

Clinton Historical Society
Clinton Corners, N.Y. 12514

The Clinton  Historian

TOWN OF CLINTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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September 1990

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Our new season is off to a GREAT start with a very successful September meeting, election of new officers and committee chairs, and a reborn Newsletter. Also, a Steering Committee has been formed comprising of Tom O'Shea, John Pruitt, Craig Marshall, and myself, as a group to help guide the Society in its endeavors ...my thanks to them for their energetic help.

The BIG NEWS is that the MUSEUM that you've heard me talk about has generated a lot of interest, to the point that we are in discussion with another community society about possible sharing of their very attractive (and local) building. If this proves feasible, we will have work to do...obtain a charter, get approval from New York State Board of Regents, insurance, display materials, etc. When we occupy that new place, we can do many interesting projects.

The Steering Committee has planned that some monthly meetings will be "member participation." To kick this off, we will have an archeological "dig" on Sept 28... see accompanying article. Let us know if this is preferred over our past "presentations-only" agendas. And, we welcome ideas for participation events!

Macy Sheron will be leading our microfilming activity this season...this is important in the preservation of documents already in Society possession, as well as artifacts volunteered for copy by members and Clinton residents. The microfilms will be part of our Museum.

My thanks to the several members who signed up to be Hospitality Hosts/Hostesses for our upcoming meetings, and to the new officers and chairpersons for volunteering their time to make this a banner year for the Society. This promises to be a really FUN YEAR !

SEE YOU SAT. SEPT. 29 !

RUTH HOYT RECALLS... "SCHULTZVILLE PAST"

Octogenarian Ruth Hoyt recalled a lifetime spent in the Town of Clinton, as guest speaker to our opening meeting this season. Ruth became the fourth longtime resident interviewed on videotape for our Museum collection. She joins Ethel Timmer, Dr. Henry Allen, and Kelsey Wirehouse as our "stars." Like Kelsey, response was so great that a repeat session was held the following week, with special invitation to all residents of Schultzville.

As with our other "stars", Ruth amazed her audiences with "total recall" of events going back to 1908 when she attended the Schultzville school (Could YOU name 12 of your grammar school classmates, and all of your teachers?). She told several anecdotes, including tales of "the pancake man" and other eccentric halet residents of years past. The origin of Fiddlers Bridge Road, the conflagration of the original Schultzville store, the Reginald Goode Theater, and other historical notes were vividly described. Our thanks to Ruth for TWO "enchanted evenings!"

Names of future interviewees are always welcome, and should be submitted to Craig Marshall or Bill McDermott.

FRIENDS CEMETERY PROJECT

Clinton Historical Society members came out in force last August 11 to join others from the Grange, East Clinton Fire Dept, Cemetery Board, and neighbors to clear brush from the overgrown back section of the Friends Cemetery in Clinton Corners. The work of these 38 residents has resulted in a more attractive environment, and one that is easier to maintain and use for future burials. The Cemetery dates from the 1770s and is an important local landmark. The Cemetery Board expressed its gratitude for the dedication and hard work of these volunteers.

NEXT MEETING:
"DIG WE MUST !"

SATURDAY, SEPT. 29

TOWN OF CLINTON LIBRARY

9:30 MORNING (not PM)

Instead of sitting and talking about local history, we're going to be digging for it. All members are invited to join in the Dig of artifacts that will be over 100 years old. We'll meet in the Library Sat. morning to discuss the project and "dig" techniques, then divide into teams and move to the nearby Dig site. Bring your own trowels, shovels, hoes, kneeling pads, work gloves, and other aids. We won't be bulldozing a large area, but very carefully digging up small, marked-off areas in hopes of finding artifacts for our new Museum. More Digs are planned in the future as we learn the techniques.

Family members of all ages are welcome to join in. Bring your own food for the lunchtime picnic break... softdrinks will be provided. It promises to be one of our most interesting meetings, so mark the date (REPLACES OUR OCT. MEETING) and join the excitement!

*** Spectators Welcome !! ***

THE HISTORIAN RETURNS

For newer members, this first issue of the "Clinton Historian" probably comes as a surprise. However, older members will remember the publication as an old friend. Bill has charged the new Steering Committee to be an "editorial board" to bring "all the news that's fit to print" to the Society on a regular basis. All suggestions and news items will be gratefully accepted. Contact Tom O'Shea at 266-5363.

TOWN OF CLINTON MUSEUM

The Town of Clinton Historical Society Museum, a dream of many longtime members, is fast becoming a reality. Feasibility discussions with another community organization have begun to discuss shared use of their local building. Other options for a facility for a museum have also been presented. A special Museum Committee has been formed by volunteers in the Society to actively plan this project...more are welcome. Donations or loans of old maps, photos, postcards, ledgers, diaries, or other Clinton memorabilia are needed. Special attention will be given to security measures to protect all artifacts. Cash donations also are needed to make it possible to acquire important artifacts in the future, and to handle operating expenses. Do you know any longtime Clinton residents? Tell them about our new Museum and ask if they have any items to donate. All items and cash donations will be gratefully received. More detail on the Museum will follow as the Museum Committee formalizes its plans. As Bill McDermott notes..."It's starting small, but with everyone's help, it will grow rapidly!"

"DID YOU KNOW...?"

REV. AMANDA DEYO

Long before the recent feminist movement, Amanda Deyo, resident of Clinton from her birth until 1886, became the first woman in Dutchess County to be ordained. She was born to a farm family, became the wife of a farmer, had two children, and then joined a peace movement. During her lengthy association with that organization, she became an eloquent speaker who spoke to many groups from Tennessee to Maine with a few trips West. Essentially, she was an early reformer who counted among her friends Susan B. Anthony, Lucretia Mott, and others. She spoke of peace, temperance, and woman's rights. In 1889, she spoke to the Universal Peace Congress which met in Paris that year. (W. McD.)

1990 OFFICERS

At the September meeting, the following officers and committee chairs were elected and installed:

President: Bill McDermott

Vice Pres: Craig Marshall

Treasurer: Florence Smith

Corr. Secty: Suzanne Marshall

Hospitality: Rosemary Lee

Membership: Al Mueser

Public Rel: Betty Kinney

Landmarks: Emile Schoch

Microfilming: Macy Sherow

Steer. Comm/: Tom O'Shea John Pruitt
Newsletter Bill McDermott Craig Marshall

Museum: Bill McDermott, Craig Marshall

Special Thanks to outgoing LONGTIME Treasurer
and HOSPITALITY Chairperson ...
LOUISE McDERMOTT

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

The Clinton Historical Society year runs from April 1 to March 31. If you have overlooked sending your 1990 dues, please clip out the following application for renewal and send it with your check payable to "Clinton Historical Society" to:

Florence Smith
RR2 Box 63
Clinton Corners, N.Y. 12514

Family \$8.00

Individual \$5.00

Name: _____

Address: _____

*** REMINDER ***

NEXT MEETING:

"THE DIG"

SATURDAY MORNING

9:30

SEPT. 29

TOWN LIBRARY

SCHULTZVILLE

BRING TOOLS,

LUNCH, &

ENTHUSIASM