

NORTH COUNTRY NOTES

ISSUED BY THE

CLINTON COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

No. 387

August 2002

The Meeting Schedule

August 5, 2002 – Mr. John Tomkins III, will announce the winner of the McMasters Writing Prize and provide an “Update of the Valcour Island Lighthouse,” at the Clinton County Government Center, 137 Margaret Street, in the First Floor Meeting Room, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

August 26, 2002 – Professor Willard Sterne Randall, Author of Benedict Arnold: Patriot and Traitor, speaking on the subject of “Benedict Arnold on Lake Champlain”, at the Lake Forest Activity Room, 7:00 p.m. refreshments, 7:30 p.m. program. Professor Randall is the author of 12 books, including 5 biographies. A former investigative reporter, Professor Randall won the national Magazine Award for Public Service from the Columbia Graduate School of Journalism, the Hillman Prize, the Loeb Award and 3 Pulitzer nominations during his 17-year career as a journalist for the Philadelphia Bulletin, Philadelphia Enquirer, Philadelphia Magazine and Time Magazine. After graduate studies in history at Princeton, Professor Randall moved to Vermont to write biographies.

Copies of Professor Randall’s books will be available for purchase at the meeting.

October 7, 2002 – Clinton County Historical Association Annual Dinner and Meeting will be held at The Inn at Smithfield, Champlain Room, 446 Route 3, Plattsburgh, NY 12901. Hors D’oeuvres will be served at 6:00 p.m. and a Buffet Dinner at 6:30 p.m., the Program, , along with Dessert will begin at 7:30-8:30, Cash Bar. The Buffet will be Grilled Chicken and Baked Ham, Rice Pilaf, Green Beans Almondine, Tossed Salad, Chocolate Mousse, Ice Cream, Rolls, Coffee and Tea. \$ 24.50 per person, in advance. Reservations and funds must be received by October 1st. We will begin to accept reservations and funds on August 15th.

LIGHTHOUSE OPENINGS

The Lighthouse Committee continues to "Keep the Doors Open" at the Lighthouse on Valcour Island for the season of 2002. The dates of the openings are August 4, 11, 18, 25 and September 1. The time of the Open House is from 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. on each of these dates.

Special Note: Although the Lighthouse will be open, public transportation to the Lighthouse is not available.

MUSEUM NEWS

The Association has a new fax number: 518-563-6823. The telephone number remains the same: 518-561-0340.

Museum hours have changed. Museum hours are Tuesday thru Friday from 12:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. Large group tours (i.e., school, touring, reunions, etc.) or special tours for other than posted hours may be arranged, dependent upon staffing levels, with a minimum two week notice.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

WELCOME ABOARD NEW MEMBERS!!
THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!

Mr. C. Allen, Mr. D. Papson, Mr. & Mrs. D. Glenn

COMMITTEE NEWS

Chairman Barbara Gallagher and her committee of dedicated lighthouse workers have done wonders out on Valcour Island this season.

The Bluff Point Lighthouse on Valcour Island has been open to the public for 5 Sundays so far this season, and plans are to continue, weather permitting, to be open every Sunday in August. September 1st will herald the closing of the Lighthouse for the season. The weather has cooperated wonderfully so far and we can hope that it continues to do so until September.

There has been much progress made in the utilization of the Lighthouse and its grounds.

The Adirondack Architectural Heritage group has conducted 2 all-day tours of the island and the lighthouse. Our sincere thanks to them for all of their work in researching, sharing, and promoting this fabulous resource.

The Department of Environmental Conservation has seen to the building of a new privy near the Lighthouse (no more long treks across the island to the campsites).

Jerry Forkey has seen that the tour guides have arrived safely onto the island with the generous donation of his time and boat.

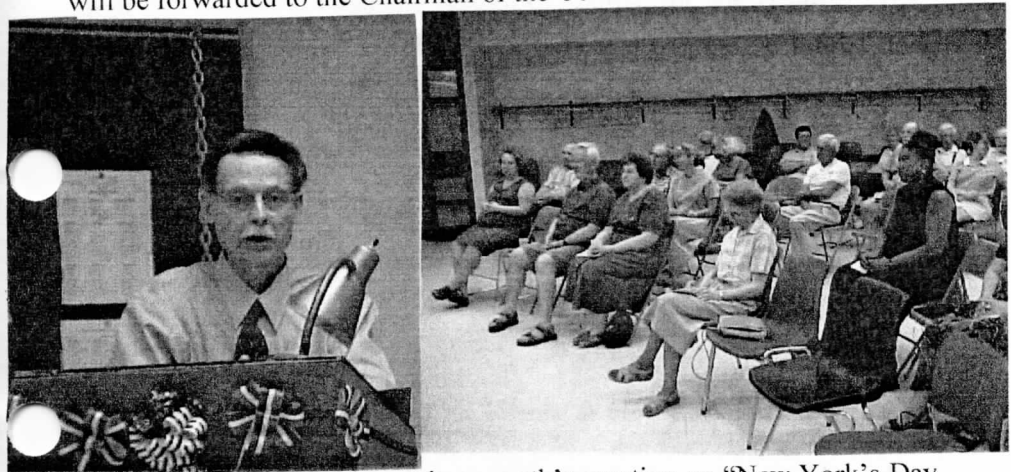
Roger Harwood has kept up the grounds, provided security and done needed repairs to the building.

Linda Harwood has seen to it that the interior of the Lighthouse has been painted.

Commander Chris Lund, United States Coast Guard, has lent his expertise, guidance, and assistance to the Association on the issue of the relighting of the Lighthouse. He has also given us the use of a research paper on "Evolving Lighthouses – Balancing History and Technology."

It is due to the efforts of these people and many others unnamed here, that continued care and interpretation of the Lighthouse continues.

If you are interested in being on the Lighthouse Committee, please contact the Museum via telephone or email, with contact information to the Attention: Lighthouse Committee. All information will be forwarded to the Chairman of the Committee.



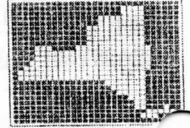
Mr. Don Papson speaking at last month's meeting on "New York's Day of Jubilation: July 4, 1827". The meeting was well attended by over 60 community members.

***BLUFF POINT LIGHTHOUSE on VALCOUR ISLAND
PRINTS AVAILABLE***

A beautiful colored print of the Lighthouse, 31" x 24", will be available for purchase for \$30.00 (shipping, handling, and tax included) until September 15, 2002. These prints, made from the Champlain Savings and Loan commissioned painting by local artist Rennie Fenwick, were made to help raise funds for the maintenance of the Lighthouse. These prints make wonderful gifts! Please call the Museum at 518-561-0340 to get your copy and proceeds of which help us to continue preserve and interpret the Lighthouse!!

These programs are made possible with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency.

State of the Arts



NYSCA

CLINTON COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
48 Court Street
Plattsburgh, New York 12901

U.S. POSTAGE
NONPROFIT ORG
PAID
PLATTSBURGH, NY
PERMIT NO. 185