

NORTH COUNTRY NOTES

Issued Monthly by the Clinton County Historical Association

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

No. 322 PRESIDENT: Mark A. McCullough EDITOR: Helen W. Allan July/August 1995

VALCOUR ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE

Unexpectedly, we were able to schedule regular public visitation hours at the lighthouse this summer, thanks to the efforts of Roger and Linda Harwood. The lighthouse is open from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoons. The Open House is scheduled on Saturday, August 26 from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m. (storm date: August 27). If you wish to reach the island on August 26 via the Juniper Tour Boat, call its office directly at 561-8970 for information and reservations.

Due to the delayed passing of the State budget, we still do not know if our application for matching funds from the Environment Protection Fund will be approved. If it is successful, substantial restoration of interior elements of the lighthouse will begin in the early summer of 1996.

Just when you thought you had collected sufficient commemorative T-shirts for a lifetime, we are offering one that most folks can't resist. The design incorporates Valcour Island and identification of beauty spots such as Paradise Bay, Butterfly Bay, Cedar Point, Pebble Beach, Heron Point and, of course, the Valcour Island Lighthouse. Shown is the 1871 date of acquisition of property on the bluff by the U.S. Government to build a beacon for shipping on Lake Champlain.

The T-shirts are available at the Museum Shop and at the lighthouse on Sundays and Open House day in the following sizes: Adult S, L, and XL (\$12.84) and XXL (\$14.98). Just call us at 561-0340 to place your order. Lighthouse Committee chairman Bradley Knapp says that by doing so, you will publicize the lighthouse and help raise funds for its preservation.

We also want to thank Roger Harwood and his friends for their assistance in transporting and installing heavy security materials which are necessary to protect the structure from vandalism. The Valcour Island lighthouse presents a special problem in that it is not accessible by land. Equipment and materials must be loaded into boats, shipped to the island and carried up a steep hill to the lighthouse. It's good to know that our light has a group of devoted friends and protectors to prevent it from being included in the "doomsday" list in which many U.S. lighthouses are designated, both onshore and offshore.

1995 SUMMER FUNDRAISER

CCHA's Second Annual Vintage Car Meet and Antiques Show & Sale took place on July 8 and 9. Published below are the results of the annual summer drawing, the silent auction, and the list of sponsors of the vintage car meet. Grateful thanks to sponsors, donors and volunteers. Craig Koste, manager of the antiques show, and Randy Beach and Jim Judkins, coordinators of the car meet, deserve special thanks. Marge Brown donated considerable time and energy to arranging publicity for the summer fundraiser. Many thanks, Marge.

Silent Auction Donors

Derek & Helen Allan: an oil painting of a forest scene by Ann Pember.
Harold & Stella Boire: a wine bottle stand, a stationery set, a plant stand, four art videos, and a cash donation.
Kit & Sally Booth: a hunting print engraved by R. Havell, Jr.
Marjorie Broadwell: a cut glass vase and a cash donation.
Marjorie Denette: a wooden printer's tray.
Philip & Shirley Gordon: watercolor paintings of Singing Sands Beach and the road to Cumberland Head.
John & Helen Ianelli: a framed Stoddard map, 1893.
Craig Koste: a Town of Peru bond, 1867.
Ruth Ladue: two ceramic pitchers.
William Laundry: an oak rocking chair.
Mark & Deena McCullough: a banner from the 1959 Champlain celebration.
Jim & Doris McKee: a gold-edged china fruit bowl.
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Mullen: a painting of an eagle by Lila Szell.
Mark & Pearlle Rabin: a silver-plated asparagus serving dish.
Leona Seaver: a purple glass leaf plate.
Regina Slatkin: two bird and flower prints.
Frederick Smith: a flow blue bowl
Harold & Ruth Smith: a glass swan and a glass biscuit jar.
John & Louise Tanner: two Urasaki ceramic dolls.

Sponsors of the Vintage Car Meet

Georgia-Pacific	Manion Electric	Northern Insuring Agency
Bryan LaPier Motors	Great American Insurance	Mr. Harold Boire
McGee's Auto Sales	Phil's Chevrolet	M.A. Jerry, Inc.
Bill McBride Chevrolet	Riley Ford	McKenna Associates - Architects
Evergreen Nat'l Bank	Days Inn	Mr. John Zurlo
Mr. Randy Beach	Paquette's Agency, Inc.	Peru Farm Center
NYSEG		Durocher Auto Sales

Volunteers at the Antiques Show & Sale and Vintage Car Meet

Our thanks to the following volunteers: Betsy Baldwin, Jean Ball, Roger Barrett, Randall Beach, Randy & Lois Beach, Adam Bennett, Patty Bentley, Julie Davis, Joan Duquette, James Giroux, Phil Gordon, Alfreda Guay, Judy & Roger Heintz, Keith Herkalo, Laura Ingalls, Jim & Susan Judkins, Brad Knapp, Craig Koste, Bill Laundry, Ralph Martin, Mark & Shawn McCullough, Jim & Doris McKee, Mike Miranda, Tom & Cathy Murnane, Ann Novoselec, Celine Paquette, Susan Patnode, Bob Perkins & daughters, Gordon Pollard, Lary Shaffer, Carole Slatkin, Fred Smith, Jaimie Trautman, Frieda Walker, Richard Ward, Connie Wheeler, Fran Wright, and Bill & Lynn Woythaler. Thanks also to SUNY Plattsburgh and all those businesses which displayed our flyers and brochures.

Winners of the 1995 Drawing

(Prizes were donated by CCHA's Board of Directors)

Robin Brown.....	Champlain Outlets gift certificate, donated by Rose Matthews
Ellsworth Buchanan.....	One Gallon of Pure Maple Syrup, donated by Fred Smith
T.C. Beach.....	Hatteras Rope Hammock gift certificate, donated by Ralph Martin
Nancy Allen.....	AuSable Meadows B&B gift certificate, donated by Ralph Martin
Mark Gadway.....	U.S. Savings Bond of \$25, donated by Robert Perkins
S. Mullen.....	General Trading Co. gift certificate, donated by William Laundry
Jason Carnright.....	Handcrafted Ceramic Serving Dish, donated by Bill Woythaler
Hazel Kahn.....	Peppercorn Restaurant gift certificate, donated by Celine Paquette
Melanie Wyand.....	Carbur's Restaurant gift certificate, donated by Mark McCullough
Bill Gadway.....	Champlain Center North gift certificate, donated by James Giroux
Barbara Seguin.....	Black Sheep Farm gift certificate, donated by David Martin
Bill Woythaler.....	Windows Restaurant gift certificate, donated by Keith Herkalo
Donna Toye.....	One Year's Membership to CCHA, donated by Brad Knapp
Virginia Swift.....	U.S. Savings Bond of \$50, donated by David Stortz
Mrs. Fred Merrihew.....	Roswell House B&B gift certificate, donated by Jaimie Trautman
Virginia McBride.....	Champlain Center North gift certificate, donated by Jane Ellis

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY-EIGHT YEARS AGO, on July 28, 1817, "At ten o'clock in the forenoon, President Monroe started for Sackett's Harbor, under escort of Capt. Sperry's company. At two o'clock a point in the road, leading through the primeval forest, thirteen miles distant, was reached, where a bower had been erected and a repast provided for his party. The money used had been intended for the purchase of a fire-engine, but a President does not visit Plattsburgh every year."

"Three Centuries In Champlain Valley", Tuttle, 1909

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NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS GRANT

CCHA is pleased to announce that it has been awarded a grant of \$4,793.00 in multi-year general operating support. These public funds are designated for the ongoing programs and activities of the Association and its museum.

Thanks to intense lobbying efforts by the museum community and its friends, the \$6.5M cut in NYSCA's funding proposed by the Governor was reduced to \$1.5M. The cut translates into a level of \$30,875,100 which has to be allocated to a multiplicity of museums, historical societies, libraries, and arts organizations around New York State. Everyone who wrote to their elected officials regarding the proposed cuts in NYSCA's funding should know that their efforts helped to avert a real crisis, at least for this year.

NEW IN THE MUSEUM SHOP

A gift of books from CCHA member and author Morris Glenn allows us to offer a very limited quantity of *Lake Champlain Album*, Vol. 2., priced at \$25.00. Published by Morris in 1979 and containing descriptions of Champlain Valley vessels, lighthouses and other structures, the book has been out of print for a long time. Collectors of Lake Champlain historical materials won't want to miss this chance. Another one-time opportunity is a hand-painted version of the poster created by Sid Couchey for this year's Essex Maritime Festival. We also have Sid's color poster depicting a typically humorous futuristic view of Plattsburgh. Also, we are reliably informed that Mr. Couchey, the well known Pale Ontologist, is preparing to offer examples of the "Champ Fozzle", described as a fozzle of a diminutive Ichthopod, commonly known as "Champ." It is highly unlikely that the available number of fozzles can satisfy potential demand; fozzle collectors from around the globe will clamor for a specimen of this relic of prehistoric times. Watch for information in the next issue of *N. C. Notes* !