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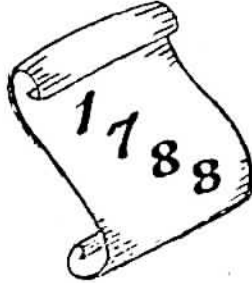
At the Grange
FRIDAY NOV. 5
* NEXT MEETING *

*** REMINDER ***

Clinton Historical Society
Clinton Corners, N.Y. 12514



The Clinton



Historian

TOWN OF CLINTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Vol. X

No. 2

October 1993

What a meeting it was. Charter members of both fire companies Oscar Burkowske, Don Cookingham, & Hans Hanaburgh shared their experiences, some funny, most serious about the early years and the primitive equipment they worked with. These oral histories are invaluable. Any suggestions for others?

Painting at the Grange is now complete except about a half day's work. Paint brightened the walls of the second floor and the women's bathroom. Our members, George Greenwood, Louise Mc D., Glenda Schwarze and Macy Sherow did the deed. And well done it is.

The election in our town is soon over. The idea of a new party, the Town Party, stimulated thoughts about early elections when parties were named Whig, Federalist and Anti-Federalist, Free Soil, etc. George Clinton was an Anti-Federalist as was John DeWitt & others. Tracing these parties in town history would be an interesting project.

Several individuals who are interested in their historic hamlet, among them our secretary Donna Calkins, formed "Friends of Clinton Hollow." This is an idea other hamlets ought to consider. Check with Donna to see how it is done.

Viola Cookingham Schoch's story in this issue about Rev. Hoyt's school was one of two private schools in Clinton at the time. She is searching for more info on Rev. Hoyt's school. Can you help?

----COMING EVENT----

* CHS HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR *
on December 11...see back page.
Call Bill or Linda DiFrenza if
you are interested in a space,
or know someone who is. An
entry form is enclosed.

** MARK YOUR CALENDAR **

6 AM - a sleepy time and we meet Hans Hanaford bright eyes getting his griddles, pots, & pans ready for the crowd to come to the Grange at 8 AM Sunday October 17. His crew, emerging from sleep, began to organize the morning. There was Marilyn Buchenholz, Donna Calkins, Jim Montross, Craig Marshall, Sue Hoffman, Emil Schoch each grabbing a job. Within the hour tables were set, juice was ready, coffee was brewing...well, you get the picture.

Others came to help - Eleanor Rogers, Glenda Schwarze, Louise Mc Dermott. Joyce Sokolowski brought her crew of 4H girls, Crystal Niet, Dana Kelly, and Jennifer Fischetti. What a crew!

Hans' pancakes received rave reviews. 82 people sat for the treat before the noon closing. The crew had eaten on the run and by noon they were wide awake and ready to do the next one (see below). Call Louise ..266-3819.. if you'd like to help. STOP BY, have a great breakfast or brunch, and help support the Museum Fund!



MARK IT DOWN !

Dr. HOYT'S CULTURAL SCHOOL

-Viola Schoch

I know my father and his brother Philip did not spend all their school days at Pleasant Plains #3. They had gone to a private school run by Rev. Sherman Hoyt.

Checking back in a Community Survey of Pleasant Plains which I did in 1942 while attending Keuka College, I found the following information given to me by our then local historian, George Van Vliet. "Rev. Sherman Hoyt, pastor, June 1843. Served 17 years 4 months adding 103 members to the congregation. When he was called to the pastorate, he was to receive \$325 plus \$100 from the Home Mission Society, but in 1859 his salary was raised to \$500. After his resignation he remained in the community and conducted a finishing school for many years."

Mr. Van Vliet's information would have meant that Rev. Hoyt began his school after 1860. My father was born in 1884 and Phillip, my uncle, in 1888.

In a telephone conversation with Ruth Hoyt, Schultsville, she confirmed the fact that there was this school. The Rev. Hoyt was her great-grandfather. The school was in his home, the parsonage, in the present Swanson house on Fiddler's Bridge Road. She believes it was coeducational. Perhaps her great-grandmother, Mary Ann Annin Hoyt, helped him. Then she went on to tell me that those Hoyts had 2 sons, Edwin and William. Dr. Edwin Skidmore Hoyt was a graduate of Albany Medical College and an assis-

tant surgeon in the Civil War. William for many years was a station master at Ancram. Edwin had a son Sherman Hoyt, Ruth's father, and a son Peter.

Next I tramped through the snow into the Pleasant Plains Rural Cemetery to find Rev. Sherman Hoyt's grave. He was born March 21, 1807 and died November 26, 1894. His wife, Mary Ann was born February 5, 1809 and died April 24, 1882. On the back of that stone I read that William Annin Hoyt was born July 6, 1842 and died March 25, 1919. His wife was Louisa A. Sleight born February 21, 1848, and died October 18, 1930. Mary S. Hoyt was born January 9, 1873. Standing near that stone was one for Theodore W. Annin, born May 21, 1816 and died February 21, 1892.

Now I knew Rev. Hoyt was 36 when he came as a minister to Pleasant Plains, 54 when he retired, could have taught for 34 years after that, and died when he was 87.

Next a phone call to Florence Frost. Yes, the school was called "Dr. Hoyt's Cultural School for Young People." She was aware that all the Sheriger girls went there (Alice, Rosa, Mary, Ellen, Hattie, Kittie). She didn't know boys went there, so why hadn't their brother Hoyt gone, if my father and uncle went. A mystery to her. I asked if she thought a fee were charged and she felt so, but the "Cookinghams and Sherigers had money."

- V.C.S.

(If you know something about the school, please call Viola. And, thanks for this article, Viola.)

*** NEXT MEETING ***

FRIDAY NOV. 5

At the Grange

7:30 PM

**"THE VILLAGE
BLACKSMITH"**

by

Marty Johannes

MUSEUM ADDITIONS

Delores Murphy contributed a lovely painted, early 19th century checkerboard she purchased from Dick Van Vliet's home. Also, the terrific sign she gave on which was painted "Wing Hall - 1 block north" reminded us of the dances held in Clinton Corners in times past.

Can you believe "The Clinton Classified Index" contributed by Marge Fountain. Listed were businesses in Clinton sometime in the late 50s. Lee Estes was listed as an Artificial Breeder and Franklin Bowman & Son sold power equipment. Of course, you know the son as our member, Don. Foster Lake owned the store at Schultsville. Lee Estes was the father of another member, Don. And the Baby Sitters were Rose Cochran & Gertrude Sanders.

Also, received were election posters from this year and the past election. Brand new, sure, but tomorrow's history.

Folks, check those attics.

*** NEXT MEETING ***

(at the GRANGE)

**THE VILLAGE
BLACKSMITH**

Marty Johannes, blacksmith, will talk about early metal work at our next meeting. Marty, an unusual individual, brings a wealth of information on pre-1840 blacksmithing. His talents include teaching...at present his apprentice is a graduate from SUNY Buffalo with a BA in metal design & jewelry. Soon Marty will bring his experience to the classroom at the SUNY colleges. His talk to the Society is interactive. Pieces he will display will be identified and used as teaching props. He will also discuss the function of pieces members might bring. Also, bring along items in need of repair. Although the portable forge he is manufacturing will not be ready for this meeting, he will discuss repair.

The blacksmith was the first manufacturer in a new settlement. Without him, tools would not have been available. Little ready-made metalwork was available until the 19th century.

