

Frontenac Historical Society and Museum

Summer 2021

www.frontenacmuseum.org
frontenac178@gmail.com

Historical Markers Unveiled



The Frontenac was again pleased to receive grants for two historical markers from the William G. Pomeroy Foundation. The first recognizes St Joseph's Catholic Church at 207 Genesee St. in the village of Cayuga. This marker has special meaning to us as it is the first marker secured by the museum for this village. The unveiling of this marker took place on June 19th in front of the former church with Mayor William Sherman, former pastor Father Ron Gaesser and Father William Moorby, current pastor of the local Good Shepherd Catholic Community, offering remarks. Thanks to Cayuga village resident and museum vice president Patty Hanford, who secured the grant with assistance from Marilyn Baader, Museum Treasurer and Deputy Clerk of the Village of Cayuga, and homeowners Grogan Ullah and Vera Jakoby.

The second marker, located in Union Springs, recognizes John Irving, Cayuga Lake schooner master, stonemason, artisan and craftsman. Irving is credited in his obituary with cutting the stone for Morrill Hall, the first building at Cornell University and other early university structures, as well as the Cornell Library in Ithaca. Irving owned marble works located on Basin Street and carved many of the headstones found in Union Springs' cemeteries. This marker has been placed at 13 Cayuga St., his residence from 1907 until his death in 1913 and home to his family until 1947. Pat and John Kimber currently reside in this home and were instrumental in submitting the grant request for this marker. The unveiling was held on July 28 with Mayor Bud Shattuck and Pat Kimber, Museum President, providing remarks. We were honored by the presence of Betsy Morrison, great-granddaughter of Irving, who completed the unveiling.



WAG 'N WALK



"The Ultimate Dog Lover's Event" held on August 14th was a wonderful success! The event was a one mile walk around the village of Union Springs with fun challenges for the dogs such as running through a tunnel, weaving in between posts and high/low jumping. At the end, the dogs received dog bones and the owners a grilled hot dog. 27 dogs accomplished the trail! Thank you to businesses who donated to the event – Max 200, Petco, MacKenzie Childs, Union Springs Supermarket, Morgan's Produce, Willehran Art, TUCC, Friehofers, Great Gully Cottage, LPW Development, and USCS.



Raffle A Success!

A big thank you to the community and visitors for your support of the raffle to benefit the Frontenac Historical Society and Museum. We also wish to thank McKenzie Childs for providing the beautiful and colorful platter for the raffle. It is with great pleasure that we announce the grand winner of the platter, Pat Deller, a resident of our community!

FRONTENAC MUSEUM TO HOST LOCAL HISTORY EXPERTS



On Sunday, August 22 at 7:00PM, our Museum will present **Walt Gable**, Seneca County Historian, speak on "Ties Binding Cayuga and Seneca Counties". His talk will include the following developments between the counties: transportation via ferry, bridges, roads, and rail; the Underground Railroad, women's rights, the Cayuga Reservation, and more. Mr. Gable earned his degrees from SU, taught school for over 30 years and is an author of various articles on local history. Do join us for a pleasant & informative evening.

On Sunday, September 12th at 7pm, **Mark Clymer** will present "Town of Springport 10,000BC," the archaeological evidence for the arrival of the First Americans"

Mark studied archaeology and geology at Binghamton University, receiving his BA in 1973. In the 1970's and early 1980's, Mark introduced electronic survey and data logging to field archaeology during excavations at Sardis, Turkey and El Mirador, Guatemala funded by National Science Foundation, National Endowment for the Humanities and National Geographic. His professional work involves the design and development of magnetic and optoelectronic sensing technologies. Mark lives in Connecticut but enjoys summer at his home on Farley's Point.

All visitors to the museum must wear a mask. If you do not have one with you, a mask will be provided. Please observe social distancing unless you are a family unit.



Zoom Annual Meeting-2021

This year, the annual meeting of members of the Frontenac Historical Society and Museum will be held by Zoom or in person at the Museum on **August 25, 2021 at 7pm**. Instructions on how to enter the meeting will be posted on the website and in an email prior to the meeting. Please plan to join us as we present the President's report, Treasurer's Report for 2020, recommended Constitution and By-Law changes, and as we initiate new board members.

The recommended Constitution and By-Law changes are noted on **page 4** of this newsletter.



ONE STEP AT A TIME

Two years ago this summer the risers of our grand front steps were carefully repainted, as they had peeled badly. Already this summer they were in need of repainting, and since the process is laborious, we sought an alternative solution to the problem. Composite materials would solve the problem, but are expensive, so John Kimber and Dale Katovitch installed one Azek riser, the bottom one, as an experiment. The installation was a success, and fortuitously, we got word shortly thereafter that the Metcalf Foundation had approved a grant for \$1000 to help cover the materials needed to do the rest of the steps.

So we will begin the process soon, from the bottom up, and soon the Museum will have wonderful new steps that will never need repainting! Thank you, Metcalf Foundation!

Fish Fry



Doug's Fish Fry will return to Union Springs on **Saturday, September 4th**. The truck will be set up in the Dollar General parking lot.



Photo of Dave and Elizabeth Bowman taken when they donated her father's (Allen Shotwell) WWII uniform and military papers to the museum.



Covid Remembered for History



Alexys Northrup, Victoria Powers, Alex Batruch, Kate Besner, Finleigh Biter, and Olivia Koffler

In February, a committee comprised of Pat Kimber, Patty Hanford, Linda Albrecht and Darlene Graham met to discuss grant ideas. While brainstorming, the committee discussed what the stress of the pandemic must be like for the students in our community. How are they feeling? How are they dealing with the stress? What are the particular concerns that are unique to the younger generation?

Not wanting to wait for a grant to be written, the committee decided to take the initiative and organize an event that would allow the students to express their experiences in their own words. It was decided that the Museum would sponsor a creative writing contest for students in the Union Springs School district, grades 6-12. The contest, entitled "Life in the Pandemic: A Personal Experience...What it's Been Like for Me." Students were able to submit one or more entries in the poem, essay, short story or original song categories.

The contest was announced to the local school and community in mid-April, with entries due by May 8th. Middle and high school entries were judged separately by a team of professional educators with cash prizes at each level of \$200, \$100 and \$75. The monetary awards were made possible by the generosity of American Legion Post 1107, the Union Springs Lions Club, and Eric Rosenkrans.

The response from the students of our community was amazing. Every student entering the contest provided a real and raw account of what their life had been like in the previous year. The honesty and generosity shown in their writing touched the judges and provided a new appreciation for what our younger community members had experienced during the year of the Covid-19 pandemic. The Frontenac Historical Society wants to thank each student who chose to share their unique experiences with us. They not only provided personal accounts of their life during the pandemic, but leave a legacy for the local community, as their writings will now become primary sources for future generations to read.

Middle School Winners

- 1st. Finleigh Biter
- 2nd. Alexandra Batruch
- 3rd. Kate Besner

High School Winners

- 1st. Olivia Koffler
- 2nd. Alexys Northrup
- 3rd. Victoria Powers

JOIN THE FRONTENAC HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Membership is key to our museum. We rely on members to help the Society run programs, maintain the museum, building and grounds, conduct research and store and preserve local history, artifacts and documents.

To make a special memorial gift, please contact the museum at **315-889-7273**.

Membership Dues

Individual Membership \$10

Family Membership \$15

Additional Donation \$ _____

Total: \$ _____

Please create my/our membership in the Frontenac Historical Society for 20 _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Mail Gifts to: Frontenac Museum, PO Box 338, Union Springs, NY 13160 **OR**

Access our website: www.frontenacmuseum.org and donate thru PayPal.

The Frontenac is a qualified not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization and your contributions may be tax deductible. The Membership year runs from January 1—December 31.

Recommended Changes to the Frontenac Historical Society & Museum
Constitution and By-Laws

The committee tasked with review of the Constitution and By-Laws has put forth recommended changes as outlined below. Both documents may be amended at any meeting by two-thirds vote of members present, provided notice was given previous to the meeting. Ratification of the recommended amendments will occur at the annual meeting held in August 2021 followed by formal approval and adoption by the Board of Trustees.

Constitution: Article III Membership: Levels of membership have been deleted as published on the current membership card substituting the importance of membership to maintain the facility and the documents within. Membership will continue at \$10/year for individuals and \$15/year for families. Any additional contribution at the time of membership renewal will be considered a welcome donation.

Article VI Election of Officers and Board of Trustees: The election of Board members will continue to be on the plurality of votes cast by members at the annual meeting. However, at the recommendation of our attorney, the Officers of the Board will be elected by the Board members following the annual meeting.

By-Laws: Article IV Committees: The *Library committee* has been combined with the Museum/Curating committee to become *Museum/Curating/Library committee*. All functions of the three committees will continue. Additionally, a *Buildings and Grounds committee* has been added with responsibilities for overall well-being of the physical space and ground management and maintenance of heating and plumbing equipment. The *Nominating committee* has been eliminated as it will become an ad-hoc committee appointed annually by the President.

*These changes will be reviewed with members at the annual membership meeting on **Wednesday, August 25, 2021.***

Frontenac Historical Society
PO Box 338
Union Springs, NY 13160

PLACE
STAMP
HERE