

# NORTH COUNTRY NOTES

Issued Monthly by the Clinton County Historical Association

48 Court Street, Plattsburgh NY 12901, 518-561-0340

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OCTOBER

The usual October meeting will be waived to accommodate our annual dinner scheduled on Saturday, October 23. Co-sponsored by the History Department at SUNY Plattsburgh, the event will be held in the Centennial Room at State University College, Plattsburgh. A cash bar will be available at 6:00 p.m. and dinner will begin at 7:00 p.m. Please see an insert which lists the menu and includes a tear-off order form. Reservations and payment must be received by Wednesday, October 20.

Our featured speaker is Dr. William Tramosch, president of the New York State Historical Association at Cooperstown. We look forward to hearing Dr. Tramosch discuss one of the state's most interesting museum complexes which includes Fenimore House with its wonderful collections of folk art and the ever popular Farmers' Museum.

## BRINGING HISTORY ALIVE

On Saturday, September 18 the Association participated in "Friends Across The Border", a community project designed to highlight our close relationship with Canada. CCHA collaborated with Jim Bailey, city historian, to schedule two walking tours of Plattsburgh complete with costumed actors who impersonated historical personages in the city's history. Bring Betsey Delord to life at the Kent-Delord House was Judy Heintz; Tim Tierney made a believable 19th century school principal at the Plattsburgh Academy (located on the site of the Public Library), and Ed Brault appeared on the steps of the museum at 48 Court Street as an American militiaman, relating how the building was used as a hospital for British wounded during the defense of Plattsburgh in 1814, and how he and his comrades sent the British back to Canada with their tails between their legs. The actors represented the Plattsburgh Little Theatre group.

CCHA also presented a fine program by Laurie Rush, funded by the New York Council for the Humanities, entitled "Pain & Profit: Smuggling Stories From The St. Lawrence River". The program was held in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

## PLATTSBURGH ACADEMY

The trustees congratulate the friends of education, upon the fact, that notwithstanding large outlays of cash and thought here, the past year in railroad enterprises, in the erection of more and better dwellings, to accommodate our rapidly increasing population, and in enlarging and beautifying our churches; OUR SCHOOLS HAVE NOT BEEN NEGLECTED. It is not the least noticeable proof of the prosperity of our village, prosperous beyond all former precedent, in its history, that the Academy has been so sustained, that its present catalogue shows a larger number in attendance than ever before. They cherish the hope that parents are every year, regarding it more necessary that their sons and daughters enjoy the best facilities that the most highly educated and experienced teachers can supply; more clearly seeing that the chances of success in the pursuits of life are only on their side who begin the race, after the severest training in the best schools.

They trust that the time has come when no young man, whatever his business is to be, will be contented with any thing short of the most thorough education possible for him; so that our Merchants may be merchant princes, because of their princely endowments, - our artizans, our artists, and our farmers, men *of science* and experience, so that the professions may not monopolize, as heretofore, the priceless benefits of liberal culture. Profoundly grateful for the past and present prosperity of the Institution, the Trustees nevertheless propose abating no job of effort in making it more prosperous, by making it better, so that as it out-numbers all similar institutions in this latitude, it may also out-do them all, in the thorough discipline it secures.

All its departments will be sustained with unusual experience and energy - and especially the classical, that those who are determined on a liberal education may be thoroughly prepared to enter College.

They invite all who care where the children are, or what they learn, what incitements to order and neatness - to modest acts and speech, may be about them, to find out, at their earliest convenience, what facilities Plattsburgh Academy supplies. They consider themselves safe in saying, that no better teachers, rooms furniture, or other needful surroundings, are to be found connected with any similar institution; which, in connection with the high character of those who are its patrons and fast friends, and the almost without exception becoming deportment of the scholars who throng it, and the cheapness of board and tuition and the proverbially healthful situation of our village, and its convenience of access from the neighboring States and Canada, render it a particularly appropriate place in which young ladies and gentlemen from abroad, as well as here, may be rightly and cheaply educated. As an additional inducement to those who may wish to send their sons and daughters away from home to school, to send them here; they would say that the Principal will hold himself personally responsible for those who may be committed to his charge, and will see that they are supplied with proper places for board, and with whatever else may be necessary.

The Trustees would also express the hope, that their endeavor to realize a model school, towards which they have been making noticable advances for the last six years, as well as the high reputation of the Teachers connected with the Institution, will be certain assurance, that the *moral* well being of the pupils will be sedulously cared for.

It may be remembered that this Academy has been selected by the Regents of the University as an aid to the State Normal School, in the Instruction of common school teachers for the last 3 years. It has received the appointment for the coming year. The Teachers' Class is limited to twenty. Any may apply for admission into it, who can fulfil the following requisitions: - If females, they must be at least 16 years of age, if males, 18, and willing to pledge themselves to teach "a reasonable time" in the District Schools of this State. Applications should be made before the 20th of March, 1853. Members of the Class must attend four months, one at least during the Spring Term provided they wish to teach the ensuing Summer or Winter - and finish the time during the Fall Term. The tuition will be free for four months.

## RATES OF TUITION

In the primary Department, for Term of eleven weeks,	\$ 2,00
For the more advanced classes, attending merely to common English branches,	3,00
In the higher branches, Latin and Greek,	4,00
French, German and Spanish, with other studies, each extra,	1,00
Drawing and Mapping, from 50c. extra to	2,00
Music, with the use of instrument, extra,	10,00
Vocal Music, extra,	1,00

No deduction will be made for occasional absence during the Term. This regulation is made in order to secure *prompt* and *constant* attendance.

Tuition bills are to be SETTLED INVARIABLY at the close of the Term, or when the scholar takes his dismission.

BOARD - From \$1,25 to \$2,00 per week. Rooms can be procured where students can board themselves, at slight cost.

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## TRUSTEES

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*From the Catalogue of Plattsburgh Academy, 1852, given to the museum by Mrs. Margaret Byrne, a descendant of the Platt and Myers families.*

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"May 10, 1765. This day I embarked at New York for Albany on my way for Willsborough....."  
So begins the journal of William Gilliland, a copy of which has been given to the museum by Gilliland's descendant Bart Holm. The journal continues through the 1780s when Gilliland was still trying to obtain recompense from Congress for the loss of his lands and expenses incurred in supplying the army, an experience all too familiar to landowners. "That in testimony of (Gilliland's) warm attachment to and hearty affection for your northern army, he embraced every opportunity of rendering them all the service and of giving them all the encouragement in his power. From the General down to the Sentinel, he has entertained between 3 or 4000 men at his own expense - he never charged a shilling for vegetables, salmon, milk or anything else he had to spare them....." The copy of William's journal joins his embroidered waistcoat and shoe buckles in the museum collection. They were donated by Mr. Holm's mother, Lucille Gilliland Holm.

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### Shop News

The museum shop has recently acquired an original copy of Hurd's *History of Clinton and Franklin Counties, New York*. The price of the book, published in 1880, is \$100.00. This collector's edition is an invaluable reference for anyone interested in local history. It contains a level of detail hard to match in any other single volume. Many are familiar with CCHA's 1976 reprint of Hurd's *History*, still available at the museum shop for the budget price of \$25.00.

Copies of *The Iroquois* by Barbara Graymont are also now available. Anyone interested in the culture of the people of the League of Six Nations of upstate New York - the Mohawks, the Oneidas, the Onondagas, the Cayugas, the Senecas, and the Tuscaroras - will want to buy this illustrated history. The informative book describes Iroquois life from pre-European America up to the present, including the formation of the League, the structure of the traditional society; Iroquois interactions with the French, Dutch, and English; and the dispersion of the Nation during U.S. urbanization and "reorganization" policies. Included in the volume are illustrations made from original paintings by John Fadden, a local artist. Mr. Fadden is a member of the Mohawk Nation who teaches art at Saranac Central School. He is also well known as curator of the Six Nations Museum at Onchiota, founded by his parents Ray and Christine in 1954. *The Iroquois* is priced at \$7.95.

Attention, bottle collectors! we have a nice selection of original bottles for you, many of them documented in Gordon Pollard's book *Bottles And Business in Plattsburgh, New York*. You'll want to stop by and take a look while the quantity lasts. Bottlers' names include Schiff, Mendelsohn, Merkel and Columbe.

### Please Note Our New Museum Schedule

Various factors have led to a decision by our Board of Directors to revise the schedule for gallery visitation. Effective immediately, the museum galleries will be open daily from 1-4 p.m. except Sunday and Monday when the museum will be closed. Group tours are available by appointment. The Museum Shop and CCHA office will be open Tuesday through Friday from 9:30 till 4:00. The Shop is also open during Saturday gallery hours and by special request.

Clinton County Historical Association

## Annual Dinner

**CENTENNIAL ROOM, ANGELL CENTER, SUNY PLATTSBURGH**

Co-sponsored by the History Department, SUNY Plattsburgh

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1993**

*Cash Bar 6 p.m., Dinner 7 p.m.*



*Speaker:* Dr. William Tramposch, President of the  
New York State Historical Association

*Entree:* Boneless Breast of Chicken Cordon Bleu

*Price:* \$13.50 per person

**For further information, telephone 561-0340**

**Please note that the banquet takes the place of CCHA's October meeting**

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### *Reservation Form*

Please reserve Chicken Cordon Bleu for \_\_\_\_\_ persons at \$13.50 each. Enclosed is a check for \$\_\_\_\_\_, payable to the Clinton County Historical Association.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Reservations must be made by **October 20**. Please send reservations and checks to:

**Clinton County Historical Association**

48 Court Street

Plattsburgh, NY 12901