

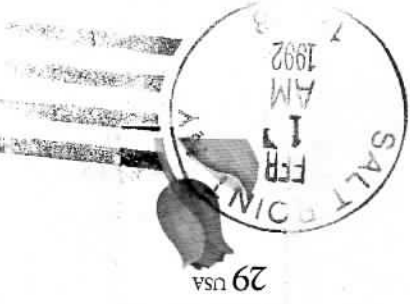
Eleonor Rogers
525 Allen Rd.
Salt Point, NY 12578

FRIDAY FEB 7

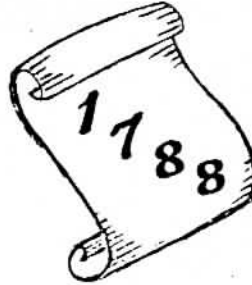
NEXT MEETING:

*** REMINDER ***

Clinton Historical Society
Clinton Corners, N.Y. 12514



The Clinton



Historian

TOWN OF CLINTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Vol. VIII

No. 5

January 1992

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Winter is passing quickly. Yeah, who says. After a little holiday break, the Society is back at it again.

Uppermost in our minds is the Annual Meeting, awards, and the agenda for 1992. I suspect it will be a busy year. More concrete information about this will be forthcoming. For now, keep the first Friday in April open. If things fall into place, we will have our Annual Dinner at that date.

Among matters that members of the Society should be aware of is a second look at the recently passed zoning law. In the coming months, you will have another chance to give your ideas a voice. Let's work together on this one. Despite the fact that there may be differences of opinion, the adversarial approach is not always the most productive. Respect for differing ideas with an eye toward cooperative problem solving will get us there quicker, and a good deal more amicably.

Thanks to Florence Germond for sharing the Rikert genealogy with the Society. The Rikerts were early members of the town and made a number of contributions. Their story, as is the story of many settlers who stayed, is an interesting one. If space allows in future newsletters, perhaps we can share a tidbit or two with you.

- Wm McD

LEAVE IT TO MACY

Sure he was trailing behind during that (stone) wall walk led by Larry Arno and Amy. Sure he seems to be gazing into the distance. At times he was deep in thought. And certainly he seemed to be counting. What was he up to?

Here is a sample. "At the bottom of the steep slope was a level area for two hundred yards or so. Found an iron pipe stuck in the ground...."

Macy kept a diary of the entire trip across Clinton during that walk. What a valuable set of notes for future reference. Thanks, Macy. As usual we got more than expected. Your notes will be a model for future wall walks.

* NEXT MEETING * FDR & THE DEPRESSION

Pick up any paper today and you will read something about the economy. You will also note the number of plans to improve things. With the coming "State of the Union" address, we will hear yet another plan. But sometimes one wonders, "Why don't they ask me?"

Well, 57 years ago FDR did just that. While he didn't ask every individual in the country, perhaps he did the next best thing. He asked Clergymen to tell him what they had heard in their churches.

John Ferris, Archivist at the FDR Library, will discuss his findings regarding the letter FDR sent to the clergy in 1935. What were the local conditions? How did people cope during the period? What about the new Social Security program?

Folks, not only is this a fun talk, but it is timely. Also, it will give us a peek into the times our parents and perhaps some of us lived through. John is especially well informed but also an entertaining speaker. Bring your friends. Our meetings are always open.



PRESERVATION AWARD

It's that time of the year again. The Annual Dinner will be in April. This is the time the Preservation Award is presented. It is given for some effort on a broad scale to preserve some part of Clinton's character or history. Perhaps you know of a person who deserves consideration. If so, please write a few notes about the individual and the contribution. Send it to:

Clinton Historical Society
Box 62
Clinton Corners, NY 12514

If you wish to call regarding the procedure, please do at 266-5684.

This is not a complicated matter. The intent is to recognize efforts to maintain Clinton's identity. The application provides the committee with material to make a decision on this year's most deserving applicant.

TOWN TAXES & EXPENSES

- 1910



*** REMINDER ***

NEXT MEETING:

FRIDAY FEB 7

7:30 PM

TOWN LIBRARY

SCHULTZVILLE

-FEATURING-

"FDR AND THE
DEPRESSION"

by

JOHN FERRIS

Grumble, grumble, grumble. Perhaps one of our unalienable rights is to grumble about taxes and wonder about public expenses. No doubt that was also a favorite pastime in 1910. But let's see what THEY grumbled about.

The total tax levied in Clinton in 1910 was \$6,913.19. Of course, the \$101.63 surplus from the preceding year was taken into consideration.

Just what did these taxes pay for that year? The big ticket item was the highway expense, \$4,011.25. This included the superintendent's pay of \$444.00 and a \$700 note which was paid that year. The County received \$1,874 plus \$111.98 for the Supreme Court tax. \$389.66 was set aside for the poor, and the School Commissioner's expenses came to \$13.72.

That year, Per Lee Pink was allowed \$4.00 for delivering election returns to the Town Clerk. And what in the world was a "Gate Keeper?" No matter, M.S. Wildey was paid \$4.00 for filling that responsibility.

And how could one overlook the need for a truant officer. In 1910? Things never change. Well, Byron Traver received the full allowance he requested for that job - \$6.00. And so did Justice of the Peace L.B. Graham whose expenses also came to \$6.00. But Dr. Edwin Hoyt who requested \$32.75 for his budget to attend the poor was allowed only \$25.00.

Town Supervisor Charles Wright received \$69.64 to cover his year in office and his clerk, Oakley Robinson received \$57.00. And not to be overlooked was the \$12.00 Fred Goldsmith received as the assessor responsible for appraising sheep. Goldsmith received an additional \$12.00 for copying the assessor's books for 1909 and 1910.

No doubt there was grumbling that year. Isn't it our inalienable right? But one has to wonder how these expenses would translate into 1992 dollars. Anyone willing to speculate? Or even better - anyone willing to do the math?

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

The new membership year for our Clinton Historical Society has begun, starting April 1. Dues for the new year should be mailed to treasurer Florence Smith now if you did not send payment with Annual Meeting/Dinner reservations. Please make your check payable to "Clinton Historical Society" and mail it to:

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

Family \$8.00 Individual \$5.00

