

Eleonor Rogers
525 Allen Rd.
Salt Point, NY 12578

FRIDAY FEB 5

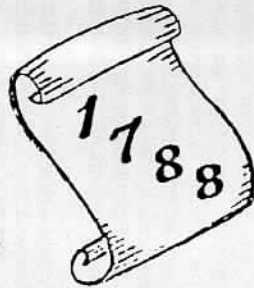
NEXT MEETING:

*** REMINDER ***

Clinton Historical Society
Clinton Corners, N.Y. 12514



The Clinton



Historian

TOWN OF CLINTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Vol. IX

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January 1993

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The Christmas Party was fun. For those who missed it, a brief report. The Society mounted a mixed exhibit of photographs, maps, school items, samplers, broadsides, etc. Thanks to Bill DiFrenza and Craig Marshall for moving those heavy exhibit panels into place.

This was followed by our pot luck supper and the most outrageously funny auction, led by Kate Spross. But the highlight of the evening was the "Stories about Clinton" led by master story tellers Pete Burns, Len Kinney and Sonny Leggiere. Of course, Ruth Hoyt and others chimed in and enhanced the pleasure. Fortunately, we have all of this in our video tape library.

Since then we have had a busy month even though its been the dead of winter. We have been at the Grange every Wednesday afternoon launching our various projects.

Eleanor Rogers put some order into those town files which we inherited. Now at least one could begin to sort them to determine just what we have.

George Greenwood enhanced a computer program, developed files, and has entered the 1892 census into the computer. This is the beginning of our study of the twentieth century now only seven years from concluding. In addition to the names of each member of the family, George has recorded occupations, national origin, age, etc.

Betty Kinney has taken those photograph albums of old homes under her wing. The goal, to identify each unidentified home, label it, and reorder each album to make them a much better resource. At present photos from each area of town are found in each album and really confuses and discourages many people.

Eleanor Rogers has started a new project. She has created genealogical files, reorganized the files we have, and has begun a card file in which each name found in any file is recorded. This will help us respond to the inquiries we receive more effectively.

Louise Mc Dermott is creating a card file of individuals buried in the Friend's Cemetery in Clinton Corners. Names, dates, and marital info found on the gravestones as well as the location of each gravestone are the contents of this file. It extends work done by future eagle scout, Brian Tucker. More about Brian in our next issue.

We have been busy also on the administrative side of the office. That's the less appealing side but one that is essential to smoothe running of our future endeavor. We have received the deed from our attorney in which the details of the agreement between the Grange and the Society are defined. In general, it looks good. There are one or two items which need to be defined more clearly but they are not expected to present a problem. We have sent it on to the Grange committee for their review. This process has been very deliberate. Both groups have been appropriately attentive to detail.

OPPORTUNITY TO "REALLY CLEAN UP!"

The Society is calling for volunteers to clean out the attic in the Grange. As in your attic and mine, much gathers which once seemed important to keep. But a little time passes and we realize it can all go. The work is light and may be a bit cumbersome and dusty, but the satisfaction will make it all worthwhile. WHEN...you ask??

Saturday Feb. 13, 1992 at 10AM

Lets meet at the Grange. Please let us know if you will be coming so we can plan the coffee.

-- Call Bill 266-3819 --

SERVANT-HEROINE-PAUPER

CLINTON

EVERYWHERE !

Born of German immigrants October 13, 1754, Molly "Pitcher" had her day in history. But this brief episode was just a thin sweet moment in a rather difficult life.

Born Mary Ludwig, her father had dropped the name Haas after his arrival in America in 1730. She had only seen 23 years before she climbed that ladder of heroine. Before her 15th birthday she became a servant in home of Dr. William Irvine of Carlisle, Pa. Not long after, she married John Hays, a local barber. Uneventful probably describes the following several years. Children were not in the cards for this couple.

On December 1, 1775 Molly, unaware of the course it would take her, supported her husband's enlistment in the Pennsylvania Artillery. Life changed little during this year. It was only after he became active in January 1777 that she moved back to her parents home to help them but also to be near him. It was on that sweltering June day at the Battle of Monmouth that Molly marched into the pages of history.

Concerned about her husband during the battle, she found her way to his artillery station. Seeing the men and her husband dripping with sweat but without water she hurried to a nearby spring and carried pitchers of water to their station. The shot that wounded her husband was hardly distinguishable from all the battle fire which filled the air. But her response was immediate. Taking his place at the cannon she became and will be remembered as an American heroine.

But those few minutes were an anomaly. Returning to Carlisle with a recovered husband she lived with him uneventfully until his death in 1789. Soon the 45 year old widow married again. But George McCauley was a poor choice. Her marital unhappiness ended when they separated.

(cont'd next column)

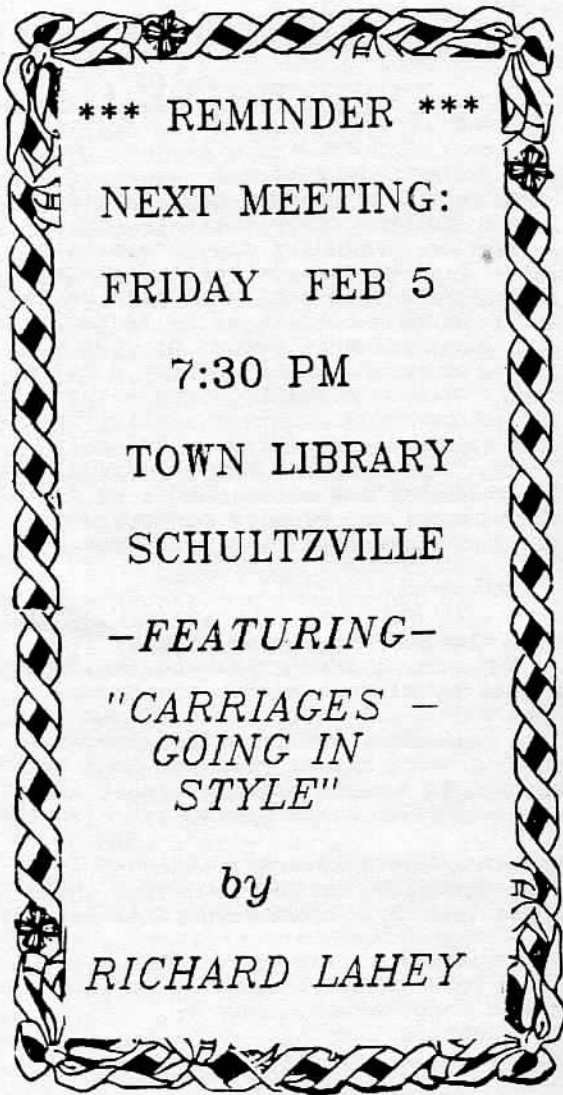
In a recent paper read at an historical conference about farming in Hillsdale, Columbia County, the author was searching for information about exports through country stores in the late 18th and early 19th century. Not finding a storekeeper's ledger in that area for that period he used a ledger from the Teller store in Bulls Head. Helped him a lot. Funny thing he called it "hill country" similar to the area he was researching in Columbia County. Wonder what our friends in Bulls Head think about that. By the way the microfilm copies of those ledgers are among our Society's resources.

Then the Society had an inquiry from an individual in Florida who mentioned a book by Michael Kordas entitled, 'The Fortune.' In it are mentions of Nine Partners, Schultzville, Pumpkin Hollow, etc. Anyone read the book yet? Perhaps we should acquire a copy and check out how these places are discussed.

And then there is a new resident in Washington, DC by the name of Clinton. First name Bill? Wonder what that's about.

SERVANT- (CONT'D)

Left to earn a livelihood she returned to the work she knew, domestic work. Caring for children and other domestic chores continued until she could do it no more. In 1822 the Pennsylvania General Assembly passed "An Act for the relief of Molly M'Colly" in recognition of her service during the Battle of Monmouth. The \$40 per year award was welcome, little recognition though it was for this American heroine.



*** REMINDER ***

NEXT MEETING:

FRIDAY FEB 5

7:30 PM

TOWN LIBRARY

SCHULTZVILLE

-FEATURING-

"CARRIAGES -
GOING IN
STYLE"

by

RICHARD LAHEY

"HANDOUTS ?"

WHO SAYS we don't take handouts?

We do. In fact the Society is looking for lots of items to furnish our space. At present our hand is out for 2 or 4 drawer filing cabinets, bookcases, used copy machines, VCR & TV, a light table, used IBM computers, camcorder, projector and screen.

We are also looking for someone to install a security and fire alarm system, a copy photographer (no experience necessary), and an individual with minimal drafting skills.

NEXT MEETING:

"CARRIAGES -
GOING IN
STYLE"

Richard Lahey has been a collector of Dutchess County carriages for a number of years. He has studied their history, their role in an agricultural community, and their value to the individual owner and his family. He has exhibited his carriages and led programs to present the carriages (and sometimes sleighs) of other collectors. Among his other experiences is a successful venture by horse and wagon along a portion of the Oregon Trail.

* FUTURE MEETINGS *

- Feb. 5 - "Horses & Carriages"
Richard Lahey
- Mar. 5 - "New Museum Development"
Roy Ickes, Trolley Museum
- April ? Annual Dinner
announcement soon
- May 7 - "Eleanor Roosevelt"
Robert Andrus
- June 4 - "Timber Framing"
Patricia Graf

We'd like to hear from you about programs you would like to see. Here is a list of ideas you may want to add to. Oral history, antiques, genealogy, military history, New York history, collectibles, town history, etc. Share your ideas with us and either recommend a speaker or we will find one.