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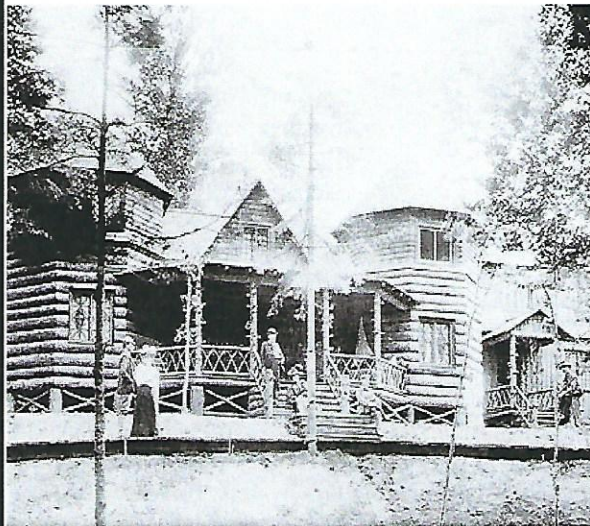
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Goodsell Museum

Local Adirondack History

Benjamin Harrison



Berkeley Lodge

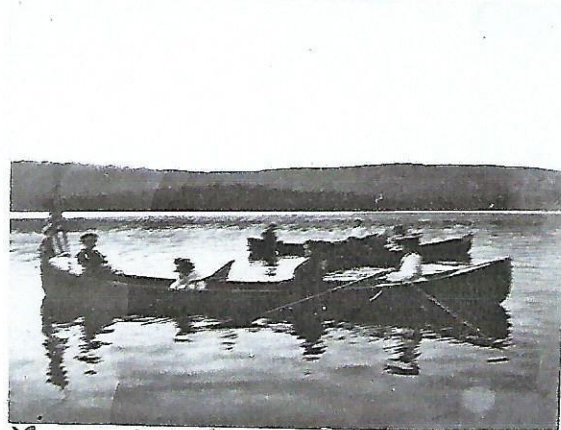
In 1895, Benjamin Harrison bought a 30 acre peninsula on the south shore of the Fulton Chain between First and Second Lakes. He then hired architect Charles E. Cronk of Herkimer, NY to design and build a camp which he named "Berkeley Lodge" after his family's ancestral Virginia plantation. The living room was flanked by twin octagonal towers. The exterior was sheathed with spruce logs on the bottom and shingles below the eaves. Attached was a wing containing the dining room, kitchen and office. The camp also had a bathhouse/gazebo, guides quarters and a boathouse.

In April 1896, Harrison married Mary Scott Lord Dimmick, the widowed niece and former secretary of his deceased wife Caroline. Mary was 25 years his junior. They spent their honeymoon at the new Berkeley Lodge. He wrote to a friend "I find grading, tree trimming and floating logs to the mill more enjoyable than the political canvass". Their daughter, Elizabeth, was born in February 1897 and was named after Harrison's mother.

During the years 1896 to 1900, the Harrisons spent summers on the Fulton Chain. They attended the Presbyterian Church, being rowed to services in the "Resaca", Harrison's church boat and enjoyed dinner at the Bald Mountain House.

In early March, 1901, Pres. Harrison contracted a severe cold which quickly developed into pneumonia. Physicians could do nothing to help and he died at 4:45pm on March 13, 1901.

After his death, Mary and Elizabeth summered at Berkeley Lodge until 1909 when Mary sold the property to the deCamp family.



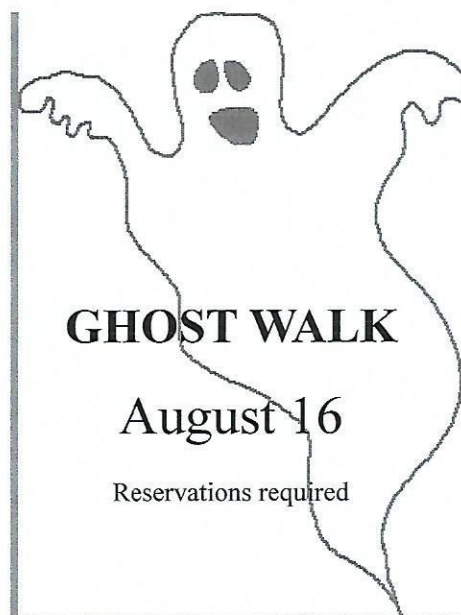
Ladies in the "Resaca"

From the Director's Desk

TOWN OF WEBB HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 513, OLD FORGE, NY 13420
PHONE: 315 369-3838

Summer Programs and Lectures on the Lawn

- July 15: The 1928 Diary of Lottie Tuttle
Town of Webb Historian Peg Masters with
Therese Capone
- July 17: Preserving Adirondack Stories—One
story at a time
Jay O'Hern and Nancy Best
- July 22: TBA
- July 24: Railroads, Robber Barons & Great
Camps
Chuck and Meg Higgerson
- July 29: When Men and Mountains Meet
Glenn Pearsall
- July 31: Benjamin Harrison's Guide Boats
Ted Comstock
- August 5: The Forge House 1870—1924
Charles Herr
- August 7: TBA
- August 12: Moss Lake Camp for Girls
Geof Longstaff
- August 14: Wicked Adirondacks
Dennis Webster
- August 19: The Search for Station 77
Peter Nelson
- August 21: Mysterious Corpse at Eagle Creek
Town of Webb Historian Peg Masters
- August 26: What's so special about an Adirondack Pack Basket?
Barbara Green
- August 28: From City to Camp: A railroad ride from Utica to Beaver River
John Taibi



Programs are free, donations are welcome. All are subject to change. For confirmation or questions please call the museum (315) 369-3838 or see our Facebook page or website:
www.webbhistory.org



Berkeley Lodge

These two dimensional
Wooden figures are great gift
for friends or family.

\$20 + Tax



MINI-GOLF TOURNAMENT

July 17th

Nutty Putty Golf Course

GET YOUR TEAM TOGETHER
AND REGISTER AT THE GOODSSELL MUSUEM

50/50

RAFFLE

TICKETS \$10 EACH

DRAWING: AUGUST 30
AT THE
GOODSELL MUSEUM

**GET YOUR TICKETS
HERE!!**



OUR MISSION

To preserve, protect, restore, and exhibit
objects and properties of historic, natural
and antiquarian interest from the Town of
Webb for the education and enjoyment of
the public.



**Help
promote our
Facebook page.
Share our link
with a
friend.**

We are proud to announce our new partnership with
Big Moose Community Chapel.

Listed are our summer programs that will be
presented at the church:

July 1- Steve Bick: **Loggers Among Us**

July 16- Roy Reehil: **Occupation: Adirondack Hermit**

July 22 - Peg Masters: **Big Moose Lake a Century Ago**

August 5 -Dick Williams: **War of 1812**

Programs at 7 pm

Programs are free, donations are welcome. All are subject to change.
For confirmation or information contact the
Goodsell Museum (315) 369-3838

President Benjamin Harrison's Inauguration Party

You are cordially invited to join

Doc & Judy Foley

Sarah & Linda Cohen

Mark and Susan Webster

Goodsell Museum

Thursday, July 31st

5:30 to 7:30

*A wine and beer tasting with hor d'oeuvres fundraiser to commemorate the 125th anniversary
of Benjamin Harrison's inauguration. \$50 per person (\$45 if member)*

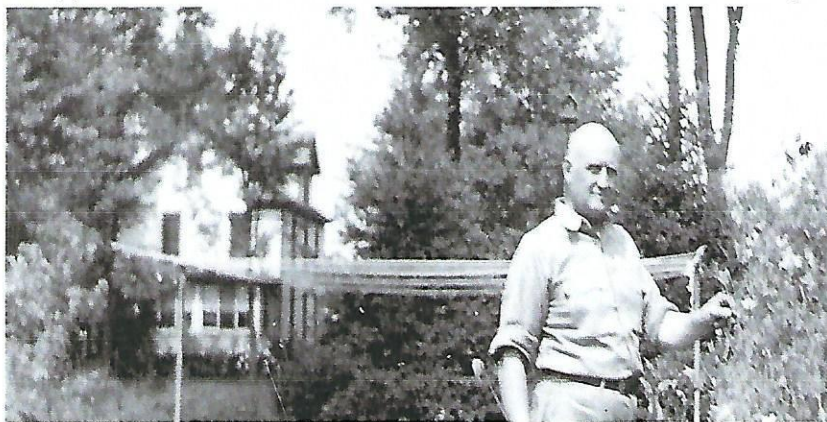
Library Trustee Extraordinaire – Walter D. Marks (1877-1872)

by Peg Masters, Town of Webb Historian

During a six-week period in the winter of 1879 while Emmett Marks (1856-1945) was the caretaker of the Forge House, not a single visitor trekked into Brown's Tract. According to legend, Emmett resorted to memorizing the contents of the only literature in the building – an almanac and an old newspaper. It was a luxury to find books, magazines, and newspapers in the Tract until the railroad reached the outskirts of Old Forge in 1892. But it wasn't until 1914 that a public library was established in Old Forge, thanks in great part to the initiative of Emmett's nephew, Walter DeWitt Marks.

In July of 1913, the Lowville public library was forced to close due to an outbreak of scarlet fever in the village. The building was fumigated and all books handled by families of the sick patrons were burned. Despite many obstacles that included health concerns and funding, Walter met that November with a number of Old Forge residents to organize a Free Public Library Association. William Thistlethwaite offered space for the library in his newly formed Adirondack Development Company's office at the Busy Corner. A supper-dance was held at the Masonic Temple that raised nearly \$300 for the benefit of the library. An unnamed patron from New York City also donated several hundred dollars and a nucleus of books was acquired.

The books won special approval from the library officials at the New York State Board of Regents. Fifteen Provisional Charters for public libraries were approved by the Board of Regents in all of New York State in 1914 including the application from the Old Forge committee. May Sperry was appointed as the first librarian. The book collection was put in model order under the direction of Miss Anna J. Phelps, a State library organizer. The original charter members were Rev. Benjamin B. Knapp, Maurice Callahan, Prof. A. T. Claffee, William Thistlethwaite, Gilbert Hoffman, Rev. John Fitzgerald, Mrs. Robert S. Lindsay, Mrs. Fred Woodruff and Walter DeWitt Marks who would serve as a Trustee and often President of the library board for the *next fifty years*.



Walter DeWitt Marks

Walter arrived in Old Forge in 1897. His grandfather Lathrop Marks was a sailor and fisherman on Lake Ontario near Chaumont, NY and the father of 10 children. Three of Lathrop's sons, Emmett, Walter D., and Aaron W. Marks became noted fish culturists. Walter D. and Aaron served in the Civil War in the 10th NY State Artillery. Walter DeWitt Marks was often called "Junior" because his Uncle Walter D. Marks also lived in Old Forge in the early 1900s. Aaron Wheat Marks, father of Trustee Walter D. Marks, moved his family to Michigan not long after his son was born in Mumford, Monroe County in November, 1877. Young Walter excelled at school, graduated from Ferris Institute in Big Rapids, Michigan and chose a career in the mercantile field after moving to Old Forge.

By 1901 Walter had saved enough money to buy a lot from Moses Rechbook on the corner of Crosby Blvd. and Garmon Ave. In April 1902 he married his sweetheart, Angnette Cramer, Big Rapids, Michigan. Walter partnered with Charles E. Wilcox in 1908 and their nautical grocery store known as "pickle boat" plied the Fulton Chain of Lakes for nearly three decades. In addition to selling groceries, Marks and Wilcox were distributors of SOCONY petroleum products for more than half a century.

In 1970, the library relocated to a building next to the Strand Theater, called Sassy Scissors today, a gift from Walter D. Marks. Proceeds from the sale of this building helped to furnish the new Moses Cohen Memorial Library in 1977 on Crosby Blvd. Although dedicated to the Old Forge Library, Walter served his community in many other ways. He was a charter member in 1907 of the Old Forge Fire Department, a 60-year member of the Masonic Lodge, and a long-time Trustee of Niccolls Church. He died at the age of 94 in 1972 and is buried in Riverview Cemetery alongside his wife Angnette and two children - Lucille Marks-Bisselle, and Dr. George Aaron Marks who was a distinguished surgeon in the Philippines during World War II.

Additional information on the history of the Old Forge Library is on display at the Goodsell Museum and many events are planned at the library this summer to celebrate its 100th year of service to the community. Glance directly across the street from the library on Crosby Blvd. and you'll see the 1902 built home of the venerable, life-long supporter and Trustee of the library, Walter D. Marks.

WE REMEMBER

Albert Bostwick in memory of A. Richard Cohen; Edgar VanderVeer in memory of Marie VanderVeer; Rolf and Jan Brynilsen in memory of Alexander Brynilsen; F. Eugene and Loretta Romano in memory of A. Richard Cohen; Linda Folsom in memory of Robert Lowenberg, Phil and Sue Freese in memory of Bob Lowenberg, Peter and Aileen Paravati in memory of Robert Lowenberg; Dr. and Mrs. Saul Finer in memory of Howard Slater; Barb and Doug Criss in memory of Jack Burnett; Sarah Frey of Burkhard-Evans in memory of Mary and James Evans; Arthur and Annette Eyre in memory of Robert Crofut; Suzanne Firsching in memory of James and Joyce Mulvihill; Paul and Sallie Holmes in memory of Marion Holmes; Jane Barlow in memory of Mark Barlow; Edward and Sandi Nathan in memory of Mike & Zilma Wynn; Betty Rannels in memory of Bob Crofut and Ruby Chesebro; Edgar VanderVeer in memory of Mark VanderVeer; David and Paula Weal in memory of Kate Wright; Elizabeth Gray in memory of David V. Gray; Elva Roberts in memory of Douglas Roberts; Mr. & Mrs. F. Eugene Romano in memory of A. Richard Cohen; Gilbert Smith in memory of Dorothy A. Smith; Fred Wilcox III in memory of Claire P. Wilcox; Tim & Jody Gross in memory of George & Virginia Gross and Dot & Ken Rivette; Jon and Linda Martin in memory of Wanda K. Martin; Leon Davis in memory of Bigfoot; Robert and Patricia Palmer in memory of Bette W. Palmer; Robyn and Jeff Craig in memory of Robert Lowenberg; Eileen Chaffee-Schultz in memory of Colleen Horton; Betty Rannels and family in memory of Kyle Riedman; Clarence and Marianne McDonough in memory of Jamie McDonough; Charles J. Wilcox in memory of Charles E. Wilcox. In memory of Marylee Amour: Mark Burstein, Beverly Choltco-Devlin, Joseph Manson and Alan and Margery Burstein; Robert D. Wilcox in memory of Roy D. Wilcox; Yvette Hewitt in memory of Marylee Amour; John and Margaret Hopsicker in memory of Joan Ward; William and Joan Waldorf in memory of Mary Lee Amour

In Honor of:

David Ehrensbeck's 2013 – 14 Teachers
by Fred and Judy Ehrensbeck

&

The complete and full recovery of Judy Foley by Ida Cohen

