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From the Director's Desk

TOWN OF WEBB HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
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An INVITATION To Our Holiday Open House

On Sunday, December 3rd from 2 pm. to 4 pm., the Historical Association would like to welcome you to our second annual **Open House**. Come say hello to our hard-working Board Members and staff. We also want to thank you, our members, for your continued support.

Join us for some refreshments and visit our new exhibit titled "Winter Wonderland". Share with us your memories of how folks in the North Woods enjoyed the long, snowy, winter months years ago. Our exhibit features a history of our winter sports such as skiing, tobogganing, skip-jacks, ice skating, dog sled rides, snow sculpturing and sleigh riding. We have great photos and stories about Winter Carnivals, Ice Castles, Snow Trains, the Polar Bear Club and Olympians.. If you ever packed a snowball, or strapped on a pair of snowshoes – or just simply enjoyed the beauty and serenity of a winter scene, you will love this exhibit!



Snow Sculpture
 Winter Carnival 1947

Archival News



Ashley King indexing photo collection

In addition to greeting hundreds of visitors this year and planning several new exhibits, a great deal of progress has been made protecting treasured artifacts and developing better finding aides to archival material. New storage shelves and acid-free boxes were purchased for our archival room. Thanks to the **Adirondack Bank's** Charity Golf Classic contribution of \$800, we were able to acquire two large flat file cabinets to store over-sized photos, architectural plans and drawings.

Most of all, I am proud of getting the index to our nearly 4,000 photos automated. **Ashley King**, a senior at the TOW school, spent 18 hours a week

for 7 weeks with us this summer, keyboarding the lists. She also updated the indexes to our vertical files which have grown from 15 pages to over 30 pages. Ashley's salary was provided by the Herkimer County youth program. Thank you to member **Patrick Russell** for putting us in touch with them. **Judy Ehrensbeck** spent hours with us this summer, hand examining each photo for additional information that will be added to this database. Most our our research requests are for information from the vertical files and photo index, and the new computerized records have greatly helped our retrieval process. **Terry Olsen, Terry Bicklehaupt** and **Collette Parent** continue to scrapbook current news clippings. The computer was a wonderful gift from **Richard** and **Jane Knight** — and to all of you, my heartfelt THANKS!

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Sharing our Heritage

A major part of our mission is sharing our heritage. Despite a rainy July day, **Peter Shannon** manned the Historical's Guideboat exhibit at the Antique Boat Show at the Old Forge waterfront and handed out our brochures.



Slide presentation on Dr. Webb
For TOW Students visiting the Arts
Center's Railroad Exhibit

We also loaned photos and provided research to the Art Center for their spring exhibit on the Adirondack Railroad and gave two slideshows on Dr. William Seward Webb. One was at

the Art Center for the students in grades 4-6 from the Town of Webb School and the second was in Inlet for Adirondack Discovery. Many of you have commented favorably on the Express "History & Heritage" column by **Ken Sprague**. It is a wonderful collaboration that tells the story of donated objects, histories of families and places in the Town of Webb. My thanks to **Joan Armstrong** who helps with the research each week. Contact us if you have an idea for a story.

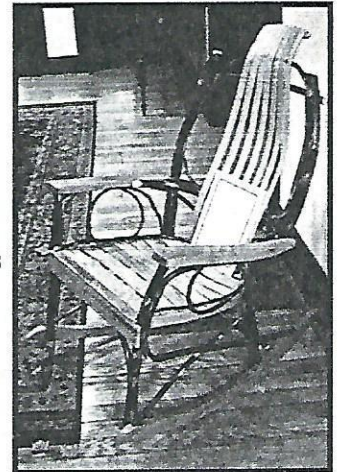


Parsons Guideboats

Dollars & Sense

Our goal to raise \$9,000 this year is within reach. A full report will be in our winter newsletter.

Thank you to everyone who has sent in donations and renewed your memberships. A special thank you this year to **Marge Bonnett** for a gift of stock which will allow our building committee to begin planning the 1st floor reference room off the kitchen-office. We desperately need the space to hold our meetings, have a place for volunteers to work, and to provide handicapped access to our newspapers & microfilm records. This is an important factor when applying for grants. We raised \$500 on our 1st Postcard Show in July, and are currently selling tickets for an Amish Rocking Chair generously donated by **Jon & Carol Hansen**. Tickets are \$3 each, 2 for \$5 and are available from Board Members or by calling the Association. The drawing will take place at our December 3rd Open House.



Memorial Donations Since May 1st We are asked to remember the following people

Aaron Norton, Maurice (Moe) Martin, Albert J. Dorris, Arch MacDonald, Arthur W. Miller III, The Axtell Family, Barton A. Cummings, Bill Santangelo, Bill, Laura, David, & Janice, C. J. Strife, Chester A. Joslin, Chris Seymour, Dan Murphy, Doris Denio, Dorothy Rivette, The Ehrensbeck & Wilcox Families, Eunice Hollister Jordan & F.W. Becker, Evelyn Russell, Everett, Sylvia, Frances & Katherine Hafner, Florence Hyde, George E. Gross, George Sponable, Harold Hollister, Harry Ball, Helen S. Kupiak, Herbert J. Flower, Ingeborg E. Mather, J. Elton Roberts & Fredica Beals Roberts, James J. Evans, Sr., Jay & Lelia Barker, John D. Foley, Joseph W. Braun, Kay Towne, L. G. Koker-not, Laurel Johnston, Leroy Deis, Marie Vander Veer, Mart H. Allen II, Maryetta Droz, Millie Wark, Mr. & Mrs. F.A. Dunn, Norton Bird, Philis Parson, Rita Dennison, Robert J. Coffey, Ron Soltys, Shirley Garbutt, The Egan Family, Tom Nahor, The William Christy Family, William Weedmark, Ethel Foote Wilcox, Jack & John Chaffee, and Marion Holmes, founder of our Historical Association.

Traces of the Past – Pioneer Families



In 1889, Daisy Sperry Glenn, with her husband William and six-month old son Earl, boarded a paddle boat at Minnehaha for the journey to Fulton Chain. They arrived near the site of the Old Mill Restaurant and transferred to a horse-drawn buggy for a ride to the Forge Pond. Daisy was suffering from tuberculosis. Her destination was an open-faced leanto on 4th Lake — lined with medicinal spruce boughs. Fighting back the tears, she kissed her tiny boy goodbye and handed him over to her sister Francena, who would care for him for the next several months. Francena and her husband Jim Higby were in the process of establishing the future Higby Club on Big Moose Lake. Francena's and Daisy's brothers, D. Franklin and Dwight Bacon Sperry, came to the mountains too. In 1891 Dwight was in charge of feeding the work crews who were building Dr. Webb's Mohawk and Malone Railroad. D. Frankin helped lay out the tracts, then later bought land on the South Shore Road and worked as an Adirondack Guide.

President Benjamin Harrison was one of his clients.

The Sperry-Glenn families had an enormous influence on the development of the area. Dwight purchased land from Dr. Webb and built the 1st hotel at Big Moose Station. Daisy recovered and she and Will went to work for Dwight at his hotel. Later they ran a store in Beaver River where the photo above was taken. Sperry L., born 1893, is standing between his parents on the porch. Hazel, born in 1895, is in the wagon next to her brother Earl. Dwight built the Glennmore Hotel ca. 1897, and later, with a group of investors, bought and operated the Eagle Bay Hotel. He went into the ice-harvesting business with Maurice Callahan, which provided employment for many people throughout the long winter months. In the late 1890's he was instrumental in bringing a telephone & telegraph company to the region. The hand-cranked phone, to the right, came from his Old Forge Telephone Co. office on Main St. It is a recent donation from Mr. & Mrs. Richard Myers of Thendara.



In 1901-1902, Dwight built the 3-story brick Glenn Block in Old Forge (The Woodmaker) and lived upstairs in one of the rooms during the winter. Daisy and Will Glenn lived there too and operated a general store & a bowling alley for many years. The telephone company was next door. Many people, especially young girls who later married local men, were hired to work as telephone-telegraph operators. Daisy sent her children to the village grade school but the boys had to go to the Boonville Academy for high school. Daisy worked hard to get high school classes taught in Old Forge. After two more bouts with tuberculosis, her doctor recommended she quit working in the store. In 1917, Will sold the Glenn and Co. business and moved the family across the street into the remodeled Youman camp — the location of the former Sporting Propositions business. Their daughter Hazel resided in this house until the 1980's.

This family history was researched from an 1982 oral-taped history by Daisy's daughter Hazel Glenn Sanderson and a family genealogy of the Glenn-Sperry families, donated by Greta Young Daigle, a descendent of D. Franklin Sperry. If you are searching your family roots, check our WEBSITE (www.masterpieces.com/history/) and click on the genealogy section.

Changing Faces

We bid farewell to former Board Members Peter Shannon, Terry Lehen, Jon Hansen, and Sarah Cohen at a reception before our Annual Meeting in May. Our by-laws require us to change Trustees after 2 successive 3 year terms. These folks served hundreds of hours and deserve our thanks. Terry Lehen graciously has agreed to stay on as our bookkeeper. Groundskeeper Glen Yates and wife Margaret have moved to New Jersey. What a great job they did! Jon Smoltz has taken on the work and had a leaf bagger on his lawnmower which saved us numerous hours of raking this fall. More on new Board Members in our winter newsletter!

Coming Events

- Holiday Bazaar – Arts Center, Nov. 12th
- Board Meetings – 3rd Tues. each month, 7 pm at the Goodsell Memorial Home
- **Holiday Open House, Goodsell Memorial Home, Main St., Dec. 3, 2-4 pm.**
- Regular visiting hours are Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 9-2 or by calling 369-3838 for an appointment.
- If you know of a friend or relative who would like a copy of our newsletter, contact us by mail or send them our website address. It is online at www.masterpieces.com/history/