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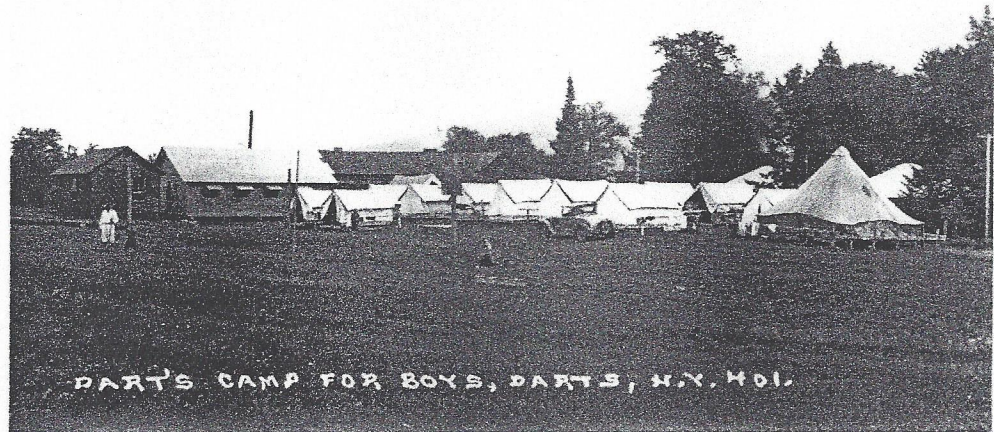
CAMP MEMORIES—YOUTH CAMPS

The Museum Committee is pleased to present the next exhibit to be showcased on the first floor of the Goodsell Museum. Opening on December 2nd, visitors will be treated to an interesting collection of artifacts, memorabilia, awards, photographs, and other items that tell the history of summer youth camps from the past and others still in operation in the Town of Webb and surrounding communities. This exhibit will run through October of 2009.

Through this exhibit, the Town of Webb Historical Association will show how youth camps for children from all walks of life often prepared campers for life experiences during their stay at camp in the Adirondacks. Emphasis was often put on instilling confidence, preparation for career development and community service. Competition was encouraged between youth camps in the area. Each camp often offered a specialized program. Some camps offered reading, biology, religion, music, drama, art, or dance. Some taught woodcraft, boating, swimming, forestry, mountain climbing, camp craft, archery, horsemanship or a combination of skills.

As a result of a positive camping experience, fond memories exist. Campers returned to the area as counselors. Often when they became parents, they sent their children to the same or similar camp so they could gain the same positive knowledge.

Our researchers are finding more information about these camps that existed from the early 1900's in our area to add to our files. We are grateful for the many people who are sharing items from their camping experiences to be used in our displays.



Holiday Open House—Sunday, December 7, 2008

Please join the Historical Association Trustees at our annual Holiday Open House on Sunday, December 7, 2008 at the Goodsell Museum. Many areas of the museum will be decorated for the Holidays including the miniature Victorian House donated by Linda and David Langlois. Refreshments will be provided, holiday music will fill the rooms, and new exhibits will be open for viewing. Chances on a 50/50 raffle will be sold and a silent auction will be offered. We hope you will stop in any time between 1-3 PM.

From the Director's Desk

TOWN OF WEBB HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
2993 STATE ROUTE 28 PO BOX 513
OLD FORGE, NY 13420
PHONE: 315 369-3838

Business Members

We are pleased to acknowledge the following Business memberships in 2008. Please note that in this area of many family run businesses, many choose to be recognized as Household or other level of membership support to the Historical Association.

BUSINESS GOLD

Enchanted Forest/Water Safari
Helmer's Fuel and Trucking
Old Forge Hardware
Rivett's Marine Recreation & Service, Inc.
Wilderness Interiors
Wilmarth & Associates

BUSINESS SPONSOR

19th Green Motel
Adirondack Bank
Adirondack Homes
AnDix Indexing Associates
Artworks
Best Western/Sunset Inn
Birds Adirondack Real Estate
Camp Danmark, Inc.
Camp Mark Seven
Candy Cottage
Centruy 21 Herron Realty, Inc.
Daikers' Inn
Dunn's Boat Service
Five Corners Café
Frye, Foley & Carbone Law Office
Georges Gifts/Liquors
Hannah Contracting
Moore & Hart, CPA
Moose River Trading Co.
Mountain Peddler
Northeastern Loggers Association, Inc.
Old Forge Lake Cruises
Old Mill Restaurant
Otter Lake Veterinary Clinic
Strand Theatre
StumpUgly Stump Removal
Sunset Nursing & Rehabilitation Center
Timm Associates, Inc.
Tow Bar Inn
Town of Webb Teachers Association
Van Aukens Inne
Villiere Law Office
Waldheim Inc.
Water's Edge Inn & Conference Center

Coming Events

November 16, 2008 — *Holiday Bazaar* Visit our booth at the Arts Center/Old Forge, noon-4 PM

December 7, 2008 — *Holiday Open House* Stop by the Goodsell Museum anytime between 1—3 PM. Refreshments, music, new exhibits

May 23 and 24, 2009 — *Memorial Day Sale* Avoid the hassle of set up, pricing, and staffing your own sale. Donate your clean, usable, table-top items (no clothes please) to the Historical Association to be sold to benefit the Goodsell Museum Fuel Fund. Call for pick-up or drop-off times.

July 11, 2009 — *Benefit Auction* to be held under the tent at the Goodsell Museum. Details to be announced.

Historic Walking Tours, Seasons to Remember Gala, Victorian Party on the Porch, program "Playing Indian at Adirondack Children's Camps", and several other events are in the planning stages and will be announced soon.

ENDOWMENT DONATION

Dorothy Longstaff, the widow of Dr. George H. Longstaff of Eagle Bay, made a substantial donation to the Historical Association's endowment fund held at the Community Foundation of Herkimer and Oneida Counties, Inc. Interest from the donation is to be used for the perpetual upkeep of the Moss Lake Camp for Girls sign, located at the entrance to the Moss Lake trail on Big Moose Road.

Moss Lake Camp for Girls began operation in 1923 under the ownership and leadership of Dr. Longstaff. It operated as a girl's camp until 1972. In 1992, the camp alumnae commissioned a sign to provide information regarding the camp so that current and future visitors would know a little of Moss Lake's history. The alumnae, in conjunction with "Adirondack Discovery", the Department of Environmental Conservation and the Adirondack Interpretive Centers of the State of New York, erected the sign. A dedication was held in July of 1992 with Dr. and Mrs. Longstaff and representatives of the Moss Lake Camp alumnae in attendance.

Garden Tea and Flower Show

The White House Inn Bed and Breakfast at 2945 State Route 28 in Old Forge was the location of a lovely gathering of friends and guests of the Town of Webb Historical Association on July 15th. Committee members and Susan Kiesel, chairperson for the fundraiser, placed a variety of flower arrangements throughout the beautifully decorated and inviting Inn. To add interest to the afternoon, guests were invited to choose their favorite arrangement. First Place was awarded to Deb Munyan of Okara Lakes, a tie for Second Place went to Susan Kiesel of Sauquoit and Old Forge, and Ann Yu Rigby of Raquette Lake and Connecticut.

A silent auction of selected arrangements raised additional money for the general operation of the Goodsell Museum. Volunteers provided an interesting selection of delicious refreshments and variety of beverages.

Many thanks go to Margaret Haynes for providing the location and first place prize, and to Holly Woodworking and Mountain Greenery for gift certificates for additional prizes.

IL[♥]VEOLDFORGE.COM
Where To See What's Goin' On

VOLUNTEERS

The Historical Association wishes to thank our many volunteers and invite others to come help.

If you like to talk to people, love the history of our area, like to work with your hands, like to type, do research or organize closets, we can use your help. A few hours here or there would be appreciated. There are lots of projects started that need finishing.

Goodsell Memorial Home Museum

2993 Main Street—Old Forge

OPEN: Tuesday—Saturday

10 AM– 3 PM or by Appointment

315-369-3838

www.webbhistory.org

Collecting Oral Histories

The Historical Association held several “Round Table Remembrances” in the past in an effort to collect the stories of our residences interested in sharing their stories. It became apparent quickly that our tape recorder was inadequate to record the conversations clearly. We have since researched appropriate equipment to capture the highest quality oral histories at reasonable costs and now know what we need to purchase. We have studied techniques and methods and have identified paperwork needed to collect permission to make the recordings available for research. Advice from historians and others have been collected. Lists of possible contacts have been started. Soon we hope to begin interviews.

We are looking for a couple people to help us collect oral histories. If you are interested, we would like to hear from you. After a short training session, appointments will be made and we can begin this very important part of our mission. Please call if you want to help or if you have some stories to share. Phone 315-369-3838 or email director@webbhistory.org.

Okara Lakes and the Architecture of H. Van Buren Magonigle

Marion Hannan (Mimi) of Okara Lakes, Peg Masters our Town of Webb Historian, Stuart deCamp of Thendara, the staff of the Historical Association and many other people contributed to the development of a new tour that was offered by Adirondack Architectural Heritage (AARCH) on July 26, 2008.

This tour sold out quickly. Participants met at the Moose River House Bed and Breakfast for introductions and a brief history of the deCamp connection with Ga-Wan-Ka Inc. and information about New York architect H. Van Buren Magonigle hired to design the Japanese-style cottages and buildings for the Ga-Wan-Ka development that surrounded Lakes Easka and Tekeni. Much research was done and a lot of information was added to our extensive files housed at the Historical Association and also used for the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Okara Lakes Association held on August 9th.

For more information about Adirondack Architectural Heritage visit their website at www.aarch.org or phone 518-834-9328.

Map Project

As a result of a donation of a large collection of maps from the office of the late A. Richard Cohen, the Community Foundation of Herkimer and Oneida Counties, Inc. was asked for help in the form of a grant. This important historical collection of maps and blueprints needed to be sorted, accessioned, and preserved properly as soon as possible to avoid damage or deterioration of the paper.

The Community Foundation awarded a grant from the Wesley & Marion Small Fund in the amount of \$7800 to pay interns to complete this unexpected project. A portion of this grant was also used to purchase map cabinets that will house these maps in the Research Room of the Goodsell Museum for use by visitors, members, and researchers.

Much work has already been completed. Each map has been measured, identified, and placed into groups. The information about each map is currently being entered into our computer. Each map will be placed in a protective sleeve for ease of handling and protection and filed in the drawers of the map cabinets. When completed, the maps will be found on the computer by identifying search terms.

The Historical Association is very grateful for this grant that will allow the staff to continue with the day-to-day operation of business as they oversee the interns working on the special temporary project.

Barn and Ice House Restoration Project

A matching grant of \$37,000 was awarded to the Town of Webb Historical Association through the New York State Barns Preservation and Restoration Program in December, 2006. Work is almost complete.. New barn doors made to slide side-to-side on existing barn hardware will soon be installed to finish the work on the barn on the Goodsell Property. Work already completed includes new metal roof, foundation and roof stabilization and barn floor restoration.

Restoration work completed on the ice house includes a new foundation and standing seam metal roof. Ice harvesting displays will eventually be mounted in the building.

Legislative Initiative Received to Help with Energy Conservation Projects

The third request was the charm. The Trustees did not give up their hopes for securing monies to help the organization improve the insulation in the Goodsell Museum and replace an older furnace in the Hemmer Cottage with an energy efficient model and other small projects if possible.

Word was received in August from State Senator James L. Seward that \$15,000 was made available to the Town of Webb Historical Association to use on energy efficiency projects needed to improve the buildings owned by the Historical Association.

Perkins Plumbing and Heating has already replaced the furnace at Hemmer Cottage and John DeVoldre, our Facilities Manager has installed a motion detector light at the Hemmer side door to allow for safe entrance to the building.

Insulation will be added to the Goodsell attic as soon as contracts are signed and agreements made. It is hoped this insulation will reduce heating bills, prevent large build-up of roof ice in winter, and provide additional storage space for artifacts and supplies in the attic.

Wish List

You can help this organization by donating items needed to help us continue our work at the Goodsell Museum. Below is a short list of some items needed. Please call us if you can help or have questions.

1. Vacuum Cleaner—new, upright, with on-board tools and a hepa filter (or a monetary donation and we will purchase).
2. Sturdy, strong, metal shelving (or a monetary donation earmarked for shelving).
3. Books—any new or used book with Adirondack subjects to add to our collection of research material.
Specifically:
Hides, Hemlocks, and Adirondack History, by Barbara McMartin
Nehasane Fire Observer, by Frances Boone Seaman
4. Benefit Auction items for July, 2009
5. Memorial Day 2009 sale items (table-top garage sale)

Thank You!

Our Lady of the Woods

by Peg Masters, Town of Webb Historian

A frequent visitor for more than two decades a century ago to the lumber camps surrounding the Fulton Chain of Lakes was a diminutive black-robed Franciscan nun named Sister Mary Dolorosa. Margaret Dorn was born in Bavaria, Germany in 1843 and immigrated with her parents John and Magdalena Dorn to Philadelphia a decade later. In 1866, she followed her two older siblings into the order named for St. Francis of Assisi and assumed the name Sister Dolorosa. A short time later she joined the order's nursing staff at St. Elizabeth's hospital located on Columbia St. in Utica in those days.

A fifty-year member of the order, Sister Regina, reflected back on Sister Dolorosa's contributions to the hospital's history in a 1966 article. *"The sisters and the hospital were very poor. In between ministering to the patients, to scrubbing, cooking, and praying, the sisters would visit the farms to ask for donations. Patients too often paid in produce."* Always on the lookout for revenue sources, Sister Dolorosa began frequenting the lumber camps in 1894 to solicit alms. She and a companion would flag down a ride on a railcar to Raquette Lake where they would stay with the Dillon or Callahan families. They moved from camp to camp in the brisk winter weather on a horse-drawn sled. The *"diamonds in the rough,"* greeted the sisters warmly, shared family stories, prayed, and were handed scapulas and religious medals. The generosity of the men was never forgotten. Any lumberjack unable to pay for hospital care at St. Elizabeth's was always treated tenderly and without cost according to Sister Regina's story.

In 1920, Sister Dolorosa began a new ministry by acquiring the 9-room Milo Leitch cottage near the head of Fourth Lake to open *"Our Lady of the Woods"* camp for disadvantaged girls. The camp accommodated 40-50 "fresh-air" children during July and August and also served as a convent retreat for the Franciscan sisters. A beautiful chapel was erected in 1923 on the site through the generosity of several Utica supporters. Sister Dolorosa's remarkable sixty-years of charitable service to the region's afflicted and disadvantaged ended with her death in October of 1926.

2008 photo at Camp Nazareth
Our Lady of the Woods Statue



ago, *"Our Lady of the Woods,"* still stands today under the lakeshore pine trees.

The Historical Association's new exhibit, *CAMP MEMORIES – YOUTH CAMPS*, highlights the founders, employees, and khaki-clad youngsters' camping experiences along our lakeshores, riverbanks, and woodlands that enriched their lives with lifelong friendships, strengthened their physical and mental wellbeing, and created an enduring appreciation for our Adirondack wilderness. Additional information will be posted throughout this year on our website: www.webbhistory.org.



Camp Assisium--Leitch cottage courtesy of Malio J. Cardarelli

Her vision for the Catholic children's camp on Fourth Lake gained new momentum in 1927 when the site was purchased by Bishop Daniel Curley from the Dioceses of Syracuse, expanded to include boys, and renamed Camp Assisium in honor of St. Francis. At that time, three small cottages and the chapel building surrounded the main lodge on the 2 ½ acre plot that stretched from a 300 ft. sandy shoreline to the new State Highway. Under the direction of Utica's Catholic Charities Director Rev. Joseph L. May, the camp was expanded the following year to include a new recreational hall, a dining room, and a building to house lavatories. More cabins were added in 1936.

Thousands of children enjoyed recreational vacations at the camp for several decades until the Dioceses decided to purchase a larger property closer to Utica in 1953. The site selected was a 400-acre former Jewish Camp on Little Long Lake near Woodgate, NY and Camp Assisium was renamed Camp Nazareth. The following year, a 1,500 pound statue carved from Italian carrara marble was erected in a rustic cobblestone shoreline garden. The Madonna patron of the camp, named more than a half-century

MEMORIALS

The Town of Webb Historical Association is grateful to the many members and non-members who choose to remember the lives of loved ones with memorials to our organization. The names below reflect donations from April 16 — October 31, 2008

In memory of Lois Barnum Luther: Sue and Rick Wilson, Stephen and Barbara Barnum, Deborah Cardella and Friends of Thomas Luther, David and Paula Weal, Peter and Joanne Sabino, Cynthia Hill, Nancy Rand, Patricia Martinelli, Theo Lafferty, Benna and Doug Eldridge, Linda Cohen, Mike and Mary Jo Katon; in memory of Fredrick Parsons: Linda Nelson, Christopher and Kimberly McNally, Richard and Gail Lewis, Virginia Caramadre, Ruth Mundschenk, Karen Donaldson, Judith Palumbo, Penelope Hotaling, Anne Coughlin, and Terry and Robyn Doolen, Patricia Mundschenk, Susan McNally; in memory of Clayton Villiere: David and Paula Weal, Linda Cohen; in memory of Irene Simon, Clifford Simon; in memory of Wanda Martin, Pricilla Lee.

Grants

The Historical Association strives to meet its budget each year by raising funds from many places. Memberships, donations, fundraising, and interest from savings (not this year!) are our main sources. We also seek grants from other sources whenever possible.

Recently, we received a Go! Grant from the New York State Council of the Arts administered by Upstate History Alliance to send the director to a workshop on "Interpreting Historic Spaces".

In September, a grant from the A. Richard Cohen Family Fund, a donor advised fund of the Community Foundation of Herkimer and Oneida Counties, Inc. was received to help with operating expenses.

Not-for-profits in the Town of Webb are also very fortunate to have an opportunity to apply for grant money from the Town of Webb Fund of the Community Foundation. The Historical Association was awarded a grant from this fund to help with preservation of important collections and other expenses in July.

Decisions on two other grants are still pending and the staff plans to submit paperwork for a grant due in December.

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