

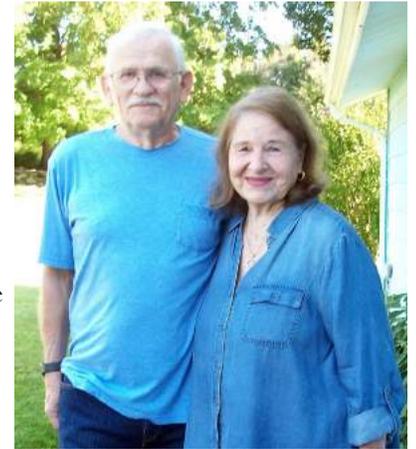
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Town of Clinton Historical Society
THE CLINTON HISTORIAN

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MAYFLOWER GENEALOGY IN CLINTON

by Craig Marshall

While COVID-19 caused disruptions worldwide, for some it freed up time to pursue personal interests waiting for attention. Beth and Chick Wyant of Clinton Corners (they now live in North Carolina) had done some tracing of their family roots in past years but knew there was a lot more to be discovered. For Chick a family reunion put him in touch with members that caused him to think, “How far back can I go in the family lineage?” For Beth the spark was documentation (including family photos) that she inherited from her great aunt some years ago and used to begin her search.



Chick and Beth Wyant

Before COVID-19 Beth and Chick worked together to more deeply pursue their family lineages, finding Internet sites that cater to and support those interested in genealogy. One important site they found was “Family Tree Maker,” where for a nominal fee they submitted saliva samples used to identify their DNA. This in turn gave them information about others who were in the same DNA lineage. Then they used Ancestry.com, which has a much larger database. They noted that DNA lineage includes both “lineal” (direct) and “collateral” (indirect—for example, cousins) descendants.

During COVID-19 Beth and Chick ramped up their search efforts, which revealed that during the Civil War Beth’s lineage was Confederate and Chick’s was Union. Beth’s significant find was adding four more lineal Revolutionary War patriots to the one she had discovered earlier, which helped qualify her as a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Chick discovered that his great great grandfather Charles Ellsworth rode with General Sherman as part of the 150th New York Volunteers. He also found collateral ties to Elias Hicks, who was responsible for the national schism in the Society of Friends in 1827. In Clinton Corners the “Hicksites” remained in the 1777 Creek Meeting House, while the dissenting “Orthodox” left and built a new meetinghouse at Upton Lake.



Additional diligent research led Chick to find lineal ties to the 102 Mayflower passengers who landed at Plymouth, Massachusetts, in 1620. His ancestor Edward Doty was one of only about half who survived the first tragic winter. Notably, he also found that Elias Doty—the great grandson of Edward Doty—was his sixth great grandfather. In *Building Clinton: An Architectural Survey, 1769–1965*, architectural historian Neil Larson determined that Elias Doty probably lived in the house

now owned by CHS President Cynthia Koch and her husband Eliot Werner. Elias Doty is buried in the 1777 Friends Cemetery.

Why do they pursue genealogy? “Pride,” Beth stated. “Knowing more about our families through the ages, lineal and collateral, makes us more aware of and appreciate our heritage.” They warn, “The search is never finished. And it can become addictive . . . joyfully so!”



FALL FUNDRAISING

This fall two successful Clinton Historical Society fundraisers took place at the Creek Meeting House. The **Fall Tag Sale** was held Friday and Saturday, October 8 and 9 and the **Holiday Craft Fair** on Saturday, December 4. Both events sold CHS member-donated items and homemade baked goods and were staffed by longtime volunteers. The Craft Fair also featured ten area artisans selling their beautifully displayed handmade crafts.

Friends, neighbors, and day-trippers stopped by our headquarters, turned bazaar, to socialize and shop.

Many thanks to the members and bakers for their donations and to the craft vendors, Friendship Garden Club, and shoppers for their support.

Special thanks to Lisa Noval, Jaye Davis, Judith Grabowski, Cathy McMahon, Mary Jo Nickerson, Cora Oakley, Glenda Schwarze and Craig Marshall, for their many hours of work.



NEWS & NOTES

Members are encouraged to submit information of interest to the Society at large. Please send your emails to us clo_craigmarshall266@aol.com.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

John and Virginia Bickford
Cathy Brady and Terrence Ghee
Philippa Ewing
Donna Montross
Glenn and Christine Murray
John Scilepi

ATTIC PROJECT

In November Trustees Rich Morse and Craig Marshall of the Facilities Committee and three hired help did an extensive cleanup project in the attic of the Creek Meeting House. As part of a major bat exclusion, Rich used a bucket truck to mount bat houses in nearby trees, seal entry gaps in the fieldstone walls, and install a one-way tube allowing bats to leave but not return. The Society is indebted to Rich for leading the project and the use of equipment from his contracting company.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Cynthia Koch, president
Craig Marshall, vice president
Cathy McMahon, secretary
Frank McMahon, treasurer
Rise Cross
Marge Fountain
William Holman
Richard Morse
Lisa Noval
Jim Pellegrino
Robert Schoch
Glenda Schwarze
Barbara Sweet

Newsletter Team: Craig Marshall, Judith Grabowski, Trip Sinnott, and Eliot Werner.

Clinton Historical Society is a not-for-profit organization established to preserve, maintain, promote, and educate on matters of historical significance and interest in the Town of Clinton and Dutchess County.



Friend us on Facebook at
Clinton Historical Society
[clinton_historical_society](https://www.facebook.com/clinton_historical_society).



TOWN OF CLINTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1777 Creek Meeting House • 2433 Salt Point Turnpike • Clinton Corners, NY 12514

It has been a busy fall for the Historical Society, even though once again in-person activities have been somewhat curtailed. Nevertheless, the intrepid teams of volunteers that manage the Tag Sale and Holiday Craft Fair were able to hold two very successful events this fall, and our First Friday programs continued to attract a wide audience.

The Society broke new ground on October 1 when we held our first hybrid program. This simultaneous Zoom and in-person program took place at the Golden Russet Cafe and dealt with the history of cider making. We hope to do more programs in this format.

We have also been busy developing a plan for the preservation/renovation of the Creek Meeting House. We have been working with preservation architects Waite and Associates to submit two grant proposals: a request to the Preservation League of New York State for \$4,000 to produce measured drawings of the Creek Meeting House, and a request to Dutchess County for a Community Development Block Grant of \$100,000 to make the Creek Meeting House handicapped accessible. The latter would include exterior parking, a ramp to the front doors, ADA-accessible restrooms, emergency lighting, and alarms. Neither application has been approved but we are hopeful. The architects are also beginning work on the building condition report.

I am also happy to report that the Clinton Town Board encouraged us to apply for American Rescue Plan Act funding that has been allocated by the federal government to compensate municipalities and nonprofits for financial hardships due to COVID. The CHS has lost more than \$17,000 in fundraising over the past two years and we are hopeful that our request will be successful.

I wish you and your friends and family a happy holiday season and a healthy new year.

With all best wishes,

Cynthia Koch, President



Our first hybrid (virtual and in-person) program "American Cider" held at the Golden Russett Cafe (Schultzville) in October was a great success and included cider tasting

CLINTON ALLIANCE CHURCH 1190–1192 Centre Road

by Cynthia Koch



The Clinton Alliance Church was built in 1866 with a gift of \$3,000—a huge sum at the time—from the estate of Theodore Augustus Schultz, son of the prosperous mill owner, farmer, and general store owner Daniel A. Schultz.

Daniel A. Schultz was the grandson of one of Clinton’s earliest settlers and his father, John F. Schultz, established the farm, mills, and general store that became Schultsville. John F. lived in the “saltbox style” farmhouse behind the Schultsville General Store (now the Golden Russet).

Daniel A. Schultz died in 1858, two years after erecting his new home at 820 Fiddlers Bridge Road. His son Theodore inherited his substantial estate—the largest in Clinton—but unfortunately died of tuberculosis four years later. Theodore not only left funding for the construction of the church, but also two and a half acres for the Schultsville Cemetery.

The First Christian Church of Clinton (Schultsville) was organized in 1863 and met in a room over the Schultsville General Store before the church was built. It was not affiliated with any denomination. The parsonage dates from approximately 1866. Both the church and parsonage are shown on the 1876 map. A major physical addition was made in the “new hall” erected in 1911.

In 1932, as a result of the union of the Congregational and Christian denominations, the name was changed to the Schultsville Congregational–Christian Church. Later the church allied with the Christian and Missionary Alliance and was organized as the Clinton Christian and Missionary Alliance of Schultsville, New York.

Architectural Style

The church building is in a combination of vernacular Greek Revival, Gothic Revival and Italianate styles. Gothic Revival and Italianate styles (1840–1880) were “picturesque” or “romantic” styles that were popular for “cottages” in rural settings. Andrew Jackson Downing of Newburgh published pattern books in the mid-19th century that were widely used and adapted by country builders.

In *Building Clinton: An Architectural Survey, 1760–1965*, architectural historian Neil Larson suggests that this church—like the Masonic Lodge and the Daniel H. Schultz House—are expressions of the German “rounded arch” style of Gothic Revival, rather than the more English pointed-arch styles promoted by Downing. He identifies a number of examples of these buildings in Clinton, Rhinebeck, and neighboring towns settled by Germans.

The rounded windows with the pronounced curved cornices and the tower with rounded arches are traditional Italianate features. The pointed arches in the window mullions and door panels evoke the Gothic Revival (and church architecture), as do the spindle-work spandrels with acorn-shaped pendants supporting the pediment.

The heavy cornice line that continues along the sides of the building suggests the classical entablature of the Greek Revival (1825–1860), a style that was no longer fashionable on houses by the 1860s but was probably considered appropriate for a church building.

The parsonage is a simple gable-end farmhouse style trimmed with Gothic Revival scroll work along the front cornice and elaborate scroll work in the “rounded arch” on the front porch supports. The small “eyebrow” windows are a feature often seen on Greek Revival houses, built into a frieze or wide cornice band. The original siding has been covered in shingles.

The church hall was built in 1911 and shows a clipped front gable (jerkin head) roof, which relates to the Craftsman (popular bungalow) style of the period.



GENEALOGY IN CLINTON

MY FAMILY TREE



For those interested in tracing their family lineage, Chick and Beth Wyant recommend the sources they used—census and enlistment records, organizations such as the Daughters of the American Revolution (www.dar.org), and Internet sites such as Ancestry.com.

To encourage knowledge of family history, the Clinton Historical Society has recently partnered with the Dutchess County Genealogical Society to help family tree searchers with training aides, informative online meetings and presentations, and more, for a nominal membership fee. Go to www.dccgs-gen.org or email craigmarshall266@aol.com.

2022 DUES

*Your CHS membership is important!
The address label on this newsletter shows the most recent year of paid dues.*

Student.....	\$10
Individual.....	\$20
Family	\$35
Friend.....	\$75
Donor	\$150
Patron	\$250
Benefactor.....	\$500
Visionary.....	\$1,000
Life.....	\$5,000

*Please make checks payable to:
Clinton Historical Society
and mail to:
PO Box 122
Clinton Corners, NY 12514*



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2022 First Friday Program Meetings *COVID-19 rules of mandatory masks and 6' social distance seating*



FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 7:30 PM

Via Zoom

The New Deal Comes To and Transforms Dutchess County
Dr. Gray Brechin

Dutchess County was transformed by President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal work relief agencies designed to lift the U.S. out of the Great Depression. From fine schools to roads and sewers, parks, post offices, and works of art still used and enjoyed 80 years on, it's all around you but largely unseen. Gray Brechin will talk about the *Living New Deal's* ongoing work to reveal a lost civilization whose creator lived in Hyde Park.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 7:30 PM

Via Zoom

Film and discussion led by Gregory Edmonds

In honor of Black History Month:



Red-Tailed Angels: The Story of the Tusgeegee Airmen,

produced by the Pare Lorentz Center at the Franklin D. Roosevelt President Library and Museum, will precede a discussion

led by Gregory Edmonds, President of the Ohio Memorial Chapter of the Tusgeegee Airmen, Inc. The film was produced in 2006 and contains interviews with Tusgeegee Airmen who are no longer with us.

FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 7:30 PM

In person & via Zoom

Extracting the Truth from the Trade: The Delano Family at Home and in China
Talk by Shannon Butler

This presentation by historian, speaker, and writer Shannon Butler will explore the Delano family and its rise to fame and fortune as the result of its involvement in the opium trade in China. Butler will offer her insights about the illegal business venture, including the Delanos' experiences during the Opium Wars and what they did with their wealth when they returned to the U.S. Eventually the fortune trickled down to Sara Delano Roosevelt and her son, the 32nd president of the United States.



Warren Delano Jr., grandfather of FDR