



## Goodsell Museum

Local Adirondack History

### ADIRONDACK SHELTERS Shanties, Lean-tos and Gazebos

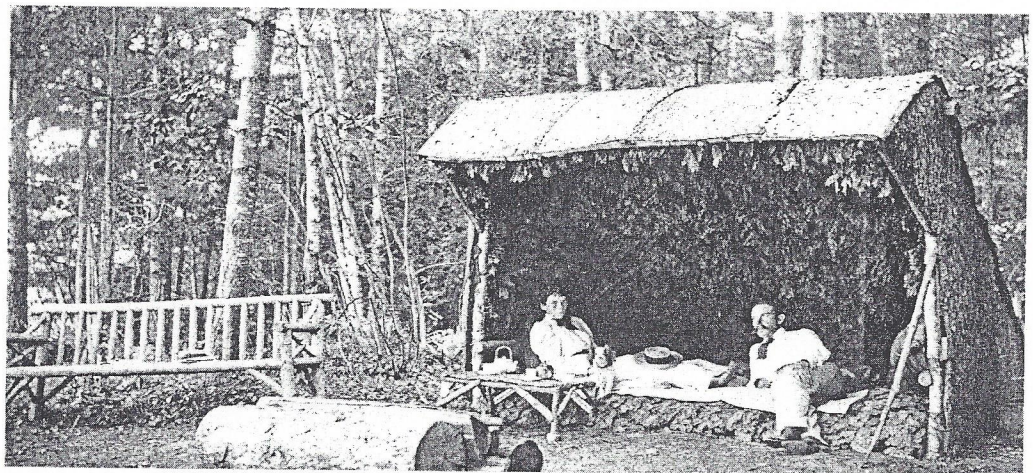
In the 1800's when sportsmen, surveyors, pot hunters, loggers or adventurers came into the Adirondacks, they stayed in any shelter they could find or make. With an ax, they could build a shanty:

“Cut young trees for struts; bark, limbs or cloth over the poles make a waterproof roof and then add balsam boughs for a nice soft mattress”.

Shanties could be temporary or four season shelters. Used for one day, a season or for years; upgraded as needed.

By the mid 1890's “the woods” faced a population explosion of summer visitors wanting to have the comforts of a hotel with the natural experience of camping in the woods.

The shanty became the “open camp” - a three sided structure with one side open, used for an evening's entertainment or an overnight adventure. By the turn of the century, most hotels had lean-tos and gazebos for their guests. “Lean-to” became the common expression for open camp after WWII.



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From the Director's Desk

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

# Summer Programs and Walks

## Big Moose Community Chapel Tuesdays at 7pm

- ♦ July 5: Prof. Nicholas Robinson: 1894—2017: New York’s Constitutions and Environmental Stewardship
- ♦ July 12: Lawrence Gooley: Escape from Dannemora: Breakouts, Tortures, and Violence in Clinton Prison’s Past
- ♦ July 19: Charles Herr: The Erie Canal and the State’s Largest Adirondack Land Purchase
- ♦ July 26: Peter Nelson: An Adirondack Revolution that Changed the World
- ♦ August 2: Geof Longstaff: Moss Lake Camp for Girls
- ♦ August 9: TBA
- ♦ August 16: Bruce Bonfield: Early Camps and Hotels on Fourth Lake
- ♦ August 23: Jay O’Hern: Spring Trout and Strawberry Pancakes
- ♦ August 30: TBA

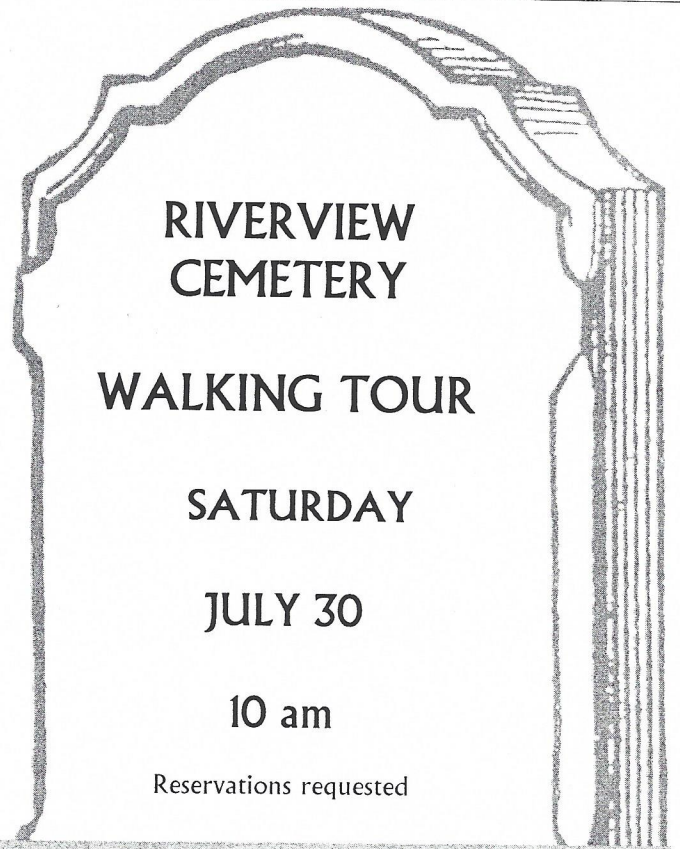
### MOSS LAKE WALKING TOURS JULY 6 & AUGUST 10



MOSS LAKE TRAILHEAD

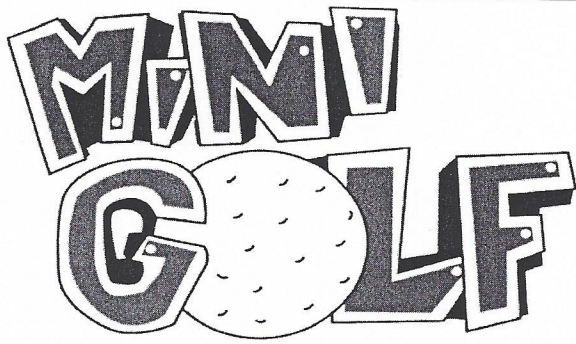
9:30AM

Reserve your spot!



Programs are free, donations are appreciated. 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](http://www.webbhistory.org)

# TEE PARTIES



## TOURNAMENT

GET YOUR TEAM  
TOGETHER NOW

## NUTTY PUTTY

JULY 21, 2016

4pm—7pm

\$20 PER PLAYER INCLUDES  
GAME, HAMBURGER/HOT DOG  
AND DRINK OF CHOICE

Family package: \$45 for 2 adults  
and 2 children (under 12)  
(each additional child under 12 is \$10)

**LOTS OF FUN PRIZES!!!**

### 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.

# GLOW BALL TOURNAMENT

9 HOLE

Saturday, August 20th

Thendara Golf Course

6pm dinner

8pm shotgun start

4 man best ball scramble

**\$70 per player**

Includes greens fees and cart,  
dinner,  
glow ball equipment





*You are cordially invited to a  
Garden Party  
Fundraiser*

*Thursday, August 18, 2016*


*Moose River B & B, Thendara NY*

*Together with Shelburne Farms, Featuring Webb Family Researcher  
Jerry Francis*

*\$50 non-members \$45 for members*

*RSVP: 369-3838*

WE LOVE  
OUR VOLUNTEERS



**Stay tuned !!**

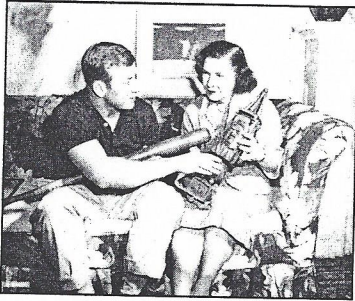
Please see our website or Facebook page for current information. As always, programs are subject to change (life happens!) and we have last minute substitutions.

Thank you for your continued support of the Historical Association and Goodsell Museum!

## Totem Poles in the House that Ruth Built

by Peg Masters, Town of Webb Historian

Babe Ruth's Totem Pole



In 1919, George Herman "Babe" Ruth Jr. (1895-1948) was traded by the Boston Red Sox to the New York Yankees. Over the next 15 years, Ruth led the Yankees to four World Series titles while dominating the league in most slugging records.

His legendary career in New York prompted sports writers to call Yankee Stadium "the house that Ruth built."

According to his widow Claire Merritt Ruth, the Babe had a totem pole that was given to him by a fan. It was kept in his locker at Yankee Stadium and rubbed for good luck before each and every game.

In 1961, Mickey Mantle was photographed rubbing the Babe's lucky totem pole while visiting Claire Ruth at her apartment in New York City. Mantle, a future Hall of Famer, played his entire career with the Yankees from 1951-1968 during which time he appeared in 12 World Series contests that secured 7 world championships for the Bronx Bombers.

When Robert "Bob" Goodsell suited up to pitch for his baseball team on Sunday, February 7, 1915 in Old Forge, he had no idea his pinstriped uniform would be one of the extraordinary artifacts on display a century later in the current exhibit at the Historical Association's Goodsell Museum. The game was played on snowshoes during a winter storm but an enthusiastic, good-sized crowd showed up and went wild over every hotly contested inning.

Bob played for the Old Forge Athletic Association team managed by Walter J. Farmer. His teammates well into the late 1920s included Burton Deis, Floyd Farmer, Lansing Tiffany, Clark Woodruff, Ken Hoffman, Don Case, and Jim Axtell. For several years, ace pitcher and summer resident Walter Huntzinger (1899-1981) played with the Old Forge team. In 1923, Walter was signed by the New York Giants and he pitched for the team at the old Polo Grounds Stadium for three seasons. He retired from professional baseball in 1928 when diagnosed with tuberculosis.

But one of the most intriguing baseball stories in the Historical Association files took place on September 9, 1962. Around a hundred people from the North Country boarded two buses driven by the Brussel family to attend a double-header at Yankee Stadium to celebrate "Old Forge Day." The Bronx Bombers' icons Whitey Ford, Mickey Mantle, Roger Maris, and Yogi Berra were playing their arch rival the Boston Red Sox in a hot race for the American League pennant.

On that day between games, Yankee manager Ralph Houk accepted a unique totem pole that paid tribute to their superstars Babe Ruth, Don Larson, Roger Maris, Lou Gehrig, and Joe DiMaggio. The significance of every detail of the pole was described by its creator, Chief Maurice Dennis (1908-1987) of Old Forge, in a televised interview with celebrated sports commentators Red Barber and Phil Rizzuto. The special event was orchestrated by Old Forge publicity wizard J. Perry "Pitt" Smith who seized every opportunity to promote his hometown.



The totem pole photograph above was spotted on E-bay recently and purchased for the Historical's collection. One of Al Brussel's vintage slides from that day confirms that the scoreboard flashed a welcome sign to the "city" of Old Forge. Another captured the ceremony at home plate with Chief Dennis in full Native American attire. Excursion tickets in 1962, incidentally, cost \$7 roundtrip for the bus and \$2.50 for Yankee tickets. What happened to the totem pole that was supposed to be placed on permanent exhibit at the stadium is still a mystery.

Companies big, small and everything in between match gifts. Most programs are not only generous but will donate to a broad spectrum of organization types.

Employee Matching Gifts are one way to help the Historical Association. Basically, a matching gift or fund is a grant an employer makes to match the employees' charitable contributions. Usually associated with corporate grant-makers, employee matching gifts often are dollar-for-dollar, but some companies will give double or triple the original donation. Some companies may also give matching gifts for employees' volunteer hours. This donation source is also available to most corporate retirees.

Procedures may vary with each company. Typically, individuals must submit forms to their employers. They usually can get more information about matching gift benefits from their human resources department.

Several of our members have already started giving thru their employers or former employers. Some of the companies that have donated to the Historical Association are: Exxon Mobile, GE, Oracle, United Technologies and Corning. We THANK all who have listed us for a donation through the matching gifts programs. Please consider this option when you are reviewing your benefits.

### WE REMEMBER

Frank Lesure in memory of Darts Camp, Robert and Margaret Brussel in memory of Helen MacDonald, Betty Rannels in memory of Helen MacDonald, Edgar Vanderveer in memory of Marie Vanderveer, Ron Christianson in memory of Mrs. Lucky, Dr. Richard Lindsay in memory of Robert N. Lindsay, Don & Marty Lawson in memory of Bob Lowenberg, Jeff & Robyn Craig in memory of Bob Lowenberg, Jane Barlow in memory of Mark Barlow, Albert C. Bostwick in memory of A. Richard Cohen, Derwin Jones in memory of Lora Jones, Deke and Carol Morrison in memory of Hank Kashiwa, Edgar Vanderveer in memory of Marie Vanderveer, Wilson & Dawn Tyler in memory of Alfred Tyler, Ron Christensen in memory of Margaret "Peg" Murtaugh, Fred & Judy Ehrensbeck in memory of Bob Lowenberg, Gilbert Smith in memory of Dorothy A. Smith, Tim & Judy Gross in memory of R.P. "Doc" Keeling, Margaret Hopsicker in memory of John Hopsicker, Billy Martin, & Bob Lowenberg, David Sperry in memory of the Sperry Family, Ron & Jill Hollister in memory of Dave Hollister, Gallery 3040 in memory of the Farmer Family, Elizabeth Gray in memory of David Gray, Doug & Peg Masters in memory of Therese Capone

### In Honor of

Dave and Lucy Craske-Long in honor of Kristy Rubyor

Doc and Judy Foley in honor of family and friends

