



Spring 2016 Newsletter

Volume XXVI #1

A Letter from the Washington County Historical Society Board of Trustees

Dear Washington County Historical Society Members and Supporters:

WCHS membership is vital to keeping the history of Washington County alive. We ask our current members to reach out to people who you think would be interested in joining WCHS. We work to keep history alive by offering the following:

High-quality programs – The WCHS program schedule will expand over last years:

- Bill Krattinger will lead a church tour in May entitled “**God’s Architecture**” as a fundraising event on May 14. (See page 5 for details and reservation form.)
- June will feature two appearances by Civil War historian Mike Russert, who will lecture on the 123rd New York Infantry men’s return home after the war (see page 3 for more details about these presentations).
- In August, the Society will expand its presence at the Washington County Fair.
- A second fundraising tour will be offered by the Society in October called “**Battles and Brews**”. This tour will explore Revolutionary Washington County with visits to local microbreweries.

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Become a new member, or renew your membership with WCHS—see form on back page.

- The 2016 schedule will end on October 22 with our annual meeting to be held at Rogers Island Visitor’s Center.

We look forward to seeing you at one or all of our events this year.

The Heritage Research Library – The library staff is always looking for volunteers to help visitors with research in history or genealogy.

The WCHS Journal – We are looking for volunteers to help put together our annual historical journal.

WCHS Newsletter – This quarterly publication can always use volunteers to help write and edit articles for our members.

Exhibits – WCHS will need volunteers to man our stations at the Society’s caboose and the County Bount building.

Improved facilities – Our building committee could always use members to help write grants and work at the improving of facilities at the Wing-Northup House.

In closing, we want to thank you for your support by attending our programs, donating to WCHS, and/or joining as a member. Please consider volunteering your expertise at the Society by contacting us at wchs@wchs-ny.org.

Best wishes,
The WCHS Board of Trustees

**Washington County
Historical Society
Mission Statement**

*The Washington County
Historical Society is an
educational organization
dedicated to engaging diverse
audiences in the study and
application of the collective
heritage of Washington County,
New York, and its environs.*

- Rev. October 2005



**Heritage
Research
Library Hours:**

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Fridays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

WCHS has a constantly growing
collection of information, original
documents, and other items of
interest about Washington County
and its inhabitants, past and
present. We encourage you
to stop by and take a look!

If you would like to find out more
about volunteering to help with
the Heritage Research Library,
please contact the Historical
Society and let us know.

Newsletter Editor:
Kelly Mead

How To Contact Us:

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Fort Edward, NY 12828

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Email: wchs@wchs-ny.org



Greetings From Your President

As my term as President of the Washington County Historical Society begins, I would like to ask for your help in continuing the great work the Society does in preserving, protecting, and publicizing Washington County's historical and cultural materials. As in all community organizations, it is a constant struggle to run the Society's programs both financially and in gaining and keeping volunteers. If you know of a person who would like to contribute to the Society financially or by volunteering, please contact me or an advocate for the Society. In saying that, I want to thank each and every one of you who has continued your membership, contributed to our annual fund drive, and volunteered for the Society. For those of you who have been active in the past, thank you for your service and we hope to see you at one of our programs and/or our annual meeting. This year the board's project will be an historic calendar of major events which have occurred in the county. The board also will be looking for Society members to serve on a historic preservation committee to recognize the preservation of Washington County's historic buildings. Check out the progress that the Society has made over the past year with the design of the Society's website (www.wchs-ny.org).

The WCHS schedule for the upcoming year is exciting, informative, and will bring back some old programs. The schedule starts again on May 14 with an architectural tour in Washington County, entitled "God's Architecture" led by William Krattinger, Society trustee, who has 16 years of experience in historic building analysis with New York's Division for Historic Preservation and a particular interest in the architecture of Washington County. He will lead the tour through several churches in the towns of Salem, Fort Edward, Easton, and Cambridge. The Cronkite Lecture Series will be reinstated this year with two lectures by Civil War historian Mike Russert on June 2nd and 16th. These lectures will be about the return home of the 123rd Regiment's men after the war. The Society will expand their presence at the Washington County Fair in August with a revision of the slide show, as well as an increase in the number of books and materials available for the public to purchase. Please stop by and talk to Society volunteers about the history, culture, and events that have shaped Washington County. Another tour opportunity will be offered by the Society on October 1 called "Battles and Brews" for people interested in Washington County's military history. This tour will explore American Revolutionary sites within Washington County along with visits to newly forming microbreweries within the county. The 2016 schedule will end October 22 with our annual meeting being held at the Rogers Island Visitor Center. A tour of the Wing-Northup house will be available after the annual business meeting. We look forward to seeing you at one of our programs or events.

As my term in office begins, I look forward to meeting and talking with our members. I hope to see you at one or several of our programs.

Patrick D. Niles
Washington County Historical Society President

WCHS Calendar 2016

May 14 – NYS historic preservationist Bill Krattinger will lead an architectural tour of several churches in the towns of Salem, Fort Edward, Easton, and Cambridge. This tour is a fundraiser for Washington County Historical Society. **The cost is \$40 to members and \$55 for non-members.** Reservation form is on page 5 of this *Newsletter*, or for further information about the tour, call (518) 538-1235.

June 2 & 16 – The Cronkite Lecture Series will be re-established with two lectures about the return of the 123rd Regiment to Washington County after the Civil War. Historian Mike Russert will give two presentations – **June 2** at the Greenwich Library at 7 p.m., and **June 16** at the Bottskill Baptist Church at 7 p.m. (details on both talks are noted below). We hope to see all of you at both events which will celebrate the men of the 123rd who were willing to make the ultimate sacrifice for the Union. They came from every town in Washington County.

August 22-28 – Washington County Historical Society members will man the Caboose and the County Bounty buildings. Children are invited to come into the Caboose for a free coloring book. Adults are invited to our booth at the County Bounty building to view our historic slide presentation, and to pick up any of the WCHS handouts and to shop our books at the booth.

October 1 – Join the WCHS “Battles and Brews” tour through Washington County. This tour will travel through many of the American Revolutionary sites in Washington County. See where the American Navy was born, where the death of Jane McCrea occurred, the area of the Battle of Fort Ann, and the beginning of the end when the tour travels along the Baum Trail. The tour also will include visits to Washington County microbreweries. This tour is a fundraiser for Washington County Historical Society. **The cost is \$40 to members and \$55 for non-members.** To find further information on the tour, call (518) 538-1235.

October 22–WCHS Annual Membership Meeting with an open house tour of the Wing-Northup House. The meeting will be held at the Rogers Island Visitor Center from 10 am – 3 pm. There will be a guided tour of Rogers Island to end the day’s program. The agenda and reservation information will appear in future WCHS *Newsletters*.

Local historian, Michael Russert will present a two-part series of talks on the Civil War and the 123rd Regiment of Washington County in June 2016. The talks are co-sponsored by WCHS and the Willard’s Mountain Chapter NSDAR. The events are free and open to the public.



The first talk, **“With Heavy Hearts and Teary Eyes; The Civil War Odyssey of the 123rd New York Infantry Regiment”**, will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, June 2 at the Greenwich Free Library, 148 Main Street in the Village of Greenwich. This presentation is being brought back by popular demand (Mike presented it at our WCHS 2015 History Fair). It will focus on the history of the Washington County Regiment, as told in the men's own words, based on unpublished primary sources and accompanied by visuals.

The second talk, **“Grave and Dignified Pillars of the Community: the Washington County Veterans after the War”** will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, June 16, at the Bottskill Baptist Church, 26 Church Street, also in Greenwich. This presentation will focus on their lives after the War. How did the War affect the soldiers’ lives? How were the veterans treated by the government? What did the veterans do to preserve their war time memories? These and many other questions will be answered. This presentation will also be based on primary sources.

A free-will offering will be taken at both events and proceeds will go toward the Monument Project of the Georgia 28th/NY 123rd Volunteer Infantry Regiment, a group of re-enactors in Resaca, GA. This re-enacting unit is in the process of erecting a monument on the Resaca Battlefield in Georgia, to honor the 123rd New York Volunteer Infantry which fought there on May 14-15, 1864. This will be the first monument to the regiment anywhere in the Western Theater of Operations. A new book of letters, written home by members of the 123rd, will also be sold at both events to benefit the project. See the separate article in this *Newsletter* on pages 8-9 for more information about the book.

We continue our articles on the architecture of Washington County covering topics such as methods of construction, early builders, and architectural styles. (Submitted by Bill Krattinger).

Building Profiles: The Dr. Jonathan Dorr House, Cambridge, ca. 1799

The house built for Dr. Jonathan Dorr (1759-1825) at Dorr's Corners, east of the Village of Cambridge, remains one of Washington County's most impressive works of domestic architecture. Built in the last years of the 1790s, it is a dignified building of imposing scale, excellent proportions, and finely composed and executed finish work. In massing and form the building relates to well-established Georgian precedents, as expressed in its hipped roof, five-bay façade with central entrance, and interior center hall plan. Its finish work, however, is of a more progressive nature, and instead portrays the early influence of the so-called Federal style, based in Roman precedents and the work of architect Robert Adam in England. By all indications its builder drew heavily from New England carpenter-architect Asher Benjamin's 1797 book, *The Country Builder's Assistant*, while conceiving its design; this is apparent in comparing aspects of the building with specific plates from Benjamin's first and extremely influential work, the first builder's guide published in America by a native author.

The façade remains a virtuoso example of the contemporary finish carpenters—or joiners—work, and an excellent



example of the manner in which Federal-style houses were ornamentally “enriched.” Particular attention was paid to the detailing around the entrance and at cornice level, and additionally with the use of a central Palladian window at second-story level which lights the upper stair hall. The detailing, drawn from the example of Benjamin, is characteristic of the Federal style: intricate and finely scaled, it was executed in painstaking fashion. The treatment of the door and sidelights, referred to at the time as the “frontispiece,” is of outstanding execution and largely unrivaled in Washington County's architecture of this era. Fluted pilasters flanking the door give way to stylized urns which in turn support a classical pediment which frames the rounded transom light, while reeding of a most delicate character surrounds the door and the flanking sidelights. The entire façade composition bears favorable comparison with a plate in the Benjamin work, as do aspects of the interior, among them the marble

mantelpiece that frames the fireplace in the southwest parlor. The staircase, located at the rear of the center hall, rises to an intermediate landing before continuing to the second floor, its newel posts and balusters crafted from tiger maple. While some sources have suggested this building was built as early as 1780, this date is erroneous when one considers a number of aspects of its design. These include the apparent use of Benjamin's book, published in 1797; the house's timber frame, which appears to be cut on the square rule (and not the older scribe rule); and the fireplaces, the design of which appear influenced by Rumford precedents which were only being widely disseminated in the later 1790s. The master builder responsible for executing the design sadly remains anonymous, but may well have also had a hand in the design of the Blanchard-Williams house in Salem (the present-day McClellan-Gariepy Funeral Home), as these two dwellings share a close relationship in terms of the execution of their exterior detailing. Given the close association between Dr. Dorr, a prominent early physician, and General John Williams, who by traditional accounts saw to the construction of the Salem house for his daughter, Maria, and husband, Anthony Blanchard, this possibility seems all the more likely.

There is a longstanding account that the noted American architect Stanford White (1853-1906), of the architectural firm of McKim, Mead & White, took a particular interest in the entrance frontispiece of the Dorr house—so much so that during a visit to Cambridge he tried to purchase it from the owners, the Andersons, who ultimately declined his “temptingly large” offer of \$1,000. A gifted architect and interior designer, White was murdered by millionaire Harry Thaw at old Madison Square Garden, leading to the so-called “Trial of the Century.”



(Churches from left to right: Fort Miller Reform, Coila Presbyterian, Quaker Meeting House North, First United Presbyterian of Salem)

Historic Houses of Worship in Washington County: a Fundraiser and Guided Interpretive Bus Tour, May 14, 2016

The tour, entitled “God’s Architecture”, will be conducted on May 14, 2016, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., with all proceeds to benefit WCHS and its programming. The cost of the tour will be **\$40 for WCHS members, to non-members the cost will be \$55.** (To join WCHS and enjoy the reduced rate for this tour and other membership benefits—see back page to become a member.)

The tour will focus on five historic houses of worship that span the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century: the two Society of Friends meetinghouses in Easton, 1787 and 1838, both of which portray the architecture of the Quakers and which share important associations with early Easton history; the Fort Miller Reformed Church, 1816, a highly intact example of the meetinghouse type located in the historic Fort Miller hamlet; the Coila Presbyterian Church, a handsome brick building erected in 1834; and the First United Presbyterian Church of Salem, ca. 1797, which at the time of its erection was considered one of the more impressive meetinghouses located between Albany and Montreal. Join WCHS for this unique opportunity to celebrate the region’s religious and architectural history as manifested in this select group of area churches.

The tour will be led by WCHS trustee William Krattinger, who has 16 years of experience in historic building analysis with New York’s Division for Historic Preservation and a particular interest in the architecture of Washington County. Attendees will travel by bus between the sites, with interpretation provided both on the bus and on-site. A box lunch will be provided to participants.

Reservations for the tour, which will be limited, can be made by check made out to WCHS and addressed to WCHS, 167 Broadway, Fort Edward, NY 12828 with the information below. **(The deadline for reservations is April 30, 2016).** For additional information, please contact Pat Niles at (518) 538-1235 or by email at pdniles@gmail.com.

Name or Names of people attending the tour: _____
 Contact Information: Address _____
 Phone: _____ Email: _____
 Number of people attending: _____ Check amount: \$ _____

If at all possible, please make sure an email address is included on the check or note within your envelope so the society can contact you on tour updates and receipt of your check. Reservations will not be taken by phone; send a check with contact information to reserve a spot on the tour.

Established in 1940, WCHS is a 501c3 non-profit organization which seeks to educate and enrich Washington County residents by sponsoring programs and publications that illuminate important aspects of the county’s history and culture. Please join WCHS for this remarkable tour opportunity, the proceeds of which will assist the society with continuing its mission.

Heritage Research Library News

Notes from the Library

I miss the snow.

Our boiler is being replaced. Thank you to Pat Niles, President, and Sally Brillon, Standing Committee Building Chair, for setting up heaters so our pipes do not freeze and for conducting the business of such an expensive and important project.

I am back to being the Lone Arranger. Kathleen Lands (who was introduced in the previous issue of the *Newsletter*) has to take a course so that she can start her business, but she promised to be back in May.

Book Reviews

The Black Minority in Early New York, by David Kobrin, published by the University of the State of New York, 1971. This short publication is valuable for its comparison of the Dutch and English attitudes and resulting laws concerning slavery.

Sustainable Genealogy: Separating Fact from Fiction in Family Legends, by Richard Hite, published by Genealogical Publishing Company, 2013. Most researchers have noted the lack of accuracy of many family trees. Much of the inaccuracy comes from the desire to create stories – even myths. The following is from Chapter 1:

Every Family Has Stories

Every family has unique stories, some accurate, some only partly accurate, and some entirely fictitious. Although each story is different, there are certain patterns that consistently emerge in family after family. Certain types of errors in oral traditions are found again and again. Genealogists should always be on the lookout for them and research primary sources to prove or disprove them because all are important to genealogists. In many cases, the same errors happen in different family stories for similar reasons. The following list includes some of the types of information provided in the various forms of oral history that most often turn out to be in error:

1. Ethnic Origins of Family Names
2. Maiden Names of Female Ancestors
3. Relationships to Someone Famous
4. Relationships to Royalty, Nobility, or Wealth
5. Birthplaces of Ancestors
6. Military Service of Ancestors
7. Two or More Brothers as Immigrants
8. Associations or Encounters [w]ith Famous People
9. Native American Ancestors

Join Hite as he destroys the myths in his own family, employing techniques that any family researcher should use.

Thank you to all of you who support the Washington County Historical Society and its Heritage Research Library in any way.

- Submitted by Barbara D. Anderson, Librarian, BA, MA, MLS (ALA)

Memories of Mike



Mike received the Presidents Award at the WCHS Annual Meeting in 2015 for her contributions to the Society and the Heritage Research Library (with WCHS President D. Keith Truesdale).

Kathryn "Mike" Taylor passed away on January 16, 2016. At the beginning of December, we had a holiday party, the theme of which was "reunion," at Mike's house. We all had a wonderful time because Mike was a great hostess – as long as you stayed out of her kitchen.

Kathryn was a strong Librarian, both in her professional capacity on Long Island and her volunteer capacity at the Society. Mike automated a high school library on Long Island; her library was one of the first to be automated. Mike and her husband owned a vacation home in Shushan, and about 20 years ago Mike retired there. Mike was involved with the Society for over 15 years as both a volunteer Librarian and Board member. When she first began to organize the Library, she visited many libraries like ours to find the best model. She was also instrumental in making plans for a new Library about 11 years ago.

After automation of the catalog comes the population of the catalog. In the process of creating the catalog content, Mike worked every day of the week. In total, she created over 3,400 entries, using the original cataloging model. She established the vertical file system and arranged all items for storage. We have about 20,000 pieces in our collection in the vertical file and storage. I cannot over emphasize how important having an automated catalog is to a Library: we know what we have, and the catalog can be searched online. The solid foundation of the catalog and general arrangement will last into the foreseeable future, making us a great asset to Washington County. And Mike did all kinds of genealogical and historical research for our patrons, eliciting thanks and praise for our Society.

Mike was a high school teacher and held a Master's Degree in Library Science (ALA). Mike's talents, gifts, skills, wit, and personality will be missed.

- Submitted by Barbara D. Anderson, Librarian, BA, MA, MLS (ALA)

Mike was a friend, to her family and friends. She was intelligent, understanding, a giving and supportive person. She was considered a member of our entire family, siblings, nieces and nephews. We were happy to be thought of as part of the Taylor family.

In conversation Mike could offer new intelligent insights to the issue at hand, different points of view. She understood us, she could slip in a comment, mention something in passing, cause one to see a different perspective on what might be troubling, knowing us better, perhaps, than we did ourselves. As a friend she was so very accepting, so tolerant of careless, dumb or useless remarks, and there were a few.

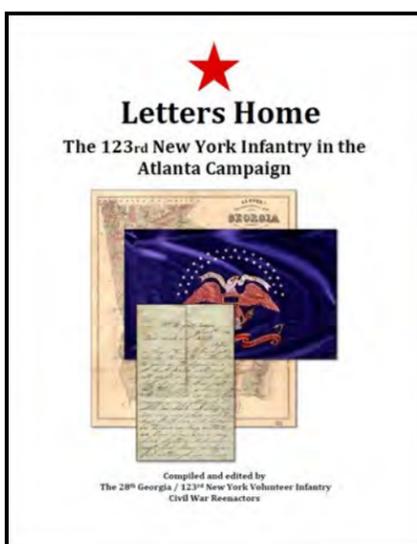
She was generous with her time and help. She was very supportive, and there for us many times. And, some for us were pretty awful times. Whatever the problem she just easily fit in and helped where she could be most useful. She knew what to do, and how to. It gave us great joy when we could make her laugh, and it was an especially nice when we hit upon something that gave some unexpected pleasure to her.

As one of our nieces said, "She was a neat lady." We are lonesome. Jack and I will miss her very, very much.

- Submitted by Joan Lowe

New Civil War Book Available

The book has been published by the Georgia 28th Regiment of re-enactors (some of whom also portray the 123rd New York Volunteer In Fantasy Regiment). Several years ago the regiment placed a monument at the Resaca Battlefield site honoring members of the Georgia regiments who fought in the Civil War. They then decided to raise money to place another monument at the Resaca Battlefield honoring members of 123rd Regiment. WCHS is helping them by selling the book as a show of support for this noble project honoring the young men from Washington County who were so far away from home fighting in the Civil War.



A new book, **Letters Home: The 123rd New York Infantry in the Atlanta Campaign**, is now available for sale. The book is a paperback, 8 1/2 x 11 inches in size, 80 pages, and contains over 85 letters and diary excerpts, plus 26 black and white photos, maps, and illustrations. The book is printed on glossy, heavyweight paper. Our group is self-publishing the book and are limited to a maximum of 80 pages due to the printing process. (80 pages is the maximum number the printing machine can push a staple through.)

The book consists of a short regimental history written by 123rd New York Adjutant Seth Carey and letters and diary excerpts that were written by numerous soldiers from the 123rd New York during the 1864 Atlanta Campaign and the March to the Sea. Many of the letters have never before been published. The letters and diary excerpts are in chronological order and detail the regiment from the moment they stepped foot in Georgia until they stepped out of Georgia. Since the letters and diary excerpts were written by the soldiers themselves, the information presented about the actions of the regiment is in their own words. We tried to tell the story of the 123rd New York during their time in Georgia as accurately as possible. It also contains the casualty report of the regiment during the time they spent in Georgia, as well as historical photographs taken by George Barnard during the Atlanta Campaign and several years after. Historical photographs of the 123rd New York regimental veterans' reunions are also included. A page is also devoted to information on Sgt. Henry Sartwell, who received the Congressional Medal of Honor for actions he took during the 1863 Battle of Chancellorsville.

All of the historical information included in the book was graciously provided by historians and friends of the 123rd New York regiment, including historical societies, townships, descendants of the 123rd New York soldiers, and people who have contributed information to our website. This book would not have been possible without the unselfish contributions of these people and we sincerely thank them for their support.

The book costs \$12, plus \$3.95 shipping and handling if you order it by mail. All proceeds from the sale of the book will go entirely to the 123rd New York monument fund. All book sales are considered a donation. We have a webpage set up to handle the book orders by mail at: http://www.28thga.org/unit_123ny_book.html



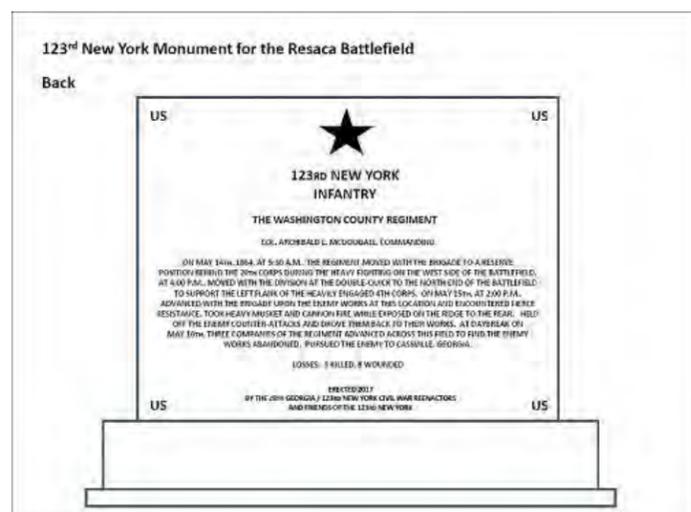
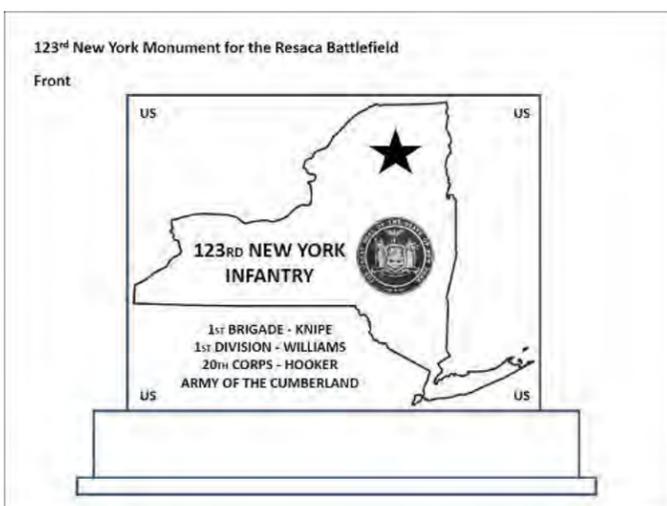


We now have an official site for the monument and it will be placed on the Chitwood Farm section of the Resaca Battlefield about 200 yards in front of the location of their lines during the fighting on May 15, 1864. The monument will be about 15 feet from the main road through that part of the battlefield. The field where the monument will be located is where elements of the 123rd New York crossed on the morning of May 16, 1864, to find the Confederate earthworks abandoned. We are very fortunate to be able to place the monument there. This will be the very first monument to be placed anywhere on the Chitwood Farm.

As of January 18, 2016, we have raised \$3,500 of our goal of \$7,000 from donations and local raffle sales.

(We have raised more money since then, but have not gotten an updated amount from our company commander. When we do, we will let you know ASAP.) We have placed a deposit with the monument company to lock in the final price. We are still continuing with our raffle sales and have now started our book sales. We also still have many descendants and friends of the 123rd New York to contact about the monument. If we can finish our fundraising by the end of this year, we hope to have the monument erected during the spring or summer of 2017. We will hold our dedication ceremonies shortly thereafter. An American Legion post from Washington County, New York, has already offered to send an honor guard to Georgia for the ceremony. Our 123rd New York historian, Bob Farrell, of Raleigh, North Carolina, will be the featured speaker at the ceremony. There have also been talks of inviting the Georgia governor to the event.

We looked at many different designs - and costs - and chose the following design for the monument. The images show the front and back. Much of the look-and-feel of the text was incorporated from the regiment's Gettysburg monument and we feel that it includes the information that the veterans felt was important to tell. The monument will be approximately five feet high with a base of six feet wide.



The Boiler Has Been Replaced at Last!

The Society has had many problems with their heating system during the last few years. It was inevitable that the boiler would eventually have to be replaced. In 2015, a request for funds was made to the Leo Cox Beach Philanthropic Foundation. In May, the Society was fortunate to receive a grant of \$3,000 toward the installation of a new boiler.

When our old boiler finally gave out on February 17, 2016, we called Tom Litwin of Cambridge, New York to do the installation based on his estimate of \$6,000. Large fuel companies had given us expensive estimates we could not afford. We had to raise an additional \$3,000, and were fortunate to have sizable donations given by Don Skellie and Tupper Limbert and Lois Ann Colaianni. The Society made up the difference with monies from the Cumulative Fund.



No one would plan to have their heating system give out in February, but we were fortunate that the weather was moderate. We kept our building between 50 and 60 degrees for nine days with ten electric heaters. Our new president, Pat Niles, faced his first challenge head on, he came nearly everyday to check the heaters and the temperature in the building. The Society is grateful to Tom Litwin for coming immediately and accomplishing the installation in a timely manner.

Paul McCarty also came to our rescue by providing a meeting place at the Old Fort House Museum for our February Board Meeting.

Thanks also for the help from our members, our flexible staff, and the Leo Cox Beach Philanthropic Foun-

ation for making this improvement possible.

Local Event News—Battenville Bridge Celebration



The community is invited to “Celebrate the Battenville Bridge” at the bridge Sunday, May 29 at 2 p.m. We are celebrating the 100th anniversary of this venerable one-lane landmark, connecting the towns of Jackson and Greenwich. And we’re taking a few moments to acknowledge it as a symbol of a time nearly gone-by when one driver allows another first-turn to cross, with a neighborly nod and wave of thanks.

For anyone who has photos, stories, and history of the bridge, please be in touch with Bonnie at Dionondehowa Wildlife Sanctuary and School in Shushan at 518-854-7764.

WCHS Board of Directors Meeting News

The Board of Directors, representing the Washington County Historical Society, want to keep our members fully informed. To that end, we will include highlights and summaries from recent meetings in each newsletter.

Highlights from December 28, 2015 Meeting:

- Incoming WCHS President Pat Niles presented current WCHS President Keith Truesdale with a card and gift on behalf of the Board of Directors.
- The Building Committee requested funds be approved for carpeting for the back room and it was approved.
- Programming for 2016 was discussed and ideas were formed to follow up on for the coming year.

Highlights from January 25, 2016 Meeting:

- WCHS incoming president, Pat Niles, started his term with the January BOD meeting.
- A moment of silence was observed in Mike Taylor's memory. She will be missed.
- Introductions by each board member around the table were done to welcome our new board members, Kathy Huntington and Mary Skelly (new member Eileen Greeley was not in attendance at this meeting).
- We have seen progress on our updated website for WCHS. It is a work in process but coming along.
- It was reported the 2015 Journal was printed and done, delivered to members.
- We are working on laying out a new brochure about WCHS to use at various events and venues to help with membership and PR for the organization.
- Committee chairs were identified for 2016.

Highlights from February 22, 2016 Meeting:

- The boiler is being replaced. Space heaters were used temporarily to maintain the house. This meeting was held at the Fort Edward Historical Association's Smyth House as alternative meeting space due to heating issues at the Wing-Northup House. We were grateful for them to use the space.
- Goals for 2016 were listed and discussed. More details will follow.

- This year is hoped to include increase in membership, more presence on the web and social media.
- We are coordinating a historic calendar we can produce and sell. It will include a photo and facts about Washington County towns.
- We are planning two fundraisers this year—the church architectural tour in May and a “Battle and Brews” historic site and brewery tour in October.
- The Annual Appeal is slowing down but we were happy to report over \$7,340.
- We have submitted grant proposals for some building projects—we will hear later this spring if WCHS is approved.
- A new diversity policy was created and distributed for review. After review, the Board approved adopting this policy with the others we have on file.

2016 Board of Directors

OFFICERS

President	Patrick Niles
Vice President	Debi Craig
Treasurer	Dale Grinnell
Secretary	Kelly Mead

TRUSTEES — 2016

William Krattinger
Nancy Jo Davidsen
Robert Kuba
Millie Mizerak

TRUSTEES — 2017

Justin Culligan
Eileen Greeley
Mary Skelly

TRUSTEES—2018

Kathleen Lands
D. Keith Truesdale
Kathy Huntington

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Building—Sally Brillon
Finance—Kay Tomasi
Nominations—John Mead

TRUSTEES EMERITI

Joan Handy
Agnes Peterson

WCHS HISTORIAN

John A. Mead



167 Broadway Fort Edward NY 12828-1709
Telephone (518) 747-9108

WCHS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

New Renewal

Spring 2016 Newsletter

Name _____ Date _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Telephone () _____ E-mail _____

Do you have an off-season address? (e.g. start: January; end: March)

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Away Date: _____ Return Date: _____

Membership Categories

<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$500+	<input type="checkbox"/> Family (#____) \$25
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$20
<input type="checkbox"/> Contributing \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior \$15
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> Student \$15

- I would like to include an additional gift of \$_____ for: Library Operations General Fund
 Please contact me about becoming a WCHS volunteer. Please send me a list of WCHS Publications.

Please note that the WCHS membership year is January 1 thru December 31. New memberships received after November 1 will be honored for the following year. Annual memberships and donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.