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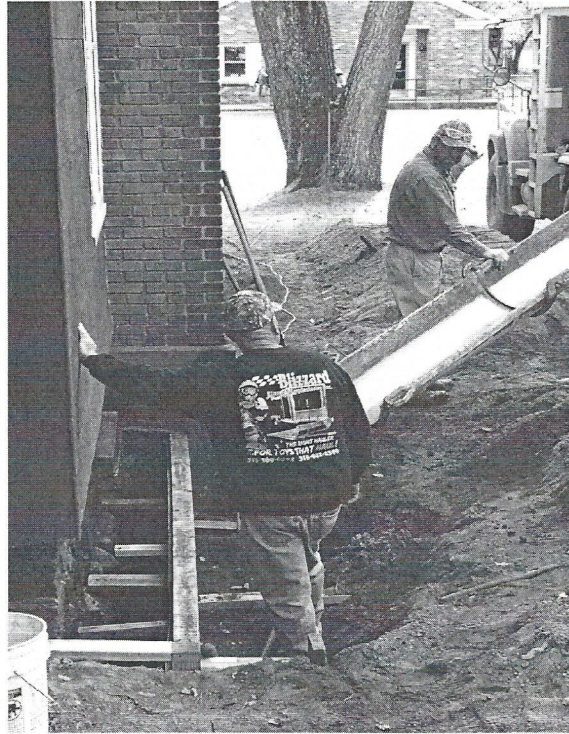
ADMINISTRATIVE

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Kristy Rubyor

Goodsell Museum

Local Adirondack History



THANK YOU

To the
Adirondack League Club
for coming to our aid.

Their grant thru the
Community Foundation of
Herkimer and Oneida Counties,
helped us with this project!

Willie Van Valkenburg (in the hole) and Larry Riedman work on the new retaining wall of the Goodsell home.

Goodsell Repairs


For generations the west sidewall of the Goodsell home has leaked and water has run under the furnace and down to the opposite corner. There are stains on the cellar floor that will attest to it! In our strategic plans, the Board had itemized the cellar wall fix, along with the roof and porch truss issues. With the heavy rains this spring and summer, the cellar wall fix became a top priority!

Of course, nothing is simple. The thought process was to excavate, water proof the wall and then regrade the exterior so that water from the roof ran away from the building. WELL...when we pulled the dirt away from the building we got a big surprise. The quarried stone wall that we thought went down past grade level really turned out to be rubble stone. Whatever cement or other material George Goodsell used to bind it all together was gone and the rock literally fell in the hole. The fix: a retaining wall was built to keep those rocks in place and the new wall was then covered with membrane to keep the water out, new drainage pipe was installed and the dirt was graded away from the building. We now have a dry basement in which to store some of our artifacts.

THANK YOU!

From the Director's Desk

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



NOVEMBER
IS
NEW YORK STATE
HISTORY MONTH
CELEBRATE OUR HISTORY
BRING YOUR
FAMILY TO THE
GOODSELL MUSEUM

The Goodsell Museum
is listed on the
New York State
Path Through History
Website



I ♥ NY For more information, visit:
paththroughhistory.iloveny.com
A Program of Empire State Development

Christmas on Main Street
November 24, 25, 26

REINDEER RUN
Sunday, November 26th
Starts at 1:30pm

Bring the kids before the start and get
antlers and red nose!



Glenn & Carol Pearsall Adirondack Foundation

The Board of Trustees would like to thank the Glenn & Carol Pearsall Adirondack Foundation for the generous grant. TOWHA plans to install two new computers and upgrade the network with Windows 10 software.

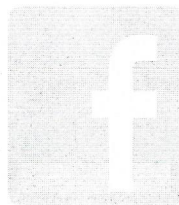
The Pearsall Adirondack Foundation of Johnsburg, NY is: “Dedicated to improving the quality of life for the year-round residents of the Adirondack Park”.

Selling sweatshirts at the Old Forge Farmer’s Market



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.**

**THANK YOU
BIG MOOSE COMMUNITY CHAPEL**

SUMMER 2017 PROGRAMS:

Jim Fox: Stillwater Fire Tower

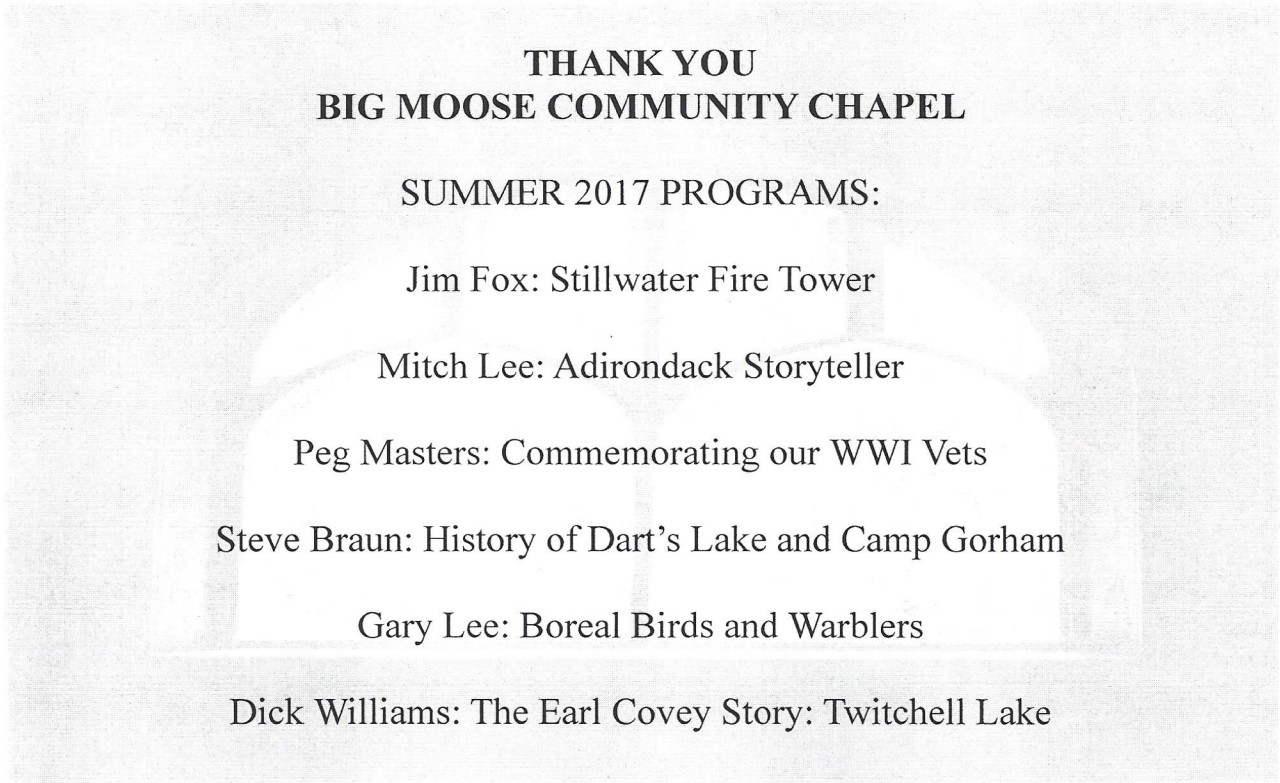
Mitch Lee: Adirondack Storyteller

Peg Masters: Commemorating our WWI Vets

Steve Braun: History of Dart's Lake and Camp Gorham

Gary Lee: Boreal Birds and Warblers

Dick Williams: The Earl Covey Story: Twitchell Lake



**THANK YOU
TO
STUART & JIMMY
FOR OPENING
THE
FULTON CHAIN
TOWN HALL FOR
THE FOLLOWING
PROGRAMS:**

Stuart deCamp: Thendara Historic District

John Taibi: Through the Years at Fulton Chain Station

Bruce Bonfield: Early Camp & Hotels on 4th Lake

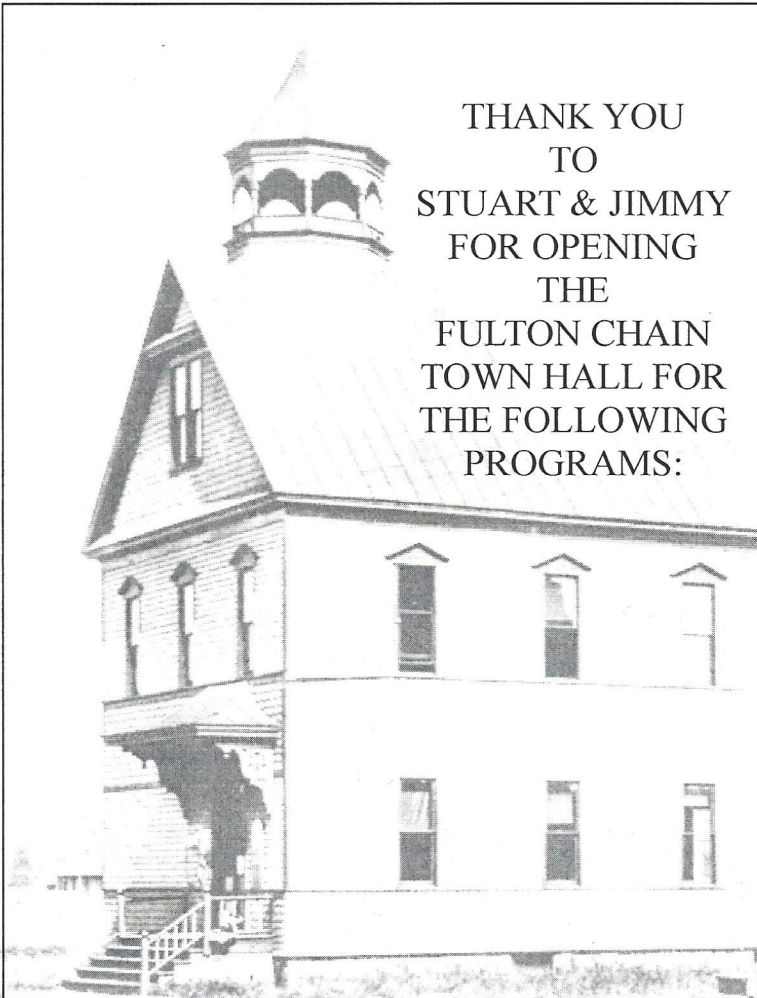
Ed Pitts: The History of the Rap-Shaw Club 1896—1940

Geof Longstaff: The Longstaff Legacy

Bill Killon: Verplank Colvin: Father of the Adirondack Park

Charles Herr: History of the Fulton Chain

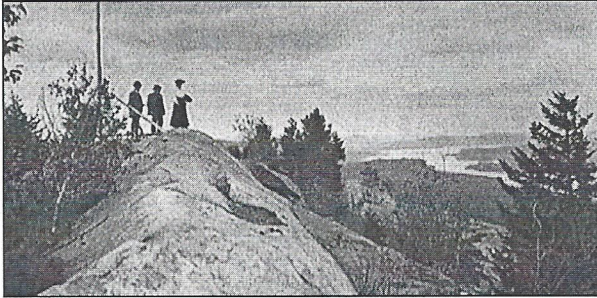
Melissa Otis: History of the Iroquoian and Algonquian Peoples'



Celebrating a Landmark Milestone

by Peg Masters, Town of Webb Historian

In March of 1891, Dr. William Seward Webb and several railroad officials were piloted up the Fulton Chain of Lakes by Steamboat Captain Jack Sheppard for a hike up to the summit of Bald Mountain. Dr. Webb was very much pleased with the landscape and predicted that if a favorable route through the territory could be found, he would provide train service to the region by the following summer. The magnificent views from the top of Bald Mountain have captivated climbers throughout our recorded history.



St. Louis hotelman Benjamin Stickney spent summers on the Fulton Chain for 30 years until his death in 1876. It was an annual tradition for the Stickney family and their guests to climb up Bald Mountain every July 4th to wave an American flag. Adirondack surveyor superintendent Verplanck Colvin erected a wooden signal tower on the summit of Bald Mountain to triangulate the distance between

adjacent peaks. Colvin's reports noted its name as Mount St. Louis in deference to the devoted Stickney family.

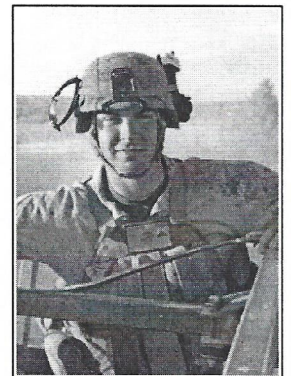
"Old Baldy" witnessed unprecedented changes to the region after Dr. Webb's first locomotive arrived in the summer of 1892 as he had predicted. Dependable year-round transportation triggered the growth of permanent settlements, the erection of scores of lakeside hotels and private cottages, the arrival of thousands of annual visitors, and an influx of lumbermen and mill operators. The grateful residents in Old Forge successfully petitioned legislators in Herkimer in 1896 to rename the entire northern part of the county – the Town of Webb.

Within a decade, waist-high piles of timber-dry debris from lumbering operations caught fire from spark-spewing locomotives especially along the Adirondack railroad corridors. Secondary causes of fires that destroyed tens-of-thousands of acres in the Park came from lightning strikes, careless campers, and settlers clearing land. The State's Conservation Commission Bureau of Forestry was charged with protecting the forest preserve and endangered towns. By 1917, the Bureau consisted of five district forest rangers, 194 local fire wardens, and 50 seasonally-employed men at mountain observation stations including Bald Mountain above Third Lake.

In 1917, the State's wooden lookout tower on Bald Mountain was replaced with a 35 foot AerMotor LS-40 Steel Fire Tower, the very same tower that stands on the summit today. During the last century, the State hired some 30 fire observers to man the tower until 1990 when it was locked up and officially closed to visitors. Thanks to a group of dedicated volunteers who worked with the Dept. of Environmental Conservation, the tower was rehabilitated and reopened to visitors in 2005.

Heart-warming stories have emerged from the observers and from many of the thousands of annual visitors to Bald Mountain during the past 100 years. Weddings have taken place on the summit, loved ones' ashes have been scattered, and scores of marriage proposals have taken place. Visitors come from all over the US and beyond.

One of the most poignant narratives is that of Marine Cpl. Kyle R. Schneider, of Phoenix, NY who died in Helmand Province, Afghanistan in July 2011 - killed by an improvised explosive device. He was 23 and twice a Purple Heart recipient. Bald Mountain was his favorite hike in the entire State and he made one more climb just before his last deployment. A new annual July 4th tradition was started by his family and friends. Tucked into the summit rocks is a small memorial to their fallen hero. Sometimes they bring a rock from Arlington Cemetery where he is buried or a photo of Kyle, or a poem and always a tiny American flag. Once they left a bottle of his favorite beer and his hunting knife.



Benjamin Stickney and his family would no doubt be proud of this patriotic tribute. As we commemorate the centennial anniversary of this noble landmark in the heart of our township, we anticipate a new generation of visitors will discover their own memorable bond with the historic Bald Mountain Fire Tower.

WE REMEMBER

Peg Masters in memory of Shirley Mearns, Ron Christiansen in memory of Don Murdock, Sandra M. Habberfield in memory of Don Murdock, Charles and Joan Wilcox in memory of Charles E. and Roy D. Wilcox, Nancy and Brian Kerrigan in memory of Bob & Bunny Bischoff, Jane Slack in memory of Wayne Marcotte and Joseph Zeosky, Prissy Lee and Alex Makai in memory of Wanda Martin and Barbara Wheeler, Ash & Lynda Kellogg in memory of John Denio, David & Paula Weal in memory of Bank Founders Carl Pfaff, Maurice Callahan, and employee Eunice Huguenin, Kate Ohno in memory of Shirley Mearns, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Sykes in memory of Jerry Olsen, Linda Cohen and Sarah Cohen in memory of Jim Denio. Scott & Michelle deCamp in memory of: Jane and Bud Kopp, Frank G. deDamp, Mary F. deDamp, Bob Lowenburg, Bill Martin, John Hopsicker, Dave Geiger and Tom Fox.

In memory of Bob Hadden: Lawrence & Judith Wright, R. E. & Donella Markam, Richard & Jeanne Blake, Susan Swain, Charles & Ellen Kreidler, William & Linda Keener Jr., Richard & Martha Widdicombe, Bill & Ann Burrows, Charlie & Olga Adams, Eugene & Christine Lozner, Doug & Corey Ralston & family, Kevin & Denise Hanlon, John & Sara Burrows, Michael & Alida Kendall, Steven & Miyanko Schanely, Brian & Karen Conway, Lucy & Al Popkess, Amy & Andy Sucoff, Stanley & Marcia Richmond, TA Associates, Cecil Smith, Linda Danforth, Ken & Hanna Smith.

In memory of June Kiefer: John & Deb Munyan, Doug & Peg Masters, Ann Garbarino, Shirley Lindsay, Doc & Judy Foley, Phil & Sue Freese, Deb Carhart & Ross Devendorf, Doug Rogers & Susan Eggenberger, Karl & Patti Englebrecht, Leslee Boissy, Sarah & Paul Morin & Betty Quinn, Jim & Margaret Vandelinder, Ash & Lynda Kellogg, Linda & Sarah Cohen, Robert Sauer, The Pelletier Family, Agnes McBride, Dale & Diane Heroux, Ron Debree, Mary Denn, Carol McCann, Lori Baister, Lori and Mark Eddy.

In memory of Charlie Kiefer: Linda and Sarah Cohen, Doug & Peg Masters, Dale & Diane Heroux, Faith Norton, Wayne & Joan Morgan, Kathleen Campbell & Agnes McBride, Ed & Heather Stafford, Ron Debree, Mary Denn, Carol McCann, Loretta Kaye.

In Honor of

Fred & Judy Ehrensbeck in honor of David and Ethan's teachers.

Doc & Judy Foley in honor of Tom Fletcher's Birthday

and Bill & Kay Komisair's 50th Anniversary,

