misdemeanor for him to neglect this duty.

In a like manner, in reference to deaths, the physician in attendance upon a person who dies, is required to write out and sign the professional death certificate and have it in readiness for the undertaker when he calls therefor. The undertaker is required to bring this certificate of death to the office of the Board of Health and thereupon upon procure a burial permit before he can remove the remains for internment. The physician is allowed no fee for discharging his part of this duty, nor is the undertaker, and it is made a misdemeanor for either to neglect or refuse to discharge the part of the duty assigned to each by the law.

In reference to marriages, it is made the duty of the clergyman performing the marriage, or the groom, to see that the certificate of the marriage is sent to the office of the Board of Health for record. The clergyman is allowed no fee for discharging this duty, but it is a misdemeanor for him to neglect or refuse to do it.

The certificates being thus sent to the office of the Board of Health for record, the law allows the Board of Health to pay the registrar, not to exceed fifty cents per record for recording and sending to the State Bureau of Vital Statistics, each birth, death or marriage certificate. This expense is made a town, village or city charge according to the city Board of Health. Formerly the Board allowed the counties to provide for the registration of vital statistics and it was the custom of some of the Boards of Supervisors to make provisions therefor, but since the passage of Chapter 270 of the laws of 1885 each town, village and city must provide for its own registrations.

Very respectfully, Your obedient servant, Lewis Balch, Secretary.

JCNYGS Note: Implementation of the law was slow in the beginning as local authorities ironed out policy across the county, town, and villages. As you read above, the responsibility to get the certificate to the local Board of Health (clerk's office) ultimately rested with the parents when a birth certificate was created; the undertaker for death certificates; and clergyman for marriage certificates. Like us, you might wonder how many vital statistic certificates were created in the early years, but never reached the Boards of Health. After several years, however, the process was tightened, and these certificates are available for us today—at a fee, of course.





## 1812 DAUGHTERS TO PLACE 22 MARKERS

As printed in *The Watertown Reunion*  
Saturday, May 16, 1914

“1812 Daughters to Place 22 Markers – Ten of the Markers Will Be Placed By The Chapter on the Graves of Ancestors to Real Daughters.

The Northern Frontier Chapter, Daughters of 1812, has just completed the list of graves of veterans of the second war with Great Britain, upon which markers will be placed the coming summer and fall. Twenty-two bronze markers will be placed in the various cemeteries of the county where the bodies rest. Ten of the markers will be placed by the Chapter on the graves of ancestors of Real Daughters of 1812. The other markers will be placed upon the graves of ancestors of members willing to pay for the markers.

The first list of ten includes: Job Butts, Sackets Harbor cemetery; William Waffle, Depauville; Ladd Greene, Lowville; Alexander Warner, Rutland; Ira Cooper, Adams; Elijah Oatman, Adams; Philo S. Johnson, Brookside; Gardner Towne, Brookside;

Col. Wm. Lord, Brownville. The other list: Jason Fairbanks, Arsenal street; Samuel Adams, Plessis; Jonathan Boynton, Rodman; Jno. Gotham, Gotham Street cemetery; Jasper Avery, Brookside; Daniel Pettit, Depauville; Roland Hall, Copenhagen; Abraham Graves, Massey Street road; Jacob Fry, Three Mile Bay; William Butterfield, Mannsfield; Nathaniel Sylvester, Copenhagen; ----- Wilson, Theresa. It is possible that the graves of several others will be added to the list.



The local chapter has received the following additional names of veterans of the war who are buried in the county and this list supplements the list published earlier. Freeman F. Richardson, Woodville; Amos Wood, Woodville; Nicholas Van Brocklin, Plessis; Nathaniel Warner, Pt. Salubrius; Ralph Rogers, Pt. Salubrius; John Reed, Three Mile Bay; Capt. John Knapp, Three Mile Bay; Hezekiah Lawton, Evans Mills; Noah Merwin, Rodman; Adam Wheeler, Mannsville; William Flint, Fairview cemetery, Rodman.

The announcement is made by the Chapter that it is possible for descendants or veterans of 1812 to obtain the records of their ancestors from the war department. These records will be attached by the local organization to the papers by which application is made for the markers through the official firm of whom the bronze markers are purchased. There is much verification in connection with the work and all care is taken that only graves of bona fide veterans are marked.”

### Dexter Cemetery grave marking for War of 1812 Soldier Edward Freeman, Ancestor of Jean Wilcox Hibben



Jean Wilcox Hibben, JCNYGS' guest speaker's War of 1812 ancestor, Pvt. Edward Freeman's grave was marked at the Dexter Cemetery on April 22<sup>nd</sup> 2018. The General Jacob Brown Chapter Daughters of the War of 1812, (not pictured) Roberta Calhoun-Eagan, Tammy Plantz, Anne Davis placed the marker.



Participating in the ceremony was L-R; Jim Eagan, NY State President Sons of the American Revolution, Andrew Shelmidine, Ted Schofield, and Bill Bamann from the Sackets Harbor Battlefield Alliance-Living Historians re-enactors and Bruce Coyne, President of the Thousand Islands Chapter Sons of the American Revolution. Wreaths were placed by the SAR Thousand Island Chapter and LeRay de Chaumont Chapter NSDAR.



## DEATH CERTIFICATES FROM THE ST. LAWRENCE PSYCHIATRIC CENTER IN OGDENSBURG

From time to time we receive questions asking how to obtain death certificates from the St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center in Ogdensburg, St. Lawrence County, New York. We understand that information coming out of the state-run Psychiatric Center is very limited due to privacy laws. However, did you know that all birth, death and burial permits formerly maintained by the Psychiatric Center are today maintained by the Ogdensburg City Clerk. The transfer of certificates occurred in 2006 and continues that way. Therefore, order applicable birth, death, and burial permits through the Ogdensburg clerk's office, using normal procedures for such vitals.

**STATE OF NEW YORK: DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

**ORDER**

**IN THE MATTER**

**OF**

**THE CONSOLIDATION OF**

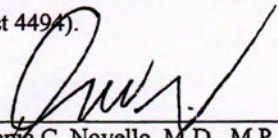
The St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center and City of Ogdensburg,  
into a single primary registration district pursuant to  
Section 4120(2)(a) of the Public Health Law

The St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center and the City of Ogdensburg, both constituting separate primary registration districts located in St. Lawrence County, each having adopted resolutions and requesting, in effect, that they be consolidated into a single primary registration district, which request has been approved by the St. Lawrence Co. Board of Legislators.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:**

The St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center and the City of Ogdensburg are hereby combined into a single primary registration district pursuant to Section 4120(2)(a) of the Public Health Law, such consolidation to take effect immediately.

The City of Ogdensburg (District 4401) will assume all vital statistics registration duties which had been exercised by the St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center (District 4494) and will maintain all birth, death and burial permit files formerly maintained by the St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center. The City of Ogdensburg (District 4401) will administer any and all requests for information formerly possessed by District 4494, including requests for certified copies and/or genealogical copies of these records, and will hereafter receive and register all records which would have formerly been filed and registered in the St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center (District 4494).

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Antonia C. Novello, M.D., M.P.H., Dr.P.H.  
Commissioner  
New York State Department of Health

**DATED:** 03 / 21 /2006  
Albany, New York

## JEFFERSON COUNTY NEW YORK CIVIL WAR DRAFT

As Printed in the *Watertown Daily Reformer*  
Newspaper August 26, 1863

Transcribed by Members of JCNYS

"The *Daily Reformer* Newspaper, Wednesday, 26 August 1863:

"The Draft—For the convenience of reference for ourselves as well as the public, we repeat in our edition today, the whole proceedings under the draft. It will be found convenient to all to have the whole list of drafted men for Jefferson County in one paper and for this purpose we repeat what were in yesterday's edition. We have not yet been able to supply all who have called for lists, and this arrangement will enable us to do so."

Names continued from page 21 of the April 2018 Informer (The remaining towns will be in the October 2018 *Informer*):

**Town of Clayton.** 441 enrolled-151 drafted. Horace S. Cook, Clinton McCarn, Oren Stevens, Jas Daniels, Wm. Murdock, Jos Ward, Harvey Ingerson, Isaac H. Fonda, James Kelley, Riley Comings, Edward Bass, Peter Lefler, Cyrus Hawn, John Mason, Dorus Herkimer, Eli J. Seaver, Jas Thompson, David Pennock, David Defendorf, Chas E. Gloyd, George Pike, Frederick Haas, Augustus Nims, James E. Avery, Carton Johnson, Dominick Seymour, Truman Daniels, Sherman Halladay, John Swart, John Luther, Joseph W. Rhodes, George A. Steele, Wm. Berry, Andrew T. Baltz, Fred Knight, Richard Terry, Henry Denny, Chancy L. Barney, Henry Hall, Phillip Filley, Christian Halsworth, John Dorr Jr., Chancy B. Coffin, J. B. Hubbard, Westel Parish, W. H. Vodra, Phillip Sourwine, Peter Fitz Jerold, Jas. B. Lepper, Nelson Defoe Jr., Deloss Rector, Alfred Putnam, Lloyd Smith, John P. Nellis, Hiram Mount, Henry Hudson, D. G. Cappernall, Levi De Rosia, Patrick Dowdall, Levi C. Otis, Wm. Gunsolus, Lewis Vincent, George Hyle, Harvey Colie, John Abell, Noah Hyde, John Patch, Wm. Baxter, Geo. A. Norton, Thos. G. Carrier, Marshall Vincent, Warner Herkimer, Silas A. Huntley, Jackson Jenkins, John Murkey, Stephen L. Gillett, Wm. H. Edmonds, Robert T. Smith, Geo. W. Jennings, Geo. Kissell Jr., Wm. Mitchell Jr., George Tierney, James McGhan, Thos. Emory, Sidney R. Sheldon, Renben Halladay, Alex Walrath, Demster Low, Ashly Low, Wm. C. Avery, David C. Mills, F. Ormsby, Alvah Brown, Geo. D. Linnell, Jas. Defoe, Joel Forbs, Jas. Hammond, Milo C. Dunton, Wm. V. Brennen, Martin Read, Henry Hartman, Thos. Kinny, Wm. Pike, Jas. Pelcher, Geo P. Patchen, John Hayes, John Canaley, Jas. A. Lewis, Jackson Augsbury, Michael Thibault, Geo. Hall, Thos. Tierney, Jas. Johnson, Almon M. Barny, James A. Lee, Julius Joles, Byron Fox, Henry Hyle, John Hart, Jos. Thomas, Edward M. Fair, Luther Brown Jr., Robt. Empie, Henry Robbins, Sylvester

Bishop, Libeus Easterly, John M. Carter, H. F. Dayton, Joel Bushark, Jas. Hooper, Arnold Vincent, Solomon V. Frame, Chas. Forbes, Sanford Spalding, Jacob Johnson, Wm. Dorathy, Henry Dorr, Samuel Orvis, Alvah Grant, Lewis Herbert, Marcellus Vincent, Simon Bryslow, Benj. Thibault, Thos. Mullin, Peter Swyne, John Roderick, Ira Gillett, Geo. Bertrand, Livingston S. Nims, Chass Bront, Nelson Johnson.

**Town of Ellisburgh.** Whole number put in was 448. The quota to be drawn was 127. Wallace Alverson, Jos. J. Hazel, Ira Spink, Riley E. Lamson, Jas. Martin, Jas. Ferrin, George E. Goodenough, C. A. Eastman, Austin G. Wait, Geo. Hasington—married, P. T. Webster, Charles Herriman, E. P. Godard, Edward Dickinson, Wm. Larmonth, Moses Goodrich, Thos. Fish, Hiram Rose, Augustus Sanford, Daniel Stillwell, George Washington—Col, Mitchel Putoin, Alden Williams, Daniel VanWormer, Wm. Penny, Henry L. Clafin, Lamort Holley, A. L. Rounds, Mathew P. Hartwick, Henry Ayer, Abram Jewett, Preston James, DeElbert Earl, George Brown, Henry Harrington, J. M. Brigham, C. R. Horth, Wm. Steele, John Bicknell, George Betts, Austin W. Hall, George Curtis, Monroe Bemis, Edwin Bishop, G. W. Comee, Henry Bailey, Wm. Oderkirk, Merritt Wood, Nathan Brimmer, Michael O'Brien, Josiah Goddard, Thos. Sheppard, Leander Hall, Harvey J. Wood, J. M. Hungerford, Robert R. Searles, Orison Bemis, H. P. Stacy, Martin P. Wood. W. D. Arms, Stephen Bateman, Schuyler Bemis, Franklin E. Scott, Chas. Cushman, Jno. Pooler, James Calvin, J. S. Washburn, Samuel Shoefelt, Samuel Mabs, Jno B. Wilder, O. S. Allen, Wm. H. Balch, Ezekiel James, S. B. Littlefield, Henry Taylor, Hamilton Hudson, Jerome Wells, J. B. Sheldon, Stewart Washburn, Norman Brainard, Wm. Davis, Foster Connie, Henry Davis, Henry Dewey, Geo. Chrisman, H. R. Holmes, Gustavus Johnson, Chester Reed, Henry VanWormer, Perry Wart, Horace M. Wilds, R. H. Gray, Don Bishop, Milan P. Littlefield, Rufus Hall, Daniel Rury, Amos Fairchilds, Geo. Hartwick, Devereaux Samson, Oscar Durham, K. C. Littlefield, Henry Millard, Henry Parker, Myron Johnson, Geo. S. Hudson, Moses Wood, Lucius Littlefield, Willard Myers, Foster Tonsley, Lyman Hubbard, Morgan Lewis, Alva Randall, Monroe Wheeler, Jno. J. Hinman, Jno M. Levine, Albert Miles, Erastus Hall, Phineas Stewart, Truman Putnam, J. H. Sears, Geo. Bull, Henry Eldridge, Lilford Benton, Alfred Millard, Harrison Fisher, Wm U. Davis.

**Town of Henderson.** Number enrolled, 185. Number called was 52. Augustus Brown, Libeus Maitland, Ed J. Richards, Byron Veder, Asa Smith, Harvey C. Smith, Albert Wilkinson, Wm. Greggs, Joseph Cutlery, H. D. Frazier, Alfred Persons, John ivory, Edward Perry, George Taggart, Edwin Nutting, E. J. Burdick, Henry Service, DeForest Cutler, Herbert Champlin, Albert Spencer, Ebenezer Alexander, Wm. H. Rice, Hiram Ault, Ezra J. Clark, Charles Mins, E. H. Gillman, Deming Green, Charles D. Irwin, Adolphus Penny,  
(Continued on Page 21)

(Continued From Page 20)

John Robbins, Walter Howard, Eastman Rumsey, Lafayette Alexander, W. H. H. Sias, Arthur J. Armstrong, George Searles, J. Duthcher, Elliot Elmer, George N. Mills, Dewitt Hubbard, W. Abbott, J. A. Converse, Alonzo reed, Charles Sawyer, Norman Patterson, Burton penny, Elman Tyler, Amos on, Henry Cook, Kingsby Smith.

**Town of Hounsfield.** Whole number enrolled, 314. Number required 90. Wm. Smith, Jno. S. Tyler, Nelson Hoover, Wm. Clark, Jas. Lorey, Hiram McKee, C. E. Graves, Jno. Graves, Augustus Arnold, Henry P. Holdridge, Jno. S. Coburn, Frances Crapeau, Jno. Moffatt, La Fayette W. Warren, Beatson Phillips, Edward Doyle, Dan'l Matteson, Chas. Stone, Thos. Scroton, Eph. Ramsay, Wm. Swift, Lark Phillips, Duane Green, Soseph Marks, Jas. Van Hooser, Edward Knights, Warren K. Bates, J. S. D. Carter, Jas. Metcalf, Edwin F. Metcalf, David Scanlan, Samuel Boulton, Dennis Farmer, Albert Glaway, Jno. Bright, Liberus F. Allen, Myron M. Root, Melancton Parrish, Dennis Devoy, Stephen Washburn, Dolos A. Barney, Chas. McKee, Chas. Galway, Orville W. Penny, Hiram Washburn, Rich'd M. Earl, Ellis Ebbin, Anson A. Potter, Reuber F. Streeter, Geo. Graham, Jno. F. Hooper, Walter B. Camp, Henry L. Hodges, Hiram S. Chase, Jno. Scroton, Wm. Carter, Ed B. Carter, Jno. Hadley—colored, Wm. Fulson, Geo. O. Membry, Lemuel G. Lee, Franklin Matteson, Edwin B. Harlow, Pembroke F. Thomson, Henry J. Lane, Lyman Payne, Harrison McKee, Turin H. Westcott, Delose Crandall, Ransom Sowle, Ed Mayhar, Willet E. Smith, John S. Hunt, Mich. Farwell, George M. Reed, David Rusque, John Fodrey, George Hoover, And. F. Kenyon, Allen Ramsey, John Parker, Frank Marvin, Peter Lerock, Anson T. Benjamin, Moses Pratt, John Hines, J. Morseman, Wilbur E. Sterling, Hiram E. Hammond, Alanson D. Bass.

**Town of Leray.** Whole number enrolled, 307. Number required, 87. Jno. Zimmerman, Henry March, Alanson Lock, Wm. H. Gould, Frank Shofty, Ebinezer Scofield, Dempster D. Taggart, Charles Burrows, Daniel F. Comstock, Alfred Cass, John Scofield, Peter Bort, Charles Ten Eyck, Peter N. Marrigold, Robert Jackson, Henry Cable, Charles Crusoe, Jule Marrigold, Augustus Baker, Melvin J. Brownell, Freeman Cleaveland, Jacob Nate, Henry M. Smith, Milton Dunton, John M. Ten Eyck, John Burtiss, Asa C. Poor, Wm. Stage, Leonard H. Fortune, Lewis Ross, Peter Steinheilber, Penniman Ratryge, John A. Goonan, John Wilson, Henry Hart, Charles King, Charles Waters, Ross B. Meeker, Ashabel Fowler, Abram Countryman, George Gillespie, Marvin Waltz, Charles G. Rider, Edward Crusoe, Peter Michard, Francis Cooper, Sardis Beebee, Jacob Countryman, Mathew Ryan, Edwin O. Hungerford, Samuel Gardner, John R. Dillenback, Fred Happ, Jerry Butts, Stephen Johnson, George Armiller, James Brown, James A. Young, Charles D. Hebert, James Gillan, Joseph Wideman, Robert Waltz, Hiram Servis, John M. Comstock, Charles Ray, M. C. McBride, Wm. E. Goonan, Jas. A. Helmer, Porter E. Delaware, Jno. Lewis, Thos. Hart,

Milo W. Fuller, Warren Gardner, Peter Kinney, Jno. Riley, Michael Rice, Wm. Leister, Anamais Pichard, Josh Walradt, Emmet Granger, Walcott Rogers, Sullivan C. Earl, Homer Wilson, Gewis J. Jennings, Leo Powell, Joseph LaPartre.

**Town of Lorraine and Worth.** Whole number enrolled, 182. Number required, 50. Lorraine: Gardner Towles, D. Isman Clark, Hiram N. Garner, Wm. H. Corey, Martin V. Towles, Nelson Snyder, Rinaldo Chapman, Jacob H. Snyder, Wm. N. Standish, Wm. Richards, David L. Lyman, Gilbert R. Purdey, Simon P. Oneil, Wm. L. Gardner, Silas O. Lowry, Solomon McCumber, Sylvenus L. Lyman, Patrick Goulding, Henry M. Brown, Hiram Phillips, Joseph Enos, Eli C. Remington, Wm. G. Dunn, Daln. O. Fox, Weo. W. S. Gillett, Erastus L. Reed, Henry L. Grimshaw, Phillip P. Brigham, Chas. H. Pitcaim, Thos. James, Wm. R. Steele, Harmon Campbell, Moses Davis, Jerome L. Sheremedim. Worth: Ira W. Eaton, Geo. McGregor, David H. Atkin, Henry Rice, Perly D. Jacobs, Nathan Matton, Iseah Bellinger, Almond Herrington, Henry A. Prouty, Adam Gray, Abner Rising, Cornelius Hayes, Jno. F. Elkin, Steph A. Grimshaw, Andrew B. Gillet, Chauncey Richards.

**Town of Lyme.** Enrolled 252—drawn 72. Edwin Shelly, Orren T. Johnson, Newell J. Danly, Lewis Center, Alonzo Spenable, Wm. S. Utley, Phillip Lotes, Jacob Fox, Charles Phillips, John Dingman, Wm. Abbey, Greenleaf. R. Wilcox, Martin Getman, Simon Wells, Morgan Klock, Wm. O. Thomson, Sam Watrons, Peter Vandoren, Noel E. Douglass, Wallace Ryder, Menzo Hayes, Jason Fay, George Aman, Alvah N. Warner, Wm. M. Holbrook, Alonzo H. Francis, Eleazer A. Watkins, Lawrence T. Weaver, Oliver B. Hewitt, Alvah Dillenbeck, Orville S. Flanburgh, Richard C. Runce, Alonzo Lott, Elias Fredinburgh, Wm. Bates, John Fox, Harrison Blodgett, Preston B. Gaige, Minot J. Howard, Frank Lucas, Ambrose Combs, Albert B. Mayhew, Wm. H. Dewey, Lewis Snell, Lyman Munson, Ross C. Houghton, Chauncy D. Hayes, Charles H. Hamilton, Madison J. McCombs, Lewis Garopee, Stewart Merrill, Clitus Shepard, Duane J. Cross, Wallace Dodge, Scott Blodgett, Gains N. Harmon, Minot M. Ingalls, Alonzo C. Nims, Brayton G. Harris, Orren N. Wilcox, Henry F. Swin, Grove Penny, Calvin H. Becker, James H. Cline, Thomas Brushingham, Chauncy Clause, Leroy S. Reed, Jacob J. Hunter.

#### LYME HERITAGE CENTER PROGRAMS FOR 2018

Most programs are on Sunday 2:00 to 4:00 at the Lyme Heritage Center in the old Grange Hall Three Mile Bay

July 15—Town of Lyme Schools with Bilkey Moore and audience participation

August 19—Stained Glass Windows—Presbyterian Church history

September 16—Power Point on Railroads with Sue Cornell

October 7—(second Sunday) Open House—Music



# Jefferson County Queries

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

## TEACHOUT, MUDDAMAN, COOKE

I have been attempting to get information regarding the birth of my great grandmother, Louise Amelia **TEACHOUT**, according to various records, she was born at Sackets Harbor on 19 Oct 1851. She married Edward **MUDDAMAN** of Utica in 1876, according to her obituary in the *Utica Herald Dispatch*. She died on 21 August 1902 in Utica and is buried in the New Forest Cemetery there, along with her husband. Edward was born in England, came to this country and served twice in the Union Army in the Civil War. He worked as a house painter in Utica for many years. Their children include Melissa I., Charles H. and Arthur J. My grandmother Melissa married Harry Leroy **COOKE** and moved at first to Burrillville, RI, then finally settling in Danielson, CT. I have found many **TEACHOUT**s in various NYS censuses. None list Louise as a daughter with the correct DOB.

*David Boyd*  
[dboyd105@gmail.com](mailto:dboyd105@gmail.com)

## KIDDER, KEDDER, KEEDER, CALKIN, CALKINS

My ancestor John **KIDDER** moved to New York sometime after 1793. I believe his wife's name was Samantha **CALKINS**, but there are conflicting docs. I have found him taxed in NY with the following dates and spellings: New York, Tax Assessment Rolls of Real and Personal Estates, 1799-1804: John **KEDDER**, Paris, Oneida, NY, 1801; John **KIDDER**, 1802, Paris; John **KEEDER**, 1803, Adams, Oneida. The names of children include: Alinda, Emelia, Simeon, Chester, Hannah, Elizabeth and Constant. John was the son-in-law of Solomon **CALKIN** and traveled with him until about 1816. Solomon **CALKIN**'s Rev War record records his travels from VT to finally Jefferson Co, NY, where he drew a RW pension until his death in 1840. Specifically, I am looking for proof of John **KIDDER**'s wife's name. I believe it is Samantha, d/o Solomon **CALKINS**.

*Shirley Long*  
[sandllong@cox.net](mailto:sandllong@cox.net)

## SHARP, GORDON, CROAN, PECK, KING, CORY, EHLE, RAWSON

Henry **SHARP** b. abt. 1818 New York, possibly Champion as noted on CW service record. He was 1st married to Susan **GORDON** (dau of Thomas?) who died 1853 & married 2nd Lydia Ann **CROAN** (dau of Asher). Henry d. 1865 during CW of disease leaving 8 children: Martha Jane, Lydia A. (1846), Harriet Eliz. ('50), Susan ('52), Anna A. ('55), John M, Benjamin A. ('57) and Rosette. I am looking for any birth, marriage, church, or land records for any members of this family in Jefferson Co. Help on Henry or his parents is needed. He was Private 2nd Artillery, Civil War. Enlisted at Wilna March 1864, died March 1865 buried York, PA. I believe Henry is son of Benjamin **SHARP**/Dorah **PECK**. Believe 1st wf Susan is dau of Thomas **GORDON**/Sylvia **KING**. 2nd wife Lydia Ann **CROAN** m. Daniel M. **CORY** aft Henry died. Have multiple censuses w/this family & children scattered over Jefferson county

w/relatives aft death of Susan, then Henry. Have death cert for daughters Harriet Elizabeth (**EHLE**) & Lydia Ann (**RAWSON**). Have will of Asher **CROAN**. Have no firm birth information, church records, marriage records (except Harriet), or land records.

*Jennifer Witzel*  
[jtowitzel@gmail.com](mailto:jtowitzel@gmail.com)

## GAUGIEN, GOSIER, THERAT

Simeon **GAUGIEN/GOSIER** 1795-1865 emigrated to Lyme 1832. His wife was Jane Ann Baptiste **THERAT** (1791-1878). I think he remained in Lyme (Cape Vincent) all his life. Children established themselves in Rosiere. The descendent line goes: Simeon **GAUGIEN/GOSIER** 1795-1865...Antoine **GAUGIEN/GOSIER** 1820-1898...Charles **GOSIER** 1845-1928; Austin William **GOSIER** 1885-1958; Lester James **GOSIER**, Sr. 1916-2009; me. Simeon and Jane had the children Charles, Antoine, Nicholas, John, Marie and Clarissa. I have been researching for past six months why he initiated the family surname change from **GAUGIEN** to **GOSIER**. The change occurred c. 1852, some 22 years after coming to this country. Have you any documentation, legal, church, letters, etc., explaining why this happened? I believe his son Antoine & family were the first of his children to make the change. Folklore seems to indicate that the driving force for the change was linguistics/morphology or anglicization. Both reasons seem weak to me.

*Lester Gosier*  
[gengymgr@gmail.com](mailto:gengymgr@gmail.com)

## JOHNSON, TOWNE

I am working on a DAR application and am trying to link Jonah **JOHNSON** (1785-?) or his wife Jerusha **TOWNE JOHNSON** (1787-1833) to their son Solomon Chiles **JOHNSON** (1823-1855). He lived in Carthage, NY. Solomon married and died in Iowa. I have the name of a child as Solomon Chiles **JOHNSON**.

*Karen McFarland*  
[Klm\\_37871@yahoo.com](mailto:Klm_37871@yahoo.com)

## ADAMS, NESTLE

Melinda **ADAMS** is my 2X great grandmother. She was born somewhere around 1826. She lived in Jefferson County. It is believed that her father's name was Thomas. She married **NESTLE** in the same area then moved to Michigan. A child's name was Harvey. I am trying to find any information about her and her ancestry.

*Donna Dowling*  
[donnajdowling@yahoo.com](mailto:donnajdowling@yahoo.com)

## STOLIKER, HARWOOD, DAY

I am looking for information on and ancestors of Sarah **STOLIKER**, born about 1843 in Jefferson County, New York, possibly on Grindstone Island, and Jacob **HARWOOD**, born April 1836 in Canada, residing in Clayton, Jefferson County, New York by 1865. I have names of children as Lucinda, Edwin D., Henry,

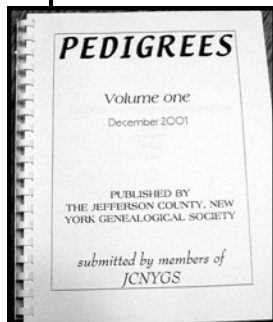
(Continued on Page 23)

## JCNYGS MATERIALS FOR PURCHASE

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

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

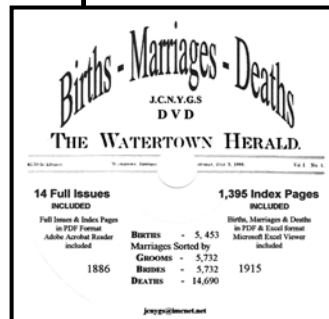
A collection of pedigrees  
Submitted by members  
of the JCNYGS  
with an every name index  
Checks made out to JCNYGS



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

\$25 plus \$5 for  
postage

Checks made out to  
JCNYGS



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

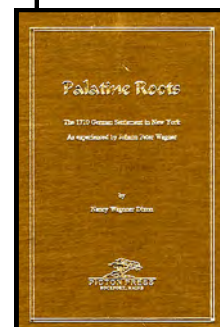


**PALATINE ROOTS**

The 1710 German Settlement  
in New York  
As experienced by  
Johann Peter Wagner  
By Nancy Wagoner Dixon

\$40 includes  
Postage

Checks made out to  
JCNYGS



(Continued From Page 22)

Byron Delafield, Alexander, Rosina and Charles.  
Jacob **HARWOOD** was a son of Joseph **HARWOOD**  
and Sarah **DAY**.

Nicole Smith

[Bowlfreak\\_not@yahoo.com](mailto:Bowlfreak_not@yahoo.com)

**ROBBINS, SMITH**

The 1855 NY census stated that William **ROBBINS**  
was born in Jefferson County, NY in 1807. His wife,  
Sarah **SMITH** was also born there about 1813-1818.  
His daughter Mary Jane **ROBBINS** was also born  
there about 1832-1835. In addition to Mary Jane, other  
children were Adaline, Washington, Louisa and Sarah.  
Are there any birth or marriage record for William and  
Sarah?

Bill Rostal

[wjrosta@comcast.net](mailto:wjrosta@comcast.net)

**SANFORD, SANDFORD, HUFF, HOLBROOKS,  
MORRIS, TODD**

I am looking for information on my GGreat Grandfather  
Simon **SANFORD** or **SANDFORD** born 1815-1825  
and died 1905 in Canada. He married Nancy **HUFF**  
born 1833 Sophiasburg, Ontario, Canada, died 07 Mar  
1896 Belleville, Ontario, Canada. Simon **SANDFORD**,  
23 and Nancy **HUFF**, 21 were married by Daniel  
**HOLBROOKS**, Esq. March 7, 1847 in Lyme NY.  
Some of the 14 children include Ada born in Ontario,

Canada and died 18 July 1886 in Phoenix, New York;  
Clara born 1846 married a **MORRIS**; Cynthia born  
1849 in USA and died 20 June 1906 in Fulton,  
Oswego, New York and married a **TODD**, Thomas;  
Lucy Ann born 1849; George Washington born 1852  
in Tyendinega Twp, Ontario, Canada and died 16 Jan.  
1920.

Joe Sanford

[mohawk50@msn.com](mailto:mohawk50@msn.com)

**McCOMBS**

I am looking for biographical info for my Gg  
grandmother. The little bit of info I have been able to  
find is that she was born Mary Jane **McCOMBS**, dau  
of John A. **McCOMBS**, on or about May 7, 1821 in  
Champion. I have also heard that her family were  
members of the local Baptist Church. If possible, I  
want to narrow down the info to her mother and  
mother's parents.

Daug Heins

[m.heins@sbcglobal.net](mailto:m.heins@sbcglobal.net)

**“We don’t stop playing because  
we grow old, we grow old because  
we stop playing.”**

**– George Bernard Shaw**

## INFORMER

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

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
WATERTOWN, NY  
PERMIT NO. 112

Or Current Resident

# JCNYGS PROGRAMS FOR 2018

**9 Jul (Monday): 6:00PM.** Leadership from the St. Lawrence Valley Genealogical Society will present the program. The St. Lawrence County group has served the needs of genealogists since 1983, with newsletters, free queries, research library, social events, business meetings, workshops, and advice and assistance.

**13 Aug (Monday): 6:00PM.** Meeting at the Henderson Historical Society and Museum located at 12581 County Route 72, Harborview Road, in the former Henderson Universalist Church building. We will hold our business meeting, then adjourn for a tour through three buildings and historic archives.

**10 Sep (Monday): 6:00PM.** Ancestry.com is accessible inside the public libraries of Jefferson, St. Lawrence, Oswego, and Lewis counties. Amanda Presley, Reference Librarian, Flower Memorial Library, in Watertown, will share the benefits and processes of using Ancestry.com at any one of the North Country Libraries. Elections for 2018 – 2019 will be held prior to the program.

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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 IHCS. 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 25, Issue 4

Annual Dues \$18 Individual \$20 Family

October 2018



JCNYGS Visits The HHS Peters-Stevens Boat Annex (See page 4)

## Table of Contents

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 2 To The Editor                             | 16 Century And A Half of NNY News        |
| 3 July JCNYGS Minutes                       | 18 The Card Game                         |
| 4 August JCNYGS Minutes                     | 20 Jefferson County Civil War Draft      |
| 5 September JCNYGS Minutes                  | 22 Queries                               |
| 6 Cooley Families in Jefferson County, NY   | 23 JCNYGS Materials For Purchase         |
| 10 2018 History and Genealogy Fair          | 23 Post cards for World War I Centennial |
| 11 Bicentennial Tribute to Veterans of 1776 | 24 Programs For 2018                     |
| 12 Ask Aunty Jeff                           | Extra 1 History & Genealogy Fair Program |
| 13 A Deadly Blast                           | Extra 2 History & Genealogy Fair Program |

## INFORMER OCTOBER 2018

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](http://www.jcnygs.com)

**President:** Thomas LaClair, 17696 Co. Route 181, Clayton, NY 13624,  
[tomlaclair624@yahoo.com](mailto:tomlaclair624@yahoo.com), 315-285-5032

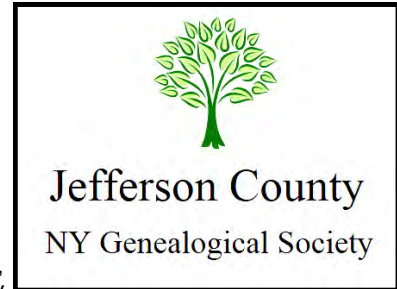
**Vice President:** Larry Corbett, 520 Binsse St., Watertown, NY 13601,  
[lrcorbet@gisco.net](mailto:lrcorbet@gisco.net), 315-323-3118

**Recording Secretary:** Vacant (A volunteer will be asked at each meeting until the position is filled.)

**Treasurer:** Greg Plantz, 21787 Reed Road,  
Watertown, NY 13601, [tplantz1@twcny.rr.com](mailto:tplantz1@twcny.rr.com), 315-788-5324

**The Informer Committee:** (alphabetically) are Brenda Becker, [bmartinobecker@gmail.com](mailto:bmartinobecker@gmail.com); Roberta Calhoun-Eagan, [dioncalhoun@yahoo.com](mailto:dioncalhoun@yahoo.com); Larry Corbett, [lrcorbet@gisco.net](mailto:lrcorbet@gisco.net); Bruce Coyne, [coynegen@aol.com](mailto:coynegen@aol.com); Anne Davis, [davisa24@verizon.net](mailto:davisa24@verizon.net); Jerry and Marilyn Davis, [maridavis@aol.com](mailto:maridavis@aol.com); Nan Dixon, [nandixon001@gmail.com](mailto:nandixon001@gmail.com); Thomas LaClair, [tomlaclair624@yahoo.com](mailto:tomlaclair624@yahoo.com), (publisher); Greg and Tammy Plantz, [tplantz1@twcny.rr.com](mailto:tplantz1@twcny.rr.com); Beverly Sterling-Affinati, [harborsideservices@gmail.com](mailto:harborsideservices@gmail.com).

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



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

printing of the quarterly newsletter, the *Informer*, and the costs associated with maintaining the society website. There are no paid staff members at JCNYS—all positions are filled with volunteers. As of 15 September, we have 83 of 245 household's delinquent (33 percent). Please check your *Informer* mailing label for the status of your dues.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are pleased to bring you the October 2018 *Informer*. It has been a busy summer with monthly lectures plus the 4th Annual History and Genealogy Fair. We welcomed the St. Lawrence Valley Genealogical Society leadership for an informative lecture in July. We then took a field-trip to the Henderson Historical Society in August. And in September we welcomed Flower Memorial Library Genealogy Department staff member Amanda Presley to teach us about using Ancestry.com at any North Country Library. The minutes, and overview of each lecture meeting is provided.

Lastly, the 4th Annual History & Genealogy Fair proved to be a great networking opportunity. Several photos are provided by member and *Informer* publisher Jerry Davis. The digital *Informer*, provided on our website to members, has additional pages from the printed version; they comprise the History and Genealogy Fair program and photos. Otherwise the mailed and on-line *Informers* are identical.

## DUES PAST DUE

The subscription year runs from 1 July to 30 June. Dues are \$18.00 per year for individuals or \$20.00 for two members in the same household. Dues cover

## ELECTIONS FOR JCNYS

Elections for JCNYS leadership for the Oct 2018 – Sep 2019 calendar year were held at the 10 Sep 2018 meeting. Members in attendance were encouraged to run for the office of President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer. Greg Plantz agreed to remain on as Treasurer. The remaining three offices remain vacant and members are actively sought as you read this announcement. We are confident the offices will be filled in time for the new lecture season, but we need help. If you are interested in holding a vacant office in the presidency, write to a member of the current presidency. E-mail addresses are in the inside front cover of the *Informer*.

Respectfully, Thomas F. LaClair  
President and Membership Clerk, JCNYS

**"You must expect great things from yourself before you can do them."  
– Michael Jordan**



# Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society

Meeting Minutes, July 9, 2018  
By JCNYS Vice President Larry Corbett

Attendance: George Inglehart, Steven Guy, Barbara and Wayne Haefele, Linda and Richard Sacco, Parks Honeywell, Norm Young, Roger Hutchinson, Charles Shene, Jerry Davis, Peggy Distefano, Joanne Woodward, Lawrence Corbett, Tina Thorp, Tom and Judy Wood, Pat Donahue, Bill and Mary Dasno, Ann Fillhart, Greg and Tammy Plantz, Tracy Robertson, Thomas LaClair, Kevin and Sharon Leeson

The business meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm. by President Tom LaClair who welcomed members and first-time guests.

Treasurer Greg Plantz reported \$ 5,217.77 in checking account, \$ 404.79 in savings account, and \$ 2,439.68 in the CD, total of all accounts thru July 2 \$ 7,964.24. Motion was made by Jerry Davis and seconded by Parks Honeywell to accept the report, pending customary audit. Motion carried.

Announcements - Parks Honeywell discussed a project of the Thousand Islands Chapter of the *Sons of the American Revolution* to place roadside markers at local cemeteries where veterans of the Revolution are buried. He urged members of JCNYS to help the SAR to identify eligible cemeteries, especially those in Jefferson County with multiple burials.

President LaClair announced that the 4th Annual History and Genealogy Fair will be held at the Jefferson County Historical Society Museum on Saturday, 15 September from 10 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. A motion was made by Ann Fillhart and seconded by Mary Dasno to help to sponsor the event with a donation of \$250.00 to the Historical Society. Motion carried. The business meeting was concluded at 6:15.

President LaClair then called on Tracy Robertson who introduced Norm Young, Roger Hutchinson and Charlie Shene from the St. Lawrence Valley Genealogical Society.

The three presenters each took a turn describing the historical and genealogical resources of the 32 towns which, with the City of Ogdensburg, make up the largest county in the state.

Norm Young discussed the history of the SLVGS and offered some interesting personal insights into the county's history and industries. Charlie Shene's presentation included a town-by-town inventory of 30+ museums, libraries and local history centers within the county, accompanied by a handout with contact information for town and village historians and other pertinent information on each site. Roger Hutchinson

spoke on researching in Pierrepont, Potsdam and Parishville. The three remained following the presentation to answer questions.



**Roger Hutchinson, Charlie Shene and Norm Young from the St. Lawrence Valley Genealogical Society**



**Members and guests listen and check out the handouts from our guests from the St. Lawrence Valley Genealogical Society**





## Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society

Meeting Minutes, August 13, 2018  
By JCNYGS Vice President Larry Corbett

On August 13, the Jefferson County NY Genealogical Society's monthly meeting was held at the Henderson Historical Society Museum. In attendance were: Phyllis Putnam, Lawrence R. Corbett, Tina Thorp, Suzanne Cornell, JonMarie Pearson, John Treadwell, Thomas F. LaClair, Jerry and Marilyn Davis, Nan Dixon, Tom and Judy Wood, Bruce and Mary Coyne, Mary Blanchard, Peggy Distefano, Joanne Woodward, Greg and Tammy Plantz, Warren and Eleanor Allen, Elaine Scott, Fred Caswell and M. Russell Lee.

The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. by President LaClair, who requested V. P. Corbett to record the minutes. Greg Plantz gave the Treasurer's report. Since his last report, he has made deposits of \$892.00 into the checking account, and written checks to USPS for \$225.00 for the bulk mailing permit, and \$250.00 to the JCHS to sponsor the History & Genealogy Fair. Current balance in the checking account is \$5,599.89. Savings and CD balances are unchanged from previous month. Jerry Davis moved, and Tom Wood seconded to accept the Treasurer's report as read, pending routine audit.

### Announcements:

Membership chairman LaClair reminded members that annual membership renewals became due in July. Election of officers will be held at September meeting, per bylaws. The president asked for volunteers to serve on the nominating committee.

The 4th Annual History and Genealogy Fair will be held at the Jefferson County Historical Society Museum on Saturday, Sept. 15.

The Lyme Heritage Center will host a program Aug. 19 at the Chaumont Presbyterian Church. Dave Martin will give a presentation on stained glass windows.

Greg Plantz moved that we donate \$150.00 to the Henderson Historical Society. Seconded by Jerry Davis, the motion was carried without discussion.

Motion to adjourn was made by Mary Blanchard, seconded by Marilyn Davis. Business meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

Elaine Scott of the museum introduced the evening's program. Attendees were ushered to the Society's 1820s era log cabin, which originally stood at Ray's Bay. Fred Caswell gave an informative history of the cabin, it's acquisition and reconstruction. It has been surmised that the cabin may have been utilized as a military stopover for officers marching between Sackets Harbor and Oswego. Later, it became



In the 1820s era log cabin

incorporated into a farmhouse which was damaged in a fire, revealing the earlier cabin. It was donated to the Society which disassembled the building and moved it to its current location. Fred fielded numerous questions.

We then moved on to the Peters Stevens Boat Annex, also located on the museum campus. Housing about one dozen antique wooden boats, the annex allows volunteers to house, display and preserve these rare items which were rescued from the Henderson area. Many of the boats were constructed locally and include guide boats, rowboats, skiffs, sailboats, and a vintage iceboat. John Treadwell gave an interesting presentation and answered many questions.

Next, we returned to the museum itself where Elaine Scott and JonMarie Pearson told the history of the former First Universalist Church which has been transformed into the Henderson Historical Society Museum. We were introduced to the vast collection which includes everything from tools to prehistoric pottery to family history binders, Grange records, school yearbooks, military and Masonic items, and so much more.

On behalf of the Jefferson County Genealogical Society, President LaClair thanked the presenters and the Henderson Society for their warm and informative reception.

Elaine Scott introduced members and guests to the vast collection at the Henderson Historical Society



# Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society

Meeting Minutes, September 10, 2018

By Jcnygs President Tom LaClair

Attendance: George Inglehart, Larry Corbett, Tom LaClair, Tom and Judy Wood, Paul Beers, M. Russell Lee, Mary C. Ransome, Greg and Tammy Plantz, Linda Twichell, Dave Twichell, Siobhan Creem, Peggy DiStefano, Joanne Woodward, Kathie Compeau, Jerry Davis, and Amanda Presley.

The business meeting was open at 6:00PM by President Tom LaClair. After welcoming members, the financial report was read by Tammy Plantz on behalf of her husband Greg Plantz, who arrived a few minutes later. There were deposits equaling \$315.00 this month. There was one check written to the Henderson Historical Society for \$150.00. The checking account balance was \$5,635.89. The C.D. balance is \$2,439.68. The savings account is \$404.79. The finance report was approved after motions by Tom Wood and Paul Beers. President LaClair also discussed the upcoming History and Genealogy Fair Saturday as well as next months lecture from the United Empire Loyalist from Ontario, Canada.

The time was turned over to Vice President Larry Corbett to oversee annual elections. Larry opened by explaining the current leadership has been in place numerous years—even swapping from President to Vice President and back however time has come for us to step down. He presented the basic duties of President, Vice President, Treasurer and Recording Secretary. Larry spoke on a few appointed positions such as programs and membership. Having no nominations prior to tonight’s meeting, he opened the floor for leadership nominations. Greg Plantz volunteered to remain on as Treasurer—this was accepted by the membership on-hand. After receiving none other, Larry distributed blank cards to all members in attendance and asked for secret ballot nominations. Elections were then delayed until the October meeting. The current presidency will evaluate the cards received and discuss alternatives in the event nominations are declined by the nominee in October. The business meeting concluded at 6:18.

President LaClair then introduced Flower Memorial Library Genealogy Department Supervisor and Reference Librarian Amanda Presley. Amanda, in her 11th year employee of the library, discussed that Ancestry.com, with some limitation, is accessible inside the 65 public libraries of Jefferson, St. Lawrence, Oswego, and Lewis counties. She used a PowerPoint slideshow to share the benefits of using Ancestry.com at any one of the North Country Libraries. She spoke of library card requirements, business hours, microfilm and microfiche processes—many of which are becoming a thing of the past.



**President Tom LaClair and our speaker Amanda Presley pose for the camera after the meeting**

Amanda explained how the New York State vitals index, for inside and outside of New York City, are now available on Ancestry.com and easily queried. In fact, Ancestry has newer years that are not available on microfiche. She shared how the older New York Daily Reformer, Watertown Herald, and older Watertown Daily Times microfilms

were in process of being digitized. Amanda discussed the Watertown directories and how helpful they are in finding information on addresses and home ownership. In wrapping up she talked of the extensive family file collection the library has and that clipping of newspaper articles is still an active component. She ended by highlighting their long-time resident volunteer Terry Mandigo and his extensive genealogy knowledge and how volunteers are always needed. For more information on library hours, contact Amanda at [apresley@ncls.org](mailto:apresley@ncls.org) or call her at 315-785-7714. The Flower Memorial Library site can be found on-line at <https://www.flowermemoriallibrary.org/>

**Amanda Presley presents her program on access to Ancestry.com from any of the 65 libraries in Jefferson, St. Lawrence, Lewis and Oswego counties.**



## COOLEY FAMILIES IN JEFFERSON COUNTY, NY

By JCNYGS member Joyce H. Cook  
jhcook2017@gmail.com

My great-great grandmother, Jennie Olive Cooley Fuller, was born in Lorraine, Jefferson County on November 20, 1843. She lived her adult life in the Town of Granby, Oswego County, dying there on January 4, 1930. However, her parents and grandparents were from the Adams/Rodman/Lorraine area in southern Jefferson County. This is their story.

John Jr. Cooley,<sup>7</sup> her father, was the second generation of this Cooley family in Jefferson County. His father John Sr.<sup>6</sup> and mother Polly (Taintor) Cooley came to the area with his father's several brothers in the early 1800s.

*The Cooley Genealogy* outlines the family starting with Benjamin<sup>1</sup> Cooley, born about 1617 in Springfield, Massachusetts, through Daniel,<sup>2</sup> Thomas,<sup>3</sup> Reuben,<sup>4</sup> Thomas,<sup>5</sup> and John,<sup>6</sup> born 1771 in Somers, Connecticut. His siblings are listed as Thomas, Elizabeth, Samuel, Asa, Zebriah, Lois, Reuben, and Stephen.

The entry for Asa Cooley in Child's *Gazetteer of Jefferson County*, 1890, page 647, says he and his brothers John, Stephen, and David came from Whitingham, Windham County, Vermont to Rodman by 1807.

I found records for the Congregational Church of Rodman, 1809-1890, at the Watertown Flower Library's Genealogy Department in 1986. They show the first formation list of 1809 for a religious group, the Harrison Society, that later became the First Congregational Society of Rodman in 1830. Among the Cooley family members listed is John Cooley who pledged a cash payment to the Society of \$1.50 in 1809 and John Cooley Jr. who pledged \$1.00 in 1810, although he would have been only nine years old. Stephen, Samuel, and Reuben Cooley also pledged \$1 each in 1809, and Asa Cooley pledged \$3.

When his father and other family members came to the Rodman area in 1804, likely from the Whitingham, Windham County, Vermont area, John Jr. was a toddler as he was born on August 15, 1801. John Sr. is listed on the Rodman 1820 federal census with five children under 16 and two under 26, one of whom could be John Jr.

John Sr. married Polly Taintor on January 4, 1796, according to *The Cooley Genealogy*, which is the last mention of him and his line in that book, on page 545. He died in Rodman on October 29, 1841 and is buried in the Fairview Cemetery, Rodman. Polly died on February 27, 1867 and is buried near him; she was possibly born on April 18, 1778 in Massachusetts.

I have found little mention of their children, except for John Jr. whose life I will outline later. Near their graves is a stone for Rebekah who was born in 1807 and died in 1848 in Rodman. The 1800 census for Whitingham, Windham County, VT lists a John Cooley with one male and one female under 10 so there were probably other children. It also shows one male and one female aged 26-45; John was 29 and Polly was

22 so this is likely them.

I found no mention of any Cooley family—by any spelling—on the 1810 federal census for Rodman, although the above church records indicate they were probably there. From the 1820 through the 1840 censuses the John Sr. family does show up in Rodman, along with other Cooleys. However, those state and federal censuses only list the head of the family, of course; the other occupants are just listed according to number of males and females by age range. So I can only conjecture that there were other children born to this couple, according to those censuses, but can't be sure.

John Jr. married Fanny Brown, daughter of Ebenezer and Olive Brown; she may have been adopted. The 1864 will of Ebenezer Brown, Ellisburgh, doesn't list a daughter Fanny Cooley, but he does bequeath \$50 to John Cooley. Fanny was born in New York State, probably Jefferson County according to several censuses, on May 15, 1809. I have found no marriage date for them. According to her entry on the 1865 census, they had ten children; of those, possibly five boys and four girls lived to adulthood. The children were:

Eben, born December 13, 1827  
Susan S., born October 16, 1830  
Ricardo, born September 19, 1832, died July 15, 1901  
Alphonse Emir, born September 23, 1834,  
died July 22, 1922  
James, born September 10, 1836  
Douglas, born July 11, 1838  
Marilda, born October 16, 1839  
Jennie Olive, born November 20, 1843, died  
January 4, 1930  
Nellie, born in 1846, died 1919  
Henry, born December 11, 1847, died  
September 23, 1852

There is an 1837 deed in the Jefferson County Clerk's Office for John Cooley and Fanny, his wife, as grantors of an estimated 64 acres of land in the Town of Ellisburgh to Ebenezer Brown, quite possibly her adoptive father. The 1830 Ellisburgh census shows John Cooley with his and Fanny's correct ages and a male under 5, likely their first child, Eben. Susan was born there in October 1830, and Alphonse was also born there in 1834.

An interesting quote indicates a reason the family moved around the various towns in southern Jefferson County. According to John's son Alphonse Emir's biography on pages 59 and 60 in the 1898 Jefferson County history *Our County and Its People*—"John followed various pursuits, chiefly mechanical, and was noted for his consistent failure in every business undertaking."

John Cooley was the grantee for 46 acres in the Town of Rodman in 1839. The family eventually moved to the Town of Lorraine, showing up on the 1840 census with the appropriate number and age of their children at that time. Jennie was born in Lorraine in 1843.

The 1850 census of Adams lists the whole family by name, except for the two older children who by then

(Continued on Page 7)



(Continued From Page 6)

likely had left home. There's Olive, who was Jennie Olive, and Helen who was Nellie. But otherwise the entries are accurate. John and his teenage sons Ricardo and Alphonzo [sic] are farmers.



Pictured are Fanny and John Cooley Jr., date unknown

By the 1855 state census, James, Marilda, Olive, and Helen were at home plus 24-year-old Susan, who hadn't been on the 1850 census with them. Baby Henry had already died in 1852. They are still in Adams with father John listed as a carpenter, and the family living there for four years.

The family was still in Adams in 1860, with farmer John born in Massachusetts, although the other censuses and his son Alphonse's death certificate show he was born in Vermont. Also in the family were lawyer A. E., Helen, and Fanny; there was no daughter Fanny but the age is close enough that that could have been Jennie.

Circumstances may have changed considerably for John and Fanny by the 1865 census, for they are living with their son Alfonso [sic] then, although still in Adams. It's possible that they are still in the same location but have signed some of the farm over to him. He and John are both shown as land owners, with John as a farmer born in Vermont and Alfonso [sic] as a lawyer. Eighteen-year-old daughter Hellen [born Nellie] is also in the household. A vital piece of information is that Fanny indicates she is the mother of ten children, and also that she was born in Massachusetts not Jefferson County, NY. That is the last census in which they appear, as Fanny died on July 7, 1866 and John died on April 30, 1867. He is listed in the 1805-1890 Rodman Congregational Church Roll of Members as #85, being deceased as of May 1, 1867.

Many of the family members are buried in the Adams Union Cemetery, just south of Adams Center. Others are buried in the Fairview Cemetery, Rodman. Records are available for both of those cemeteries. The family plot in the Adams Union Cemetery features a tall monument with John and Fanny's names on the east face and nothing on the rest of the stone. Nearby are three flat stones denoting their son Alphonse [sic],

his wife Frances, and their baby son Paul. Their daughter Nellie M. Cooley Case is also buried in that cemetery along with her husband Fred and their son Earl.

Their youngest child, Henry, died on September 23, 1852, not quite five years old, according to the Fairview Cemetery, Rodman, records.

Son Douglas was born in 1838 but isn't with the family on the 1850 census so may have died by then. Son James is on the 1855 Adams census with the family, age 18. I haven't found him after that.

Their daughter Marilda is also with the family on the 1855 Adams census, age 15. She doesn't show up on the 1860 census but may have married by then with a different last name.

I have tracked several of the remaining children. My family information says that Eben married Pulinee; they had a son Herbert. Eben was listed as a carpenter on the 1850 Rodman census, and an organ tuner on the 1870 Town of Lysander, Onondaga County census. Lysander is next to the Town of Hannibal in Oswego County, where his brother Ricardo was living at that time.

Susan married—perhaps a Fuller—and had no children; she lived in California. Nellie is shown on the 1850, 1855, 1860, and 1865 censuses as Hellen, but her gravestone shows she was buried as Nellie. However, sons Ricardo and Alphonse [sic] are well-documented, likely because they became a well-known doctor and a judge, respectively. Ricardo N. Cooley has an extensive entry in *Landmarks of Oswego County*, 1898, pages 159-160.

It relates that he was educated at Union College, studied law in Watertown, graduated from Albany Medical College, and also Castleton Medical College in Vermont. He then started practicing medicine in Oswego County in 1860. He was involved in the Civil War, being drafted several times then in 1864 becoming a major on the roll of surgeons for the hospital department.

It mentions his wife Harriet and two sons, both doctors: Emir of San Francisco and Frank of Oswego. He was one of the first doctors to successfully operate for appendicitis, on April 1, 1870. He also did many successful ovariectomy operations. He was appointed to a chair of clinical surgery in Harvard's medical department. As if he didn't have enough to do, in 1892 he was appointed as the Hannibal Center postmaster,



ADAMS UNION CEMETERY

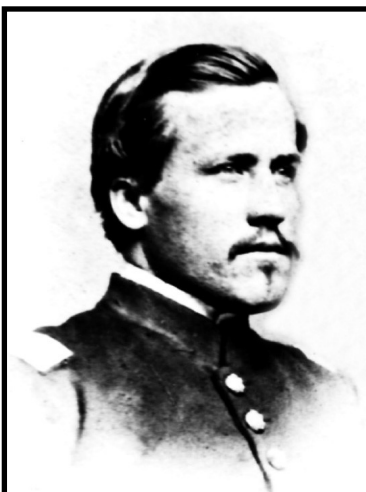
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(Continued From Page 7)

and in 1897 was on a list of newly-appointed Notary Publics there.

Census records indicate that he and Harriet had various relatives living with them in the late 1800s, from cousins to nieces. In fact, his sister Jennie Olive lived there while teaching in Hannibal Center, from age fourteen until she married at twenty. According to several articles in contemporary local newspapers he was a well-regarded member of the community in which he served for over 40 years.

He died on July 15, 1901, after being in ill health for several months. He is buried in the Hannibal Center Cemetery with a fine headstone. It sounds like he was a son that Jefferson County can be proud of.



This *carte de visite* is a photo of Alphonse in his Civil War uniform. On the reverse he says this is for his sister Jennie who requested it.

As was his younger brother, Alphonse Emir, who was a lawyer, Civil War officer, and a county judge in Jefferson County. He was born in Ellisburg, Jefferson County, on September 27, 1837, the fourth of his parents' ten children. He studied law with Judge Conklin, got his degree at the National Law School, being second in the class of almost one hundred, and was admitted to the bar in Poughkeepsie, New York in 1861.

He enlisted at Adams Center, in the early days of the Civil War, on October 5, 1861 in Company K, 94<sup>th</sup> NY

Infantry Volunteers, Jefferson County, as a First Lieutenant. He eventually was promoted to Captain and served in the Department of Prisoners until summer 1863, when he was mustered out. His cemetery marker indicates his Civil War service was from 1861—1865.

When he returned home to Adams Center after his military service, he set up a law office. He practiced law in Jefferson County almost until his death in 1922, being a respected member of the community and that profession. He was also a special county judge for more than twenty years, according to his obituary in a Watertown newspaper. His interests were varied: for nine years he was a school commissioner; he contributed columns to the *Watertown Journal* for many years; he furnished weather reports to the newspaper; he was a farmer and also engaged in lumbering and shipping, although not with much success.

He married Frances Whitely in 1872; they had four children: Paul, who died as a baby; Fanny, May, and Martha. My grandmother, Eva Fuller, in whose house

his sister Jennie lived during her last years, told me that "Uncle Phonse" was a sweetheart, and that he and his wife were "lovely people." They lived in Adams Center all their married lives, where he died on July 22, 1922, of chronic nephritis, according to his death certificate. In his will, he appointed his wife Frances as executrix, giving her his possessions and estate for her use until her death, then they were to go to "my beloved daughter May B. Cooley." Daughters Mrs. Fanny M. DeLawyer and Mrs. Martha L. Withington of Adams Center aren't mentioned. The estate was farm and woodlot property, worth about \$20,000.



These are two photos of Alphonse in his later years, looking as distinguished as his obituary portrayed him. Mentioned in his obituary is that "His counsel had been highly prized and he will be greatly missed by the entire community as a good citizen. It was one of his characteristics that he preferred to settle a case peaceably if it could possibly be accomplished." In his tongue-in-cheek biography that it's likely he authored for *Our County and Its People*, the Jefferson County "mug book" published in 1898, it was noted that "In politics he has always been actively Republican, and though a lawyer has never been plaintiff or defendant in an action on his own account."

Jennie was a farmer's wife in southern Oswego County, the Town of Granby. She was the secretary of the Bowens Corners Grange more than twenty years, secretary of the Oswego County Pomona Grange, and a member of the Bowens Corners Methodist Church. My Grandma Fuller in 1984 told me that Jennie—her grandmother-in-law—once informed her that she was a "full-blooded Englishwoman."

Jennie married Henry Martin Fuller on April 1, 1864 in the Town of Granby. He was a second-generation Granby farmer; his father Lewis came from Oneida County in the 1830s. Henry was born in 1842 and lived on the family farm in Granby. He died on May 20, 1920, age 78, of suspected gall bladder cancer. He owned the farm they had lived on for 56 years; he left Jennie the real estate and his personal possessions for her lifetime use after which they were to be equally divided between their sons.

After her husband died, Jennie lived with her grandson's  
(Continued on Page 9)

(Continued From Page 8)

family—Guy's son Vernon—in the family homestead until her death ten years later on January 4, 1930. Her death certificate shows she died of stomach carcinoma, after being under a doctor's care for two months.

Jennie Fuller's final records at the Oswego County Courthouse show that she left her estate to their sons Jay and Guy, each receiving \$2,039.09 on April 4, 1930. Both Jennie and Henry are buried in the Fuller plot in the Jacksonville Cemetery, Town of Lysander, Onondaga County, about six miles from their home.

The photo is Jennie at an unknown age, possibly in her 60s. My mother remembers her, because Grandma Jennie lived in the upstairs bedrooms in the house where Mom grew up. In fact, when Mom was ten years old, she found Jennie's still body one morning when she took up her breakfast.



Those two generations of John Cooleys are my direct line in Jefferson County. I'm sure there is other information that can be found; I did much of this research online the past few years although some of my notes date from the mid-1980s when I first became interested in this family. The Flower Public Library in Watertown held very helpful records then; I haven't checked on that since. I did find their graves in Rodman and Adams at that time, too. But I haven't looked through court records, other church records, or the many other resources that may have become available.

Many Cooleys are indexed in wills and deeds and show up on state and federal censuses. It should be possible to track the other members of the family as I've started doing with this John Jr. and his children.

However, I think this is a good start on finding my "salt-of-the-earth" Jefferson County ancestors.

## RESOURCES USED

### BOOKS:

Child, Hamilton: *Gazetteer of Jefferson County*. 1890. pgs. 647-648, "Town of Rodman."  
Churchill, John, editor: *Landmarks of Oswego County*. 1895. Part III, pgs. 159-160.  
*Congregational Church of Rodman, 1809-1890*.  
Church records and history.

Cooley, M. E., editor: *The Cooley Genealogy*. 1988 reprint ed. of original 2 vol. pub. 1941. 1199 pgs, indexes.

Emerson, E.: *Our County and Its People*. 1898. 1250 pgs. illus. indexed. pgs. 59-60.

Haddock, John A.: *The History of Jefferson County, NY, from 1793-1894*. 1894. pg. 270.

Phisterer, Frederick: *New York in the War of the Rebellion*. 1912. pg. 3067.

*Record of Soldiers and Officers in the Military Service, Town of Adams*. Civil War enlistments recorded by the Town Clerk.

### NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:

Alphonse Cooley obituary, July 1920, a Watertown paper.

"Dr. R. N. Cooley has practiced medicine there...", 1899. *Oswego Falls Observer*.

Jennie Cooley Fuller obituary, January 8, 1930, *Fulton Patriot*.

List of Notary Publics, March 13, 1897, *Oswego Daily Times*.

### STATE AND FEDERAL CENSUSES:

Adams: 1850, 1855, 1860, 1865.

Ellisburg: 1830.

Lorraine: 1840.

Rodman: 1820, 1830, 1840, 1850.

Hannibal, Oswego County: 1860, 1870, 1875, 1880, 1900.

Lysander, Onondaga County: 1870.

Windham County, VT: 1800.

### DEATH CERTIFICATES:

Alphonse Emir Cooley: #42682.

Jennie Olive Cooley Fuller: #5359.

### DEEDS:

John & Fanny Cooley, Grantor; Ebenezer Brown, Grantee; Town of Ellisburgh; date of deed, February 20, 1837. Deed book 107, pg. 315.

Estate of Richard Harison, Grantor; John Cooley, Grantee; Town of Rodman; date of deed January 22, 1839. Deed book M, pg. 45.

### WILLS:

Alphonse E. Cooley, Town of Adams, June 30, 1921.

Ebenezer Brown, Town of Ellisburgh, March 12, 1833.

Jennie Cooley Fuller, Town of Granby, Oswego Co., April 4, 1930.

### FINDAGRAVE:

Ricardo Cooley, Town of Hannibal, Oswego Co.: #25690022.

John Cooley, Jr. & Fanny Cooley, Town of Adams: #88903683.

John Cooley, Sr, Town of Rodman: # 84235626.

### ONLINE:

Rodman Fairview Cemetery inscriptions: [www.rootsweb.com/~nyjeffer/fairc.htm](http://www.rootsweb.com/~nyjeffer/fairc.htm)

OTHER: Fuller family papers, interviews with Eva Fuller, photos of Jennie Fuller and her family



## **“Don’t Let History Be A Mystery”** **4th Annual** **History & Genealogy Fair**

Written by JCNYS Member Jerry Davis

The 4th Annual History & Genealogy Fair is now in the history books and it is time to look back and evaluate. The weather was fabulous and whoever was in charge of that committee deserves high praise! The museum staff, the volunteers, JCNYS members and all others involved with set-up, clean-up and all the various duties necessary in holding such an event did an exceptional job. All are to be thanked and congratulated for their efforts.

With well over two dozen organizations exhibiting at this 4th annual fair, there was a lot of friendly greetings and stories among the exhibitors before the fair even opened for the public at 10 AM. There were even some new people to say hello to and get to know.

The Pink School House was used for our morning’s guest speaker and then the 4 person panel question and answer session in the afternoon. The little school house was full for both sessions and I am not so sure that the school had seen that many seats full since maybe 1900 or thereabouts.

The front hall of the museum had a wide variety of items available for a silent auction. Visitors had the option of bidding a beginning bid or raising the last bid that was posted. Some bidders went home with some rather valuable antiques at a minimal price. Others got



a bargain for other interesting items. Most exhibitors had displays with banners, photos, documents, brochures, history books, society newsletters, genealogies, video displays on a monitor, scrap books, advertising handouts, and Boni and Maureen from the Stone Mills Agricultural Museum



Boni, “Maudie” and Maureen

even brought “Maudie” with them. But perhaps most valuable was the ability to talk with and ask questions directly from the exhibitor they were visiting.

We look for opinions from visitors to improve what we might offer the next time. Even negative ones are appreciated. One example: Many of our genealogists are members of our more experienced age group and use canes, walkers or just have trouble walking or using stairs. The trip to the Pink School House was a hard trip for some of them. Please feel free to offer us any comments you might like to offer us. You may reply to the Jefferson County Historical Society or to any of the officers and committee members listed on our page 2.

We have over 40 photos that we have shared on our Facebook page for readers. You can also see them on our online October *Informer*.

**Bill Bamann and Jeff French, for the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Walter H. French, Camp #17, were set up in the gardens at the Jefferson County Historical Society on a beautiful day for the 2018 History and Genealogy Fair**



## 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, New York

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 11 of the July 2018 *Informer*.

Polly Collins died 29 April 1836, aged 76 at Stone Mills. William died 23 September 1850, age 90 years at Stone Mills. Both are buried in the Stone Mills Cemetery. Note: This sentence was inadvertently left off from **William Collins** from the July 2018 *Informer*.

**Thomas Clark.** Born 14 May 1744, Thomas Clark enlisted 24 September 1777 in Captain Josiah Boyden's Company, Colonel Williams' Regiment on an expedition to Bennington, Vermont, in 1777. He also served in Captain Peter Page's Company, Colonel Walbridge's Regiment of Vermont Volunteers from 17 August 1781 to 21 November 1781 and went to the Alarm 24 October 1782 in Captain Elijah Galusha's Company. He was first married about 1779, and with his first wife had the following children: John, Thomas Jr., Edward, Cynthia, Betsey, and Harriet. He later married Susanna Bell, who had one daughter, Susannah, who married Nathan Taggart. Susanna Bell Clark is believed to have died in Halifax, Virginia. Mary Otis became Thomas Clark's third wife 11 May 1814. She died 10 February 1824. Thomas Clark died in Belleville, Town of Ellisburg, and was buried in Mixer Cemetery, Belleville.

**Isaac Cleveland.** Born 22 January 1755, Isaac Cleveland served three of four seasons as an eight months man in the Connecticut Regiment, going home winters and serving during the summers. He was discharged before 1779. He was granted a pension 11 September 1832 when he was living in Watertown, at the age of 77. Married to Mamre Mathews about 1779, Isaac Cleveland lived at Canterbury, New Hampshire, before settling in Rutland, Jefferson County, about 1800 – 1810. A son, Abner, was born in 1797. Mamre Cleveland died 3 July 1845 at age 85 at Watertown. Isaac died 14 May 1838 at age 83 and is buried at Arsenal Street Cemetery.

**Miles Cook.** Born 16 June 1765, in Connecticut, Miles Cook enlisted in 1780 in a regiment commanded by Colonel Meig of the Connecticut Line. He served until

some time in 1782 and was then transferred to a company commanded by Captain Seldon in the same regiment commanded by Colonel Samuel Webb of the Connecticut Line where he continued until the end of the war. He was discharged at West Point. He married Sarah Griffin, daughter of John Griffin, and she died 14 March 1837, at Antwerp. Miles died 10 July 1846, also in Antwerp. Both are buried in the Kinnie Cemetery, Town of Antwerp.

**Abel Cross.** Buried Rutland Hallow Cemetery, Town of Rutland.

**Jacob Cramer.** Born in 1759, Jacob Cramer was a private in Guy Young's Company, Colonel Willett's regiment. He served for 10 months in the New York Line, and was in several skirmishes. He was discharged at Fort Plain, Montgomery County, 1 January 1783. Jacob Cramer married a girl named Hannah and turned up in Pamela, Jefferson County, where he died 23 April 1833, aged 73. His wife died 23 January 1837, aged 80. Both are buried in the North Watertown Cemetery. The couple had two sons, Jacob and another who was unnamed and was described as having "long been for himself."

**John Collins.** Buried in Stone Mills Cemetery, Town of Orleans.

**Jonathan Cowan.** Jonathan Cowen was the son of Joseph Cowan, and was born 12 July 1760 at Gloucester, Rhode Island. He enlisted at Bristol, Rhode Island, in Captain Abraham Windsor's Company of Colonel Chad Brown's regiment of Rhode Island State Troops 1 December 1776. He turned out at alarm and served one month at Bristol. The company was later divided into classes. Cowen's class was ordered to Providence where he did the duty of a private for one month, February 1777. He then took his father's place as substitute under Captain Windsor in Colonel Brown's regiment for one month. Altogether he served 6 months and 9 days. His wife Amy died 13 April 1824 in the Town of Pamela. Jonathan died 27 November 1840 at Watertown and is buried in the village cemetery in Evans Mills. In his pension, Jonathan Cowan says he was living in Bristol, Rhode Island, when he was called into service. Watertown history says that probably his family is buried in the old Trinity Cemetery, the ground where the City Hall once stood on Court Street. Many of the bodies were never removed when the city took over the land.

**Nathan Dike.** Born in 1755, he served as a private in Captain Gideon Bronson's Company of Colonel Seth Warner's regiment. He enlisted at Mt. Independence in September or October of 1779 and was discharged at Fort George. There is little record of Nathan Dike other than the statement that he was placed on the pension rolls from the Town of LeRay. He died 25 August 1832 in the Town of LeRay, at the age of 77.

(Continued on Page 12)

# ASK AUNT JEFF



BY JEAN WILCOX HIBBEN  
JCNYS MEMBER AND PROFESSIONAL  
GENEALOGIST

This question originated from a student of the Corona Genealogical Society (California), and has applicability to all researchers. Thanks to Len Enlow for providing the question from his class.

**QUESTION:** Do I need a genealogy software program on my computer or just use Ancestry for my family Tree?

**ANSWER:** A lot depends on what you want to do with the information. If your sole goal is to find other people who are researching the same individuals, then you may be content with an on-line tree. However, if you want to be certain you have easy access to your family tree (that is, even when there is no Internet available), you are concerned about people “stealing” your work/relatives, or be certain your sources are very clearly defined, that makes an Ancestry (or any other website) family tree insufficient. Of course, you can make your tree “private” on Ancestry, but that sort of defeats the purpose of finding others researching the same lines. Yes, a person can request to “see” your tree, but often those researchers, especially if in a hurry to find an answer, won’t take that time. So, let’s look at WHY you want to use genealogy software.

Genealogy software is designed to be used on a computer but NOT be available to anyone and everyone (unless you choose to share it). This means that you can include private stories about people on your tree without concern that someone will take issue. It also means that you can include living people (your children and grandchildren, their spouses, etc.) allowing you to use that information to keep track of birthdays, anniversaries, even residences. Many use genealogy software to create a “birthday and anniversary calendar” (built into most genealogy software) so they can keep track of all those events (of course, once family members realize you have that information at your fingertips, be aware that you will become the family resource for such data and you may be spending a lot of time answering questions about these things . . . or you can create the calendar to give as a gift to all your living relatives!).

Another reason the software is a good idea is that sometimes you might want to view the tree where an Internet connection is not available (e.g., a cemetery, a hotel without WiFi or that charges for that service, etc.). It is easy to keep the software tree updated, with

the most recent information you find (if it’s on your laptop, you can add data where you sit in a repository or a grandaunt’s livingroom), and will also allow you to include the sources (some software even tells you how to write the source so that you don’t forget something important, like a page number or date).

Even with genealogy software, you can keep your online tree. It’s easy to keep it updated with “cross-over” tools – some software will give you the ability to copy information from what you have recorded in your off-line tree onto your Ancestry or FamilySearch tree and vice versa (though everything may not transfer smoothly since we are talking about correlating two different programs written by different people or entities).

So, do you *need* both formats to preserve your family tree? No, but if you want to access something and can’t, because a website is down, there is no Internet available, or you forgot your password, you may start kicking yourself! And the software program also provides you with your own backup plus control over how things are recorded. Check out the different programs (some have free, minimized downloads so you can play with them before buying). Make sure you are comfortable with whatever program you select (including how to get help, enter data, and whatever else is important for you to become master of your own family – well, at least the dead folks).

(Continued From Page 11)

### Bicentennial Tribute to Veterans of 1776

**Curtis Dixon.** Born 15 October 1752 at Coventry, Kent County, Rhode Island, enlisted from Oxford, Worcester County, Massachusetts for eight months in April 1775. He served in Captain Healy’s Company, Colonel Ebenezer Leonard’s regiment of the Massachusetts Line, and was in the Battle of Bunker Hill. In 1777 he enlisted as a private for three months. In October 1779 he was building fortifications under Baron von Steuben. Later he enlisted as a sergeant in Captain Woodbury’s Company of Colonel Lincoln’s regiment. Finally, he enlisted in Captain Lemuel Corbin’s Company of Colonel Spencer’s regiment for three months in Rhode Island, was discharged, and returned to Oxford, Massachusetts. He had married Lydia White on 4 April 1776, days before the fighting began in Lexington and Concord. The couple was married at Oxford by Reverend Bowman, a Presbyterian minister. Curtis Dixon stated that in 1786 he moved from Pomfret, Connecticut; in 1801 to Palatine, Montgomery County; and in 1805 to Denmark, Lewis County. They had 12 children, five living, the eldest named Robert. The grave of Curtis and his wife have not been found, but they both died in the Town of Orleans, he on 22 February 1835, and she, 22 June 1842. The Dixon family is buried in the Stone Mills and LaFargeville cemeteries.



# A DEADLY BLAST

SEVEN KILLED IN CHRISTMAS EVE 1918  
WORLD WAR I

J. B. WISE PLANT EXPLOSION

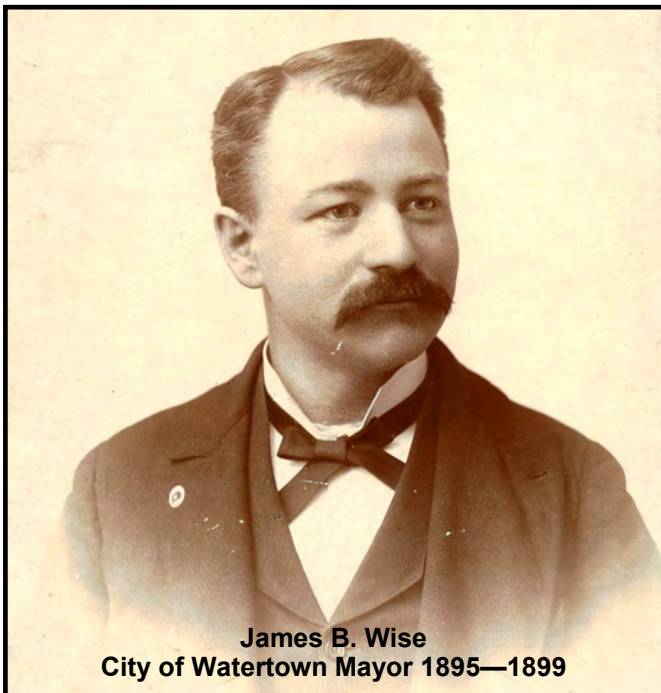
By David C. Shampine

As Published in the *Watertown Daily Times*  
March 11, 2001

"Something awful is going to happen here tomorrow," Louise Portt told her co-worker, Jennie Raymond. "If nothing happens to you, it will be somebody near you," said Mrs. Portt, who dabbled in telling fortunes with cards. Her cards came up all spades. The next afternoon, Christmas Eve 1918, an explosion rocked their workplace, the J. B. Wise Munitions Plant on Water Street. After the flames were quelled and the dust had settled, a cloud of mourning shrouded Christmas in Watertown. Six were dead, and soon there would be a seventh.

Mrs. Raymond lived to tell of her friend's prediction. In fact, she got out unscathed. A woman near her was severely burned. That was the 40-year-old Mrs. Portt, who would survive to see that Christmas Day, as well as 18 more. "Things were continually striking me in the head," Mrs. Portt said in the days that followed. "I remember shoving some woman through the door ahead of me. My hair was affire and I put my hands up and rubbed my hair back until I put it out. My skirt started to come off and I caught hold of it and held it on, although it was a torn to shreds."

The 700 and 800 blocks of Water Street were host to a World War I industry launched by a father and son, James B. and C. Ralph Wise. They manufactured brass plumbing products in a factory at Mill Street and



James B. Wise  
City of Watertown Mayor 1895—1899

Main Avenue, carrying on a business which James's father, Joseph, had started in 1877. The original product line had been locks and hinges for pianos, organs and sewing machines. James Wise took his first step toward expansion on Water Street after becoming excited about developing water power. After winning approval from city government in 1913, he built a dam on the Black River and a power plant on Water Street.

With war breaking out in Europe, the Messrs. Wise acted in 1915 to expand their business to manufacture ammunition. On Water Street they built a complex of several buildings, the main shop being a two-story concrete and marble structure, several hundred feet long, in which the brass shells for bullets were to be manufactured.

To the east was erected a row of wooden single-story loading plants overlooking the Black River. Several hundred men and women - an unusual number of women because men were going to war - were hired to begin filling ammunition orders from allied European nations. But it was a project the elder Mr. Wise would not see grow. He died on June 7, 1916, at age 58.

Later that year, C. Ralph Wise leased his factory to Maxim Munitions Corp., based in Delaware, which was handling ammunition orders from Denmark. February and March 1917 brought orders from Italy and the United States for 11 million pistol cartridges.

The Watertown factory could not keep up with the demand. U.S. Cartridge Co. took over the operation, intending to speed up production. That failing, the company transferred the orders to one of its other plants, and in November 1917, the Wise company laid off workers. It was a three-month cease-fire for the J.B. Wise Co. On Feb. 17, 1918, Mr. Wise announced he had won another munitions contract from the U.S. government. His machines were to roll again.

Meanwhile, the Mill Street factory was producing brass for the war effort, 40 million pounds in a single year by 1,400 workers. Since it was the day before Christmas 1918, work in the Wise plant was somewhat scaled down. In the loading building at the far eastern end of the property, there were probably no more than 24 pounds of gunpowder contained in the hoppers of three loading machines, Mr. Wise would later testify at an inquest. Three other machines were not scheduled for use that day. But four or five "confined" pounds of the powder could cause an explosion of significant magnitude, he said.

Eldese E. Larabee, of 250 Arsenal St., was foreman of the building. Prominent in town as an "able football player," the 32-year-old Mr. Larabee had about 10 years' experience at New York Air Brake Co. when he was hired by Wise. He was in his seventh month on his new job. "When Mr. Larabee attempted to start the

(Continued on Page 14)

(Continued From Page 13)

machines in the afternoon, only one of the six would work," said employee Bertha Irvine, 38, of Dexter. Ruby Abby, 23, of 833 Ann St., the mother of a toddler, was operating dependable No. 3 machine, with 18-year-old Rita Kirkpatrick feeding it. Also standing nearby was Mrs. Abby's mother, Nettie Shawcross, 45. "I don't know what the trouble was with the machines but none of them, with the exception of No. 3, would work," Mrs. Irvine said.

Since "Swede," the department's regular mechanic, had the day off, minor repairs were the responsibility of Mr. Larabee and one of the Black brothers, 18 year old (John) Wesley. Wes had been on the job only four months, while brother William, despite being only 20, was a four year veteran of the Wise operation.

Mrs. Irvine tried to operate the machine, but a dial would only go around once, and the primers, or exploding devices for shells, would catch. Mr. Larabee worked on it, then told her it was all right. She tried it again, but it malfunctioned again. Repair work resumed.

Mrs. Portt, a government inspector, made one of her regular walks through the loading room to reach her work quarters. She approached Mr. Larabee as he pattered on the disabled machine, and found him a bit miffed with her. "He stopped for a minute and picked up a primer and asked me why we were complaining of (gun) powder being on the outside of the primers," she said. "There is no powder on that primer," he told her as he handed it to her. "I took it and said, "there is, too!" as I picked a piece off with my fingernail."

The foreman continued his work, hammering on a chisel to drive out a primer that had become bent and stuck in the machine. He was mad because the machine was malfunctioning, and he cursed as he swung the hammer to drive out the bent primer, Mrs. Portt said.

Standing by Mr. Larabee were the Black brothers and the "little French boy," as Mrs. Portt referred to 16 year old Alfred Marculler, 111 E. Moulton St. Mrs. Irvine, some 15 feet away at a table with Jennie Raymond, 802 Burchard St., called Mrs. Portt. "Come over here and I will show you some clean ones that have no powder on them," Mrs. Irvine said. Mrs. Irvine pulled out the primers to display, and Mrs. Raymond started to speak. She noticed, meanwhile, that Mr. Larabee was reaching down under the machine where he was laboring.

Then, shortly before 3 p.m., "the crash came," Mrs. Portt reported. "I heard an awful racket, which at first was like caps going off," she said, "followed by an awful blaze." Ada Emerton, 33, another government inspector, was at her post. "When the explosion came and spread into our room after the partition and air

chamber between the two rooms had been blown out, one of the primers exploded right in my hand," she said. "Others exploded all about us and glass and everything flew in all directions."

Helen Murray, Palmer Avenue, and her daughter, Clarissa, had been working side by side. "It all came like a flash," Clarissa Murray said. "Everything seemed to crumble up and I saw mother fall. The steel beams seemed to all fall, and several were hurt by these. I was badly stunned." The explosion shook houses in all sections of the city, the *Watertown Daily Times* reported.

Mamie Corbin, who lived across the street from the factory, was lying on her bed when it happened. She was thrown to the floor. Also in her house, a baby was struck by a window but somehow escaped injury. All windows in the vicinity of the plant were broken. Inside the plant, people scrambled for their lives. "I ran for the door," said Mrs. Raymond, "and just as I got there a man was opening it. The door was blown off its hinges and fell to the floor and I ran out."

The man was George H. Stone, 861 Water St., who had been stenciling unloaded primers on a machine in the room. "It's the last I remember until I picked myself up and started for the door, and the door came off when I opened it," he said. Margaret Salisbury and Lena Stolzie, who were occupied shellacking caps, and Miss Emerton found their only exit to be a window.

"We had no chance to get out - only by the window, because the doors at the east end had been locked." Miss Emerton said. "The door leading from the rear hall from the west end had also been kept locked and of course we had no way to pass through the loading room and out the front west end door, the only one left open." "We simply tore the window out with our hands," said Mrs. Salisbury, of 403 Stone St. The drop from the window to the ground was 8 feet.

Mrs. Salisbury said that when the explosion blew out the partition and air chamber, she nearly jumped into an air compartment. She turned and followed the others through the window.

Harry Ross, 801 Water St., working in another room, escaped by jumping out a window and was cut by glass. Miss Stolzie, 1175 Water St., badly bruised her head. Her parents found her hat and coat near the debris and feared the worst. Eventually they found her alive and well at St. Joachim's Hospital (later Mercy Hospital) Stone Street.

Mrs. Irvine said she was fortunate that she was not crushed to death by the large funnel shaped hopper, and that she would have been had other wreckage

(Continued on Page 15)

(Continued From Page 14)  
not blocked its fall.

Watertown firemen and police arrived to find the 100-by-50-foot building "blazing fiercely," the Times reported. They also found that the explosion had thrown most debris toward the street instead of the river. The fire department doused the blaze in 20 minutes, and then devoted its attention to preventing spread of the fire to other buildings. Then, at 3:30 p.m., officials acknowledged that four men were dead.

The first were identified as Mr. Larabee and the Black brothers. Later, Joseph Marculler was able to identify his son's body only by the shoes and socks which remained on his feet. As a crowd began to gather on the chilly day, women in the vicinity brought out blankets and covered up the dead and wounded.

Firemen and police, fearing more bodies lay hidden under debris, were aided by volunteer workers and soldiers in a frantic dig through the rubble. Near the rescuers, a telegraph pole with a dangling electric wire was ready to topple over at any minute.

The city's two hospitals sent their ambulances, and when he learned of the explosion, Perl W. Devendorf, owner of the Ford garage on Arsenal Street, stopped all shop work and sent eight automobiles to the scene to transport the injured. Bertrand N. James, who operated a Chevrolet and Oldsmobile garage on Factory Street, took similar action. Four victims, including Mrs. Murray, were taken to the City Hospital on Washington Street. Among seven taken to St. Joachim's Hospital were Mrs. Irvine, Mrs. Emerton, Miss Stolze, Mrs. Salisbury and Mrs. Shawcross. Mrs. Portt was taken home by a taxi. Ruby Abby died later that day at St. Joachim's, and before Christmas arrived, Miss Kirkpatrick, known at the workplace as Miss Kirk, was dead at City Hospital.

"The remarkable thing about the deplorable accident at the Wise munition plant Tuesday afternoon was that so few persons were fatally injured," the Times commented on Dec. 26. "It was little short of miraculous that only six out of the 25 met death. An explosion of such force might easily have resulted in the deaths of everyone in the building."

The seventh victim died the next day. Frank C. Marshall, 62, Black River, hired as a janitor during the summer, died in St. Joachim's Hospital from severe burns. He had been a Baptist minister, and a Greek and Hebrew scholar who had served in churches at Nicholville and Deruyter. Five years earlier, throat problems had affected his voice, forcing him to retire from preaching.

Charles F. Black was on a business trip in Oneida when his sons were killed, and his family was unable to contact him. He picked up a newspaper at the Oneida train station and read of the explosion, with his boys listed among the dead. Mr. Black took a train home, arriving at 4:30 p.m. Christmas Day to find his wife under a doctor's care. He "was almost prostrated with grief," the Times reported. The family was to suffer another loss only a week later. Mr. and Mrs. Black's daughter, Maude, 14, died of diphtheria.



**The Black Brothers, William & Wesley**  
Photo provided by Thomas F. LaClair  
(His maternal great uncles)

"I sincerely regret the occurrence which is chargeable to no one, nor anything over which we had control," C. Ralph Wise said two days later, "and deeply sympathize with the families of those who met their death, and those who were injured. "I am not, nor is anyone able to say, and I doubt if even the operator working where it took place, could tell you the cause, if he were here to do so," he continued. "It is one of those unexplainable occurrences which take place where explosives are handled, and such things take place in peace times as well as in war times." He touted the safety measures practiced by his company. "We have ... exercised every possible precaution in the handling of our explosives, in the operation of our machines, to instruct our employees engaged in this work, of the necessity of maintaining certain principles with regard to the various ingredients. ... At no time have we ever carried an excess of explosives of any kind in any of these buildings, and at all times we have endeavored to see that the operators followed our instructions and used due diligence to safeguard themselves and their coworkers."

District Attorney Jerome B. Cooper called for an investigation, and no time was wasted in conducting an inquest. Mr. Cooper and Dr. Robert F. Gates, about to end his term as the county's last coroner, began a two day hearing on Dec. 28. Testimony focused on

(Continued on Page 16)



(Continued From Page 15)

what sparked the explosion, and whether the exit of workers was stymied by locked doors. Was the hammer wielded by Mr. Larabee made of brass or steel? There were mixed opinions, but if it were of steel, then it was obvious that the clash of steel against steel caused sparks to fly. The closest door in the loading department was locked during the winter so that nobody could enter from the outdoors because the cold air affected wax on the primers. But it could be opened from inside, some people testified.

Many of the workers were apparently unaware of that, however. Lena Stolze and Ada Emerton said there were instructions not to use the door at all. After Mr. Wise disputed that and explained the locking mechanism, he drew a sharp reaction. "You should have explained about the lock," Mrs. Salisbury said. "How did we know about the lock? The only thing we know is that we are here suffering from what happened."

Two weeks after the tragedy, Mr. Wise was again confronted by problems at his company. This time, it was labor. More than a hundred workers went on strike on Jan. 7, 1919, in protest of a 10-hour work day being implemented at the Mill Street factory, without benefit of overtime pay. While still dealing with the walkout, Mr. Wise wrote a \$100 check and a letter on Jan. 26, 1919, to the Watertown Fire Department. The money, "a token of the appreciation and of the esteem in which I hold" the department for its "efficient and valiant service" on Christmas Eve, was for the firemen's pension fund.

A month later, on Feb. 26, the 36-year-old C. Ralph Wise was dead of pneumonia. The strike ended in failure a short time later. Then, in May, the Water Street facilities closed. In 1953, the Wise company was sold, making way for a discount store on Mill Street.

Mr. Cooper and Dr. Gates, who had worked hand in hand as district attorney and coroner, found themselves on opposite sides of the table in 1920. A grand jury indicted the doctor for performing an abortion, and Mr. Cooper brought the case to trial. A hung jury brought the eventual dismissal of the case on Mr. Cooper's motion.

After losing an election for state supreme court justice, Mr. Cooper moved to Grand Rapids, Mich. He died there at age 64 in December 1938. Dr. Gates was 77 when he died in April 1938 in Brownville.

*Watertown Times* librarian Esther Daniels assisted with research for this column. Quotes in this story were taken from interviews conducted in 1918 by a team of *Watertown Daily Times* reporters and from testimony at the inquest. The explosion was the worst tragedy, in terms of fatalities, that Watertown had ever seen.

## CENTURY AND A HALF OF NNY NEWS

Civil War Paper to Internet: *Watertown Daily Times*  
Celebrates 150 Years

By David C. Shampine, Times Staff Writer Friday,  
April 22, 2011

The cannon fire that rattled Fort Sumter in April 1861 spawned a daily newspaper for Watertown - a publication that today observes its 150th anniversary. What began on April 22, 1861, as the *Watertown Daily Reformer* is today the *Watertown Daily Times*.

Beman Brockway was a partner of Lotus Ingalls in publishing the *Watertown Weekly Reformer* when the assault of April 12 and 13, 1861, near Charleston, S.C., became the opening salvo of the Civil War. The arrival of war left the weekly paper losing subscribers and facing a challenge.

"Everyone was eager for the news, and the latest," Mr. Brockway wrote in his memoirs. "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."

The newspaper continued as the *Daily Reformer* throughout the war, then changed its front page masthead in January 1870 to what it remains today. Mr. Brockway eventually became sole owner, forming the Brockway Co., and continued to appear faithfully at his office every day until two weeks before his death, on Dec. 16, 1892.

Twelve years later, Harold Bowtell Johnson, who graduated from Gouverneur High School, was hired by the Times as a reporter. He began carving his niche into the newspaper's administration in 1911, when he purchased stock in the Brockway Co. Over the next eight years, he advanced from vice president of the corporation to managing editor, and then editor of the paper and president of the Brockway Co. With the death of Charles H. Congdon in 1933, Mr. Johnson became publisher.

Harold Johnson brought the Brockway Co. into radio broadcasting in April 1941, when he started radio station WWNY, with its studios in the Hotel Woodruff on Public Square. He added WMSA radio, Massena, in October 1945, and three years later expanded both stations by adding FM broadcasting. He also laid groundwork in 1944 for a move of his newspaper's headquarters on Arcade Street to its present location at 260 Washington St., although he would not live to see the transition. A building erected in 1811 was targeted for demolition, and Mr. Johnson bought the property. "The Times makes the purchase simply to be prepared for necessary expansion sometime in the future," he said in an editorial. "The Times has felt for some time that it should take some step to insure a

(Continued on Page 17)

(Continued From Page 16)  
location for a new home eventually."

His son and only child, John Brayton Johnson, was a 32-year-old reporter and editorial writer, and secretary of the Brockway Co. When Harold Johnson died unexpectedly in May 1949, John B. Johnson became the editor and publisher of the *Watertown Daily Times*.

John Johnson in 1950 orchestrated an expansion of the printing plant on Arcade Street, giving the paper the ability to print a 40-page issue, increasing by eight pages the previous capacity. In 1954, he added to what his father had started, by expanding the company's radio holdings into that new miracle called television. Channel 7 began broadcasting to the North Country on Oct. 22, 1954.

Then came the move for which Harold Johnson had prepared. On April 10, 1961, the first issue of the Times to run off the press in its new home on Washington Street appeared in print. For 18 more months, the Times was published from Arcade Street and printed on Washington Street. In September 1962, the newsroom and business offices moved to their new building on Washington Street. The old newspaper building was torn down after its press was sold to the Belleville, Ontario, *Intelligencer*. The vacant lot was to become the new home of WWNY-TV and radio.

The name Brockway disappeared in December 1977, when a new name, Johnson Newspaper Corp., was adopted. "The new name of the corporation acknowledges the ownership which started 45 years ago," the company said. "There are more Johnsons now than there were then, so the association of the name with the enterprise ought to provide an identification that not only has currency but also bears the expectation of longevity."

The corporation's direction took a new turn in 1981, prompted by a divestiture order from the Federal Communications Commission. Obligated to dispose of its broadcasting properties, Johnson Newspaper Corp. sold its television station to Howard Brown of Kenosha, Wis., and sold WWNY and WMSA radio stations to McCaffrey & McCall of New York City. WWNY radio is now WTNY.

The company then expanded its newspaper holdings, first buying the *Batavia Daily News*. Over the next decade, the company acquired the *Carthage Republican-Tribune*, the *Malone Telegram*, the *Catskill Daily Mail*, the *Greene County News*, the *Lowville Journal & Republican* and 10 newspapers of the former Park Newspapers in St. Lawrence and Columbia counties.

The Times inaugurated its Sunday issue on Sept. 28, 1986, and broke away from its traditional evening

paper on Sept. 30, 2002, introducing a daily morning paper.

Today, the company is guided by John B. Johnson Jr. as chairman and chief executive officer and his brother, Harold B. Johnson II, as president and chief operating officer. They succeeded their father after his death in May 2001.

With the widening of print news coverage throughout the north country, the company has taken on yet a newer name, Northern New York Newspapers Corp. In the meantime, Linotype machines, typewriters and copy paper disappeared years ago, displaced by a progression of computer systems, with yet a newer system being installed this year that will allow the Times to expand its presence on the Internet.

"While the public often thinks of the Times as only a newspaper, the company's history shows that it has always thought of itself as being in the information business," said Robert D. Gorman, managing editor. "The Times is credited for bringing radio and television to the North Country. Maybe it's fitting that on the 150th anniversary of the Times, we are making another huge expansion, this time involving our websites."

The Times will celebrate in September this 150th anniversary with a commemorative issue and a "Business After Hours" party in which the public will be welcomed for an open house.

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**Twenty-one Reasons why English Is Hard to Learn**

1. The bandage was wound around the wound.
2. The farm was used to produce produce.
3. The dump was so full it had to refuse more refuse.
4. We must polish the Polish furniture.
5. He could lead if he would get the lead out.
6. The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.
7. Since there was no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present.
8. A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum.
9. When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.
10. I did not object to the object.
11. The insurance was invalid for the invalid.
12. There was a row among the oarsmen on how to row.
13. They were too close to the door to close it.
14. The buck does funny things when does are present.
15. A seamstress and a sewer fell down into a sewer line.
16. To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow.
17. The wind was too strong to wind the sail.
18. After a number of injections my jaw got number.
19. Upon seeing the tear in the painting I shed a tear.
20. I had to subject the subject to a series of tests.
21. How can I intimate this to my most intimate friend?

## The Card Game at Hoover's Inn

By JCNYS Member Paul Beers

St. Lawrence and Jefferson Counties share many grand narratives and legends of local lore, some are even believable, but as in all good legends some true facts are usually presented. One of the most reported on and believable legends happened here in Jefferson County, orchestrated by Ogdensburg's author Walter Guest Kellogg's 1929 book, *Parish's Fancy*. This legend became amplified as many of the area's newspapers carried on the story for years after the book was published. There is nothing like a good, believable story to sell newspapers.

The episode referred to in Kellogg's book happened at The John Hoover Inn or The "Brick Hotel." in Evans Mills, NY. Still standing today at the corner of Main and Noble streets in Evans Mills, NY. The Inn, built by John Hoover and still bearing his name, opened in November 1827. Hoover owned until 1831. Much of the history about the Inn has been forgotten except for the famous card game associated with it, in which, according to Kellogg's account, George Parish won Madame Vespucci.

The legendary poker-game, firmly rooted in Hoover Inn's lore, requires a thorough and overdue investigation of the incident to ascertain the facts. The original version of this famous poker game, can be found in Walter Guest Kellogg's 1929 book, *Parish's Fancy*. Kellogg devoted five chapters to describing the event in great detail (Chapters XXI-XXV). However, the article by Harold J. Murphy, printed in *The Ogdensburg Republican-Journal*, October 08, 1932, page 5 (below) is a typical account of the poker-game, similar stories appeared by different authors in other newspapers on various dates.

The short version of the Legend follows:

### **George Parish of Ogdensburg Won Madame Vespucci In Card Game At Evans Mills By HAROLD J. MURPHY**

*On a stormy winter day in January, 1841, a big sleigh drawn by four fine horses came floundering through, the snow drifts from Rossie and drew up in front of Capt. John Hoover's tavern at Evans Mills. One of the fur-coated occupants of the sleigh was a man of kindly bearing, young and noble looking, and with every mark of blue blood and breeding. This man was George Parish of Ogdensburg. The other man was his land agent, Mr. Rosseel. The bartender of the hotel waited upon the guests when they entered.*

*Mr. Parish ordered a fire built in the fireplace of the old dancing hall, and three chambers prepared, as he expected to meet Lawyer John Van Buren of Albany there on business connected with, his estates in that vicinity.*

*About noon Van Buren arrived, having driven from Utica in a sleigh. He did not come alone, however, but was accompanied by a woman, tall and stately. She was lavishly dressed and wore a profusion of Jewelry. She spoke with a foreign accent and was introduced as Madame Vespucci.*

*After dinner, which was served to the guests in the old ball room, the table was cleared away, and the remainder of the afternoon was spent in discussing legal business. However, it was noticeable, even to the bartender that George Parish was much more interested in Van Buren's fair companion than he was in his legal lore, and that the interest was mutual.*

*Throughout the afternoon Van Buren drank heavily and as the early winter twilight arrived, he left the room, following Mr. Rosseel downstairs, leaving alone the new acquaintances, Parish and Madame Vespucci. After supper a game of cards was proposed by Van Buren who remarked lightly that "he was unlucky with love and he ought to be lucky-with the pasteboards." But, such was not the case. Van Buren lost steadily, and finally wagered, sack by sack, \$5,000 in gold which he had received from a client to invest in Rossie acres.*

*Turning to the madame, Van Buren remarked smilingly that she could, if she chose, follow the gold, as he no longer had "the means to play or pay". She replied quickly, however, that she would stay with him, rich or poor, until he bade her go.*

*At this point, Mr. Parish proposed to put up the \$5,000 he had won and extra \$5,000, the madame to go with the winner. This was agreed to all around and the game proceeded with Madame Vespucci sitting beside the table and holding the little buckskin sacks of gold in her silken lap.*

*But Van Buren played a reckless, audacious game. But Parish handled the cards with great skill and care, and held the winning hand. When the game was ended Parish, urged his opponent to accept the \$10,000 in gold which Van Buren courteously but firmly declined. Thereupon, Parish gave the money to Madame Vespucci who accepted it and at once urged Van Buren to accept it as a parting gift from herself.*

*But van Buren again declined, advising her to keep it for a day when her beauty would fade and her friends would fail her.*

*With the breaking up of the game the gathering at John Hoover's tavern also broke up for Van Buren ordered his horses hitched up for a hurried departure. It was late at night when he got started on his cold ride to the old Hulbert house at Boonville. He was accompanied by Mr. Rosseel who had business in Utica.*

(Continued on Page19)



(Continued From Page 18)

*George Parish and Madame Vespucci started off in their sleigh under the clear cold star - lit sky toward Ogdensburg and the brick walled villa that was to be their home for the next 16 years.*

*Fate ordained that Parish was eventually to go back to Germany in 1856 to assume his title of Baron Von Seftonberg and to marry a daughter of the nobility. Two years after Parish's departure from this country Madame Vespucci, a lonely and heart broken woman sailed for France. A woman who, but for her folly, might have left a glittering, instead of a clouded name upon the pages of history.*

Adequately researching the poker-game, concluding that while the account is very entertaining and a great romantic story, it is a story that is indeed just a story. I have been unable to verify when and where George Parish met Madame Vespucci, all of the usual sources, except one (No. 8 below), refer to the card game as their meeting. Whether or not you believe the story, it has and will remain associated with Hoover Inn "The Brick Hotel" forever. Some legends are just too good to die.

However, before you condemn the writer for being a non-believer, let us review some of the facts, allowing the reader to make up their mind as to whether or not the card game occurred.

The date of the meeting is reported as January 1841. Ameriga Vespucci arrived in America, from Liverpool, at Boston on November 18, 1841. Eleven months after the event.

John Van Buren was married June 22, 1841. Four months before Ameriga arrived.

John Hoover sold the Inn to Stephen B. Noble in 1831. In 1841 it was owned by John Curry, the sixth owner. 1837 – 1844, John Hoover was living with his second wife Emeline and family as residents of Wolfe Island, Ontario, Canada.

Kellogg referred to Hoover's wife as Marthy, not the name of either wife.

One account of the card game has Hoover passing off some swill as Blue Nun wine. However, the wine brand was launched by the company H. Sichel Söhne (Mainz) in 1923 with the 1921 vintage, clearly making it not available in 1841.

".. in his History of Ogdensburg, the Rev. Fr. P. S. Garand understandably discredits this story (the card game) and states: "Mr. Walter G. Kellogg, during a visit to Europe in 1926, found out for certain that this story was a pure invention."

In Walter Guest Kellogg's own words addressed to the editor of the *Republican-Journal* in March of 1929. Kellogg stated the following:

*"The book, in its sequence of events, is almost historical, I think in its truth. At any rate, whenever I could find the truth I put it in, and wherever I couldn't, I*

*guessed at it, as best as I could."*

*"People at Evans Mills believe the poker-game actually was played by Prince John (Van Buren) and Mr. Parish with Madame Vespucci the stake. In support of their belief they will show you the hotel and the very room the game was played in. Newspaper writers have written scores of articles about it, and the late Mr. Louis Hasbrouck and others have told me that the story of it was told half a century ago. I cannot believe that the poker game ever took place, yet no romance about Madame Vespucci would be considered complete without it, so I put it in."*

*"But I think, in spite of all that we do not know and perhaps never can know, that enough recorded fact has gone into the book to make what is fictional in its conception probably not very far from what actually happened. One or two things in the book I know are not so..."*

Also, being informed by a credible source, the card table used that night has been allegedly sold by one of the owners several times. According to the source, the owners would sell the table, then replace it with a similar one from an antique store, used furniture store, or wherever. How many of the approximate last forty-eight owners of the Inn, since 1841, have sold that same table? If you are the proud owner of one of these card tables, its provenance is suspect. Remember, history is not always what we have been told or sold.

#### References:

- 1) L. H. Everts & Co., *History of Jefferson County, New York*, 1878
- 2) Walter Guest Kellogg, *Parish's Fancy*, The John Day Company, New York, 1929, Chapters XXI – XXV.
- 3) The *Ogdensburg Republican-Journal*, October 08, 1932, page 5
- 4) Jefferson County, New York, County Clerks Office, Land Deeds, Liber F2 – 553.
- 5) Jefferson County, New York, County Clerks Office, Land Deeds, Liber L3 – 417.
- 6) Jefferson County, New York, County Clerks Office, Land Deeds.
- 7) The Journal, (Ogdensburg), April 03, 1988, First Sunday, Page 5.
- 8) Wikipedia, John Van Buren, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John\\_Van\\_Buren](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Van_Buren).
- 9) Trivia-Library.com, Biography of Adventurer Elena America Vespucci, <https://www.trivia-library.com/b/biography-of-adventurer-elena-america-vespucci-part-2.htm>
- 10) Wikipedia, Blue Nun, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blue\\_Nun](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blue_Nun).
- 11) New York State Census 1865, Jefferson, Orleans, E.D. 04, page 9, lines 8-14.
- 12) SLCHA, *The Quarterly*, The Man Who Won His Mistress at Cards, Robert Shaw, Vol. XXII, Winter, No. 1, Page 7.
- 13) SLCHA, *Special Literary Issue*, Kelloggs Fancy, Eleanor Hubsch, Vol. 12, No.2, April 1967, Page 14.

## JEFFERSON COUNTY NEW YORK CIVIL WAR DRAFT

As Printed in the *Watertown Daily Reformer*  
Newspaper August 26, 1863  
Transcribed by Members of JCNYS

JCNYS Note: This is part three of a three-part series in reprinting of the names of those listed in the original newspaper article. This reprinting is continued from pages 20 and 21 of the July 2018 *Informer*. Roughly .28 percent or a little over one in four was drafted for the war effort.

"The *Daily Reformer* Newspaper, Wednesday, August 26, 1863: "The Draft—For the convenience of reference for ourselves as well as the public, we repeat in our edition today, the whole proceedings under the draft. It will be found convenient to all to have the whole list of drafted men for Jefferson County in one paper and for this purpose we repeat what were in yesterday's edition. We have not yet been able to supply all who have called for lists, and this arrangement will enable us to do so."

**The Town of Orleans.** Enrolled 331—Drawn 88. Washington Larabee, Ezra H. Cornwall, Geo. Gardner, J. V. Kissel, Oliver Moore, Warren Smith, Bailey Goodrich, Andrew Baldwin, Geo. Pelcher, Spencer W. Payne, Malachi Fults, Chanucey Gray, Jas. H. Baxter, Jewett Cole, Andrew Walts, Loren Church, Rev. Uriel Graves, Melvin Burton, Geo. W. Rasback, Geo. Timmerman, Eli Sargent, Henry Rapp, Chauncy Walts, Henry Witherhorn, Richid Parker, Frank Landerson, Geo. Cranker, Loraine Loicks, Lewis Sargent, Geo. Church, Daniel Copely, Valentin Meyers, Parly Foot, Nathanel R. Reed, Alonzo Snell, Daniel Moore, Geo. Strough, Martin Loucks, Thos. Getman, Edson Parker, Alexander Parker, Wm. P. Timmermon, Jacob Fults, Geo. Eyleston, Alonzo Countryman, Aaron Forbes, Wm. Newton, Geo. Carpenter, Wm. McKinly, Jno. S. Petrie, Albert Ramsdill, Jackson Dillendack, Hiram Church, Vallentine Workman, Jno. Hunter, Robert Fisher, Geo. Welch, Albert Sheley, Chas. Wetherhorn, Philo Storing, Shadrack Newton, Edson Rood, Anthony Herbert, John Fredinburgh, Dexter Jones, Michel Hewes, Amos Ghlet, Calvin Wright, Peter Pohl, David W. Howe, Henry Sloat, Belcher Brown, Jacob Pickard, Jacob Leahr, Jno. Galey, Otis N. Britton, Asa Goodrich, Elijah Klock, Henry Robbins, Handly Foot, Jno. Wetherhorn, Linus Price, Steph Getham, Benjamin Wood, Duane Smith, Peter Kepler, Leonard Ford, Absolom Price.

**The Town of Pamela.** Enrolled 207—Drawn 46. Richard Gear, Richard Gardner, Patrick Grace, Warren H. Starkweather, Hiram Shaw, John P. Pitcher, Dwight S. Robbins, Andrew Davenport, Harlow Rogers, Ward Nichols, Ledger Disc, Herbert Barton, Cyrenus Sripp, Cyrus Ogsbury, Joel Timmerman, Marcus Harth, Ambrose Carter, Harrison Mack, James Bradshaw, Albert L. Gleason, Clark M. Wait, Norman Countryman, William Wood, William

Miller, Porter Weatherby, William Cursie, John Mann, Chas. M. Bannister, Washington White, Medad Cook Jr., B. F. Wood, Frank Goulding, Charles M. Tripp, Charles G. Niles, Martin Fuller, Andrew Weldon, Rice Gould, Ira Walrath, Edward Gear, Jasper N. Dodge, David Bass, Henry J. Sherman, Alexander Tingue, Heley Fuller, David Martell, Peter Farmer.

**Town of Philadelphia.** Enrolled 166—Drawn 46. V. B. Ayers, Nailor Child, Charles F. Reed, George Clough, Farney Parker, John S. Peck, Samuel Isdel, Harvey Hamblin, Oliver Child 2d, Stephen Stodard, Ed Bush, Dexter Bennet, Wm. Hart, Truman Clark, Sidney Starling, Mathew Norton, H. D. Brown, A. Y. Baxter, James Sterling Jr., Martin V. Hazelton, Richard Swift, John Isdale, George E. Tucker, T. R. Langdon, Alvin Powell, S. D. Potter, Charles H. Cross, Samuel B. Scofield, William Sharon, George Murphy, Henry M. Wilson, Eli Rogers, Simeon Scoughton, George Thomas, Wm. M. Ross, Edwin Wilson, John Burke, Theodore Mott, William Rhuber, W. H. Hewett, Samuel Cooper, Charles E. Gould, James Sheldon, Wm. H. Collins, George Powell, Francis D. Wheeler. Town of Rodman. Enrolled 135—Drawn 36. George Post, John Roseboom, Austin F. Fasset, Alonzo Washburn, Nelson G. Cooley, Christopher Clairy, George Flint, George L. Butterfield, Sam Blodgett, Robert B. Schram, Alfred Brooks, Edward Nunn, Eri Dean, Charles E. Glasier, Sterling Lewis, T. Madison Burch, Michael Lowry, Orrin A. Edmonds, Ben F. Woodward, George Smith, Thomas Petrie, Daniel Fosee, Chester Loucks, Nathan A. Wright, Rosell L. Grant, Orlando F. Nichols, Charles Brooks, Mortimer Griffin, Wm. R. Dean, Robert McGear, Delos Cooley, Otis Newton, Giffard Brown, Lyman Odell, Oliver R. Porter, Lucius Carter.

**Town of Rutland.** Enrolled 198—Drawn 55. Frank Day, Wm. H. Sowles, Henry Humphrey, Hiram Allen, Belora Brainard, Wm. P. Coats, Thos. A. Herrow, David Cumins, Geo. B. Hazelton, Albert D. Veber, Elias Ltater, Chas. Hazel, Samuel Green, Solon Beirningham, Augustus Roby, Jos. Allen, John Mott, Edwerd Wescott, J. Goodrich Scott, John Eclane, Orren O. Jacobs, Kimball Oaks, Geo. Waldo, Dewitt C. Wheeler, Augustus M. Jacobs, Alfred E. Isham, Geo. Durham, Nelson Birmingham, Harlan B. Dunlap, Allen Taylor, W. C. Bull, Orville Woodward, Jno. Calahan, Henry DeSarse, Charles Glass, John Jeagle, Jas. Norris, W. Orlando Smith, Edwin Burlingame, Peter Bergevin, Henry L. Underwood, Harrison Sisco, Laon Privean, Chancey Durham, Archibald G. Stevens, Oscar Johnson, Newton Oaks, Jno. Huntington, Jno. H. Cross, N. Clark Munro, Benj. J. Archer, Albert Hendricks, Timothy Kidder, Isaac McMullin, Jno. D. Middleton.

**Town of Theresa.** Enrolled 219—Drawn 60. Fernando Wislon, Hiram Neville, Geo. Hough, Victor Cooper, Henry Maillet, Jno Cascy, Jno. Sterns, Jno. D. T. Seeber, Jno. Allen, Parker A. Thayer, Bithaeh Allen, Jacob Snell, Christopher Gills, Chas. Higgins, Pat Harris, Henry Miller, Mich Ely, Bradley B. Murphy, Abram Shely, Jas. Wright, Pat Farrel, Chas. Mallet, S. (Continued on Page 21)

(Continued From Page 20)

Norman Stevenson, Benj. Putman, Jno. Mallet, Jas. A. Parker, Hiram Wheeler, Mitchel Rivers, Jason Grennell, W. D. Woledge, Delos He----, Jon. Tyler, Geo. E. Yost, Normon Wagner, Lewis Evans, Alex H. Cooper, Eph. G. Corhin, Geo. Hough, Orsimus Cornwell, Jas. Sheley, Nelson Fults, Rosel Collis, Jno Hunt, Geo Stone, Chas. Fairbanks, Wm. VanAmeo, Luther Baldwin, Jno S. Jordon, Louis Klock, Merritt Cupenaugh, E. D. Sheley, Arva Parker, Milton Wheeler, Sylvester Maxfield, A. Shertliff, Horace Parkhurst, Melvin E. Cornwall, Warren Webster, Edward Waters, Henry Simons.

**Town of Watertown.** Watertown outside of the Corporation was next drawn. 189 cards were put into the box, from which to draw 52 names. Alfred Lord, David London, Martin Hunt, John A. Snell, Isaac L. Gardner, George C. Cook, Jos. Duffy, Joseph Frette, W. Schiller, Stephen Shaw, Hermon Clause, David Elker, J. B. Waler, Geo. W. Hatch, Chancy L. Reed, Asabel N. Gillett, James Grogan, John McNatty, James G. Horr, Chas. H. Noble, Wm. P. Thompson, Clark C. Hill, Duane Taylor, James Lu Favre, Ira Fisk, Otis S. Graves, Asher Blount, Hiram Knowlton, Jesse M. Adams, Antoine LeBrech, Michael Lewis, John Fisk, Abel Scott, Jerome Mory, Thomas Cavanaugh, Egbert Howe, Clark E. Freeman, John Fayell, Harvey J. Van Allen, Franklin M. Parker, Jerome Burnham, Samuel Warren, John Smith, Francis Ives, Isaac Jakel, James McDonald, John H. Gotham, Chas. E. Jones, Solon B. Tallman, John Raymond, Loren Raymond, Loren Herrick, Lawrence Gilligan.

**Village of Watertown.** Whole number enrolled, 701; number required, 188. Wm. Pearson, George P. Clark, Chas. Emerich, Samuel B. Wilcox, Casper Saltsman, Ellis L. Derby, Michael Nellis, George Davis, D. A. VanSchnick, Geo. B. Betts, Frank Deneio, John H. Thompson, Wm. Connor, Wm. Makepeace, Geo. Leo, Henry D. White, Benj. G. Button, Wallace Starkweather, Mason Hanchett, Albert S. Green, John Wildon, Cyrus S. Patterson, Abner W. Baker, Chas. S. Trumble, Valmer R. Harvey, George S. Stanton, Pardon C. Williams, R. B. Richardson, Peter Roach, Willis Van Buren, Jas. Cavanaugh, John S. Fisk, John W. Acker, LaFayette J. Bigelow, George Smith, Charles Benway, Gustavus Phillips, John D. Huntington, Martin Lynch, Anson O. Coburn, John McCutcheon, Wood Avery, Joseph C. Wiggins, Appleton P. Mayo, John Needlam, Renssaelear Oaks, Chas. F. Blackman, Frank Young, James Hart, Ed. H. Thompson, Michael Riley, Cooley M. Kilmer, Westel Carter, Charles Partailo, Fred Kellogg, George Mansfield, Geo. S. Sherman, Patrick Canfield, Peter McGuire, Samuel Adams, George R. Hanford, Wm. S. Carlisle, Gustavus Walradt, Wm. W. Sherman, Louis B. Sterling, Chas. Van Ness, George B. Bidwell, Thomas Coffee, Myers Thompson, Floyd Hoard, Cyrenns D. Schram, Patrick Ryan, Roswell P. Flower, Patrick Craven, A. B. Birdsley, J. F. Dimick, Eugene Therry, Martin V. Kitts, Robt. E. Graham, David Ellecker, Wm. Smith, Wm. McMullin, Albert Greenfield, John Shaffer, Charles E. Brooks, Samuel Wadsworth,

James McCutcheon, Arnis Byron, Paul Henderson, Edwin S. Lasher, Wm. G. Gardner, Harrison Smith, Henry C. Faver, Ira B. Schuyler, Chas. A. Bingham, Orville Hungerford, Samuel Robbins, Patrick Devereux, Hollin Williams, Martin Osborn, Byron Delong, Michael W. Mullin, Chas. Breeze, James Lynn, George Bromley, James Foley, Albert Massey, Richard F. Sever, Joseph Lesty, Therry Riley, Walter Sergeant, Brayton B. Childs, August Webber, Joseph La Brook, Wm. Merrill, Harvey J. Simmons, John G. Wingel, J. Harvey, Phiness Carter, Orren G. Stapless, Egbert Hungerford, John Whipwell, Levi A. Johnson, Patrick McCartin, Sylvester Nott, John Harris, Ervin P. Harvey, George Burnham, Dan'l Andrews, Thomas Britton, John M. Maston, Freeman Lee, Henry A. Baldwin, Samuel E. Ballard, Charles Hart, Hiram F. Frarey, Patrick Crossmon, Patrick Flannigan, Julius Hutchins, Henry Blake, Levi LaFavre, Abraham M. Marsfeider, Wm. Emery, Nicholas M. Smith, A. Baker, Wm. Tripp, Alfred Lester, Melvin Wright, Rober P. Towner, Jesse McCumma, Walter Burnham, Fred Ainsworth, John W. Gamble, John Griffin, Wm. H. Amaigh, Anson J. Commins, Freeall Boutiette, Henry C. Aiken, Andrew Bradley, John N. Smith, John Hardigan, Adam Meek, Henry Wood, Charles Sloat, John Rourke, John Leisure, John Ro—ain, John Carter, Patrick Tracy, Abner Kennon, Wm. Cochran, Martin Riley, George W. Jones, Nahuman B. Hungerford, Wm. Fitz Patrick, Trulin Robbins, A. B. Shannon, Edwin Bingham, Chas. H. Hibbard, Jacob R. Merrill, John Clarry, Ben Baker, John Bruner, John O Neal, Henry Pratt, Charles Otis, Clark Weatherby—188. Loud cheers were given on the completion of the list for Watertown village.

**Town of Wilna,** Enrolled 318—Drawn 92. Wm Dawley, Mich. Tobey, Wm. Cline, Owen E. Foley, Egbert Flint, Gideon Hinderson, Jno. J. Boyle, Geo. Weaver, Daniel Clearwater, Lyman J. Carpenter, Henry J. Kellogg, Almond Cooper, Demorris Dana, Othello A. Leafear, Geo. Mitchell, Jno. Savage, Ezra Vandewacker, Warren Van Allen, C. J. Case, Hiram K. Lanfear, Reed R. Crook, Luke Burns, Luke Sherron, Fred Ward, Henry Ford, Wm. Crossit, Henry Flint, Jno S. Edwards Jr., Hannibal Carter, Thos. Cumisa, Myron Owens, Thos. Maloney Jr., Geo. Pierce, Munro TenEyck, Robt H. Hawley, Lewis Pair, Aaron Pennington, Cornelius Smith, Thos. Fitsimmons, Elbridge Sims, And. Collins, Cortus B. Lewis, A. B. Crane, Mich. Smith, Sidney W. Hotchkins, Geo. Thomas, Sylvester Calaham, Bennett F. Brown, Wm. A. Reynolds, Jas. Galvin, Mich. Kinney, Philander Draper, Jno. Ingalls, Norris M. Carter, Darius H. Peck, Nelson Lanfear, Stillman Mathews, Wm. Jebb, Melville C. Rice, Orville Hunt, F. G. Cornell, Asa Shafer, Alonso W. Sylvester, Wm. Shoe, Silas Crowner, Hiram Tooley, Parish Mein, Samuel Henderson, Henry Van Amber, Theo. D. Warren, Thos. Larry, Thos. Hickman, Peter Clark, Geo. Lewis, Volney D. Warren, Pat Cain, Horace Blanchard, Wm. W. Owens, Benj. Clark, Henry Fitsimmons, Adolphus Allen, Nath. Lindstall, Mich Martin, Edward Reynolds, Geo. W. Stanner, Vincent Farr, Jos. A. Smith, Pat Shaw Jr., Jos. Davis, Robt. Marcott, Spencer C. Osborne.



# Jefferson County Queries

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

## SARGENT, LUFF, WILEY, PILMORE

I am researching relatives who came from England circa 1818. John **SARGENT** (1782-1 Feb 1863), is buried in Muskalonge Cemetery. He married in 1805 Susannah **LUFF** (1781-1825), (daughter of Samuel **LUFF**) in England and they had 6 or 7 children (Maria, John, Salina, William, George, Henry and Walter). It is believed that John immigrated to Hounsfield with Susannah and children John, Salina and George. Another child's name is Washington.

Other details: John **SARGENT** remarried Sarah (1799-1884) 14 years his junior. She is buried in Dexter.

Mysteries to solve:

1. Is there any death record for John **SARGENT**?
2. Was Sarah married previously to a **WILEY**? Assuming her maiden name is **PILMORE**.
3. Is there any information about John **SARGENT**'s marriage to Sarah (**PILMORE**) about 1829?
4. Is there any record of a William **SARGENT** son of John?
5. Who is Mary J. **WILEY** age 9 in 1850 census, also Mary Jane **WILEY** age 14 on NYS 1855 census, listed as "G Daught?"

*Todd Sargent  
todd.sargent@verizon.net*

## MITCHELL, RANDALL

Jonathan **MITCHELL** was born October 6, 1802 in Sackets Harbor and was married to Harriet **RANDALL**. I have hit a dead end trying to find anything more about him. I was hoping that you might be able to access the records in Jefferson County and find his birth records that might list his parents. I have children's names as Diana, Mary, Delois, Carmo & Menzo.

*Robert Mitchell  
bmitch134@gmail.com*

## WASHBURN, COOK

Melissa **WASHBURN** was born about 1822 in Jefferson County. She moved to Oswego County and was married to Harvey **COOK** on 9 July 1837 in Oswego. She was mother of George, Melissa, Jane, Harvey J. and Orson. They lived in the towns of Mexico and New Haven in Oswego County. Melissa died 24 Jan 1891 in New Haven. She was in trouble with the law on several occasions. Her husband left her and moved to Michigan about 1889. I would love to know her parents.

*Larry Scott  
thescotts@roadrunner.com*

## HOLLENBECK

Raymond Hollenbeck was my grandfather and lived in Watertown, Jefferson County, New York. He was married to Genny **HOLLENBECK** who passed away around 1969. He did some army service. Children's names include John, Jerry, Raymond, Rose, Kate and Beatrise.

*Jerry and Dena Hollenbeck  
Justsassy@msn.com*

## INGALLS, ROBINSON

Orlando **INGALLS** (b. 1838—d. 1922), his wife Julia E. **ROBINSON** (b. 1845—d. 1908) and their sons especially Cyrus **INGALLS** ( b. 1847—d. 1863) lived in Brownville, Jefferson County, New York. How did Cyrus die and from what?

*John Ingalls  
jwingalls52@aol.com*

## GARDNER, SMITH

I would like to verify that Ida **GARDNER** died September 1927 after coming home from the **SMITH** family reunion in Poland, New York. She lived in Watertown, Jefferson County, New York.

*Jane Robens  
jane.robens@gmail.com*

## DELANEY, NESTER

Michael Delaney was born 1822 in Ireland. He married Bridget (possibly **NESTER**, born 1830). In 1855 and 1860 federal census, they were living in Watertown, Jefferson County, New York. At least one child born in Alexandria Bay. I am looking for a marriage record between 1850 and 1855. Children include Mary (b. 1855), Jane (b. 1857), John (b. 1858), Ann (b. 1858) and Florentina (b. 1863). Michael is listed in 1860 as a butcher and possibly died 1863.

*Barbara Meyers  
meyeb48@yahoo.com*

## SEERO, DONOVAN

I am searching for information on Edward Vincent **SEERO** who was born January 1881, lived in Clayton, Jefferson County, NY. He moved to Massachusetts and married Anne **DONOVAN**. He was in the Marines and also had a child named Edward. I would be his grand daughter. My dad tried searching prior to his death in 1997.

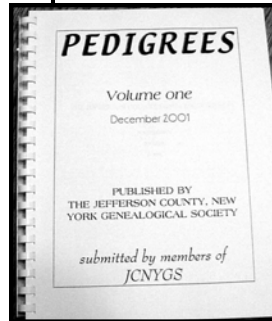
*Michelle LaFleur  
missmissypatriot@yahoo.com*

# JCNYGS MATERIALS FOR PURCHASE

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

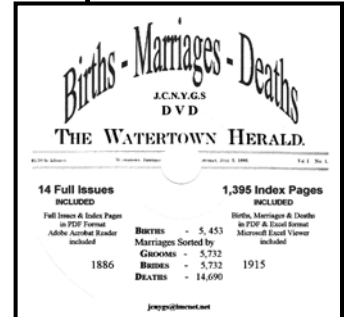
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Check with Greg or Tammy Plantz (above) for  
availability of hard copy *INFORMERS*

All our *Informer* Newsletters Are Now on  
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**JEFFERSON COUNTY  
NEW YORK  
WILL ABSTRACTS 1830 – 1850**

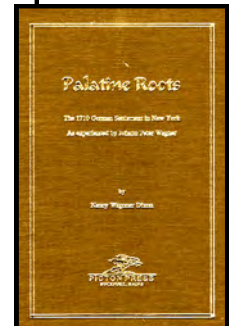
The Will Book contains will abstracts  
dating from 1830 to 1850. The book  
contains 194 pages, two maps, and a  
chart showing the formation of  
Jefferson County Towns. \$15.00 +  
\$5.00 for postage. Checks made out to  
JCNYGS



**PALATINE ROOTS**

The 1710 German Settlement  
in New York  
As experienced by  
Johann Peter Wagner  
By Nancy Wagoner Dixon

\$40 includes  
Postage  
Checks made out to  
JCNYGS



Reproduced post card from the 10th Mountain Division & Fort Drum Museum, 10502 South Riva Ridge, Fort Drum, New York. Written on the reverse: From 6 April 2017 to 11 Nov 2018 the U.S. Army will be celebrating the U.S. Centennial of World War 1.



## INFORMER

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(JCNYGS)  
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WATERTOWN, NY  
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Or Current Resident

# JCNYGS PROGRAMS FOR 2018

**13 October (Saturday):** 1:00PM. Meeting at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The St. Lawrence Branch of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada will present the program. The St. Lawrence Branch is in Eastern Ontario and extends from the Quebec/Ontario border along the St. Lawrence River and includes the three United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry (SD&G).

**17 November (Saturday):** 1:00PM. Meeting at the Jefferson County Historical Society, 228 Washington Street, Watertown. Founded in 1886 the JCHS is the primary organization in Jefferson County that collects artifacts, books and documents that reflect the history of the county. We will hold our business meeting, then adjourn for a guided tour of the museum and archives.

**8 December (Sunday):** 1:00PM. The JCNYGS Christmas Party. Location to be determined. JCNYGS provides the meat and members bring a dish to pass. Members are also encouraged to bring an unwrapped toy for Toys for Tots; a program run by the United States Marine Corps Reserve which distributes toys to children whose parents cannot afford to buy them gifts for Christmas. The program was founded in 1947 by reservist Major Bill Hendricks.

There are no monthly lectures in December 2018 or January 2019. The lecture program re-starts in February 2019. The January 2019 *Informer* will provide schedules and times

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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 IHCS. 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.



## **FOURTH ANNUAL HISTORY AND GENEALOGY FAIR**

*Saturday, 15 September 2018 from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM*

*As you walk around today, look for representatives from the following agencies...*

1. *Jefferson County Historical Society*
2. **Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society**
3. *Jefferson County GenWeb Administrator*
4. **Henderson Historical Society and Museum**
5. *1,000 Islands Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution*
6. **LeRay de Chaumont Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution**
7. *United States Daughters of the War of 1812, General Brown Chapter*
8. **Children of the American Revolution**
9. *Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims*
10. **New York State Society Colonial Dames XVII Century**
11. *Timeless Genealogy Service*
12. **Flower Memorial Library Genealogy Department**
13. *Dexter Historical Society*
14. **Dexter Historian's Office**
15. *Sackets Harbor Battlefield Site*
16. **Hounsfield Historian's Office**
17. *Village of Sackets Harbor Historian*
18. **Jefferson County Records Manager and Historian**
19. *Theresa Historian's Office*
20. **Lyme Heritage Center**
21. *Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Walter H. French Camp #17*
22. **Central New York Genealogical Society (Syracuse, Onondaga County, New York)**
23. *The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Family History Center*
24. **The 10th Mountain Division and Fort Drum Museum**
25. *Redwood Historical Society*
26. **Antwerp Historians Office**
27. *Adams Historian Office*
28. **Stone Mills Agricultural Museum**
29. **Half-Shire Historical Society (Richland, Oswego County, New York)**

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**THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY IS SELLING BBQ CHICKEN MEALS FOR \$10.00  
SERVING IN THE GARDEN AREA STARTING AT 12:00 NOON**  
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## OUR "IN THE SCHOOLHOUSE" GUEST SPEAKERS, TIMES AND SUBJECTS



11:00 AM *Buried Beneath Our Feet: Contributions of Archaeology to History and Genealogy in Northern New York* by **Tim Abel**. Just as the written record provides insight into the historical and genealogical past, archaeology provides a material record of the people that inhabited that past. Tim specializes in the precontact and early historic cultures of the eastern Great Lakes region. He holds a PhD from SUNY Albany and now freelances as a consulting archaeologist and lecturer in anthropology at Jefferson Community College and SUNY Canton. Since 1994, he has conducted archaeological investigations focused on the late precontact Iroquoian people of northern New York and the War of 1812.



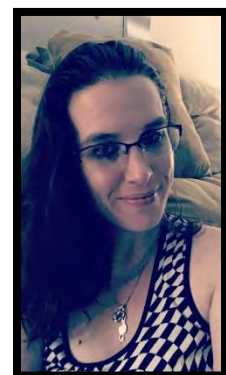
1:00 PM Genealogy Panel Member. **Larry Corbett**, a native of Watertown and graduate of JCC and SUNY Oswego, Mr. Corbett is a former president of the Jefferson County NY Genealogical Society, current president of the 1000 Islands Chapter of the New York State Archaeological Association and a member of the Jefferson County Historical Society. Active in family history research since the mid-1970s, Mr. Corbett especially enjoys using genealogy and DNA to help adopted persons locate their biological families, for which he has been the subject of radio and television stories and newspaper articles.



1:00 PM Genealogy Panel Member. **Terry Mandigo** is a Genealogy Coordinator at Flower Memorial Library, assisting visitors who arrive in person, phone, or e-mail to document their possible ancestors with all available resources, physical to electronic. From his early years his interest has been in history, especially those of vanished civilization and how these connect to the present. Human behavior has not changed much over centuries although technology has improved, although not enough to discover all the "missing" relatives.



1:00 PM Genealogy Panel Member. **Parks Honeywell** is a retired consulting engineer on design and operation of nuclear power stations. He is active with the Sons of the American Revolution as founding president and registrar of the Thousand Island Chapter. He currently serves as president of the Redwood Historical Society which operated the Redwood Museum. Parks is also a member of the Jefferson County New York genealogical Society. He lives in Trinity, Florida and summers on Norway Island near Goose Bay.



1:00 PM Genealogy Panel Member. **Allyson Stephenson** has worked at the Fort Drum Family Medicine Clinic as a nurse for the past 10 years taking care of our soldiers and their families. She started her interest, and later obsession, with family history when she was 9 years old when given a 10-page paper that had the start to her family tree. Her grandmother Alice helped foster her love of genealogy by frequent trips to the Utica public library references section when she had a day off from school along with most of her summers. Closing in on 30 years of working on her own family history, she started to help friends and co-workers, eventually turning it into a part time business.