

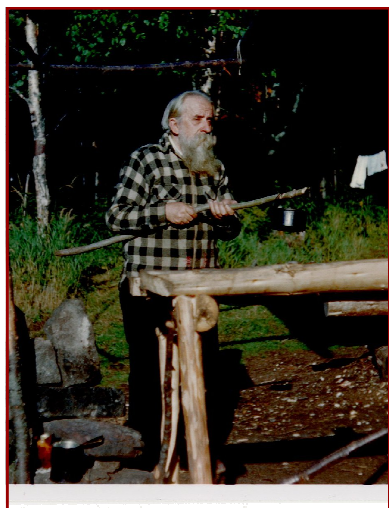
LAKE PLACID-NORTH ELBA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

THE HISTORY MUSEUM

December
2010

PLACID PIONEER

FEATURE POEM



**Above: Rondeau
September 1953.**

Noah John Rondeau wrote a number of thoughtful and mysterious poems during his hermitage at Cold River including this excerpt from 'Vernal River':

*The River speeds up, because it is spring.
It raises its waves, and broadens its wings
Singing its best songs, in spring as it roams
Ornamenting itself with new batches of foam.*

*It washes winter banks, and sweeps as a rake.
The leaves and the sticks, strewn by the wind
And baptize the Rocks, with splashes and waves
And orders summer, to the music it sings.*

*The River speeds up, because it is spring. It raises its waves, and broadens its wings. Singing its best songs, in spring as it roams ornamenting its self with new batches of foam.
It washes winter banks, and sweeps as a rake. The leaves and the sticks, strewn by the wind. And Baptize the Rocks, with splashes and waves (sic) and waves, and orders summer to the music it sings.*

FLASH BACK

200 years ago.....James Madison makes inauguration history by being the first U. S. president sworn in wearing American-made clothes; Beethoven composes his famous piano piece, *Für Elise*; Nicolas Appert develops a food storage system known as canning; Frederick Chopin and Hans Christian Lumbye were born.

100 years ago.....only 8% of homes had a telephone and 14% had a bathtub; most women only washed hair once a month with borax or egg yolks; more than 95% of births took place at home; NY's Penn Station opens as world's largest railway terminal; Mother Teresa was born.

Lake Placid events 100 years ago.....American Home Economics Association was formed; wooden buckets and hand cranks were used to make local ice cream; Lake Placid Club used 'Simpler speling', St. Agnes Church conducted first Holy Communion class, Stevens House Orchestra held a special concert at the Stevens House with Mr. Victor Herbert for \$1.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE-Chuck Damp

I would first list to acknowledge some recent leadership changes here at the society. As many of you may know, Pat Kelly, our Administrative Director, resigned due to mounting obligations at her other employer. We will sorely miss Pat who always did more than she was asked. We would like to welcome Jenn Tufano, who has been our registrar spearheading the Cornerstone accessioning project, as our new Administrative Director. Jenn will add the duties of AD onto her plate; so far quite capably I might add.

We lost a long time supporter/volunteer/friend. Laura Russell Viscome passed away August 13, 2010. Laura was a longtime, active volunteer of ours and we are grateful for her many contributions. In 2008 Laura authored a photographic book titled "Then & Now Lake Placid". Laura donated the book's net proceeds to the Society and her family directed memorial contributions made in her name be donated to the Society. As a remembrance, our winter lecture series is now named "Odds and Ends Winter Lecture Series" after Laura's "Odds and Ends" column that ran in the Lake Placid News for many years. Laura, you are missed...

Our second annual appeal is under way; we hope you will help us surpass last year's impressive amount by responding today. We are relying on your generosity to continue to improve the society's offerings.

We would like to recognize two grants we received: \$1000 from Museum-wise and \$250 from Stewarts Shops in support of efforts to incorporate more local history and the History Museum's collections into local classrooms. We look forward to keeping you updated as the project progresses.

This coming year will mark a significant milestone for the Society. thirty years ago generous History Museum benefactors, the Brewster sisters, made a pivotal contribution to the Lake Placid Sinfonietta which spearheaded a capital campaign that saved the Sinfonietta. Watch for our special Sinfonietta activities and displays this upcoming season to commemorate our local music.

Please volunteer! Even an hour or two a week makes a big difference. I mentioned this to my mom not long ago, and she has actively participated, even looking forward to her weekly time slot. She enjoys the challenge of confirming an item's provenance or identifying people or places in a photograph. We are only as good as our volunteers so please contact me, any trustee or Jenn Tufano for more information and to start helping.



LAKE PLACID – NORTH ELBA HISTORICAL SOCIETY THE HISTORY MUSEUM

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L.P. Fire Dept. band c. 1925 #10.856

FROM OUR COLLECTION

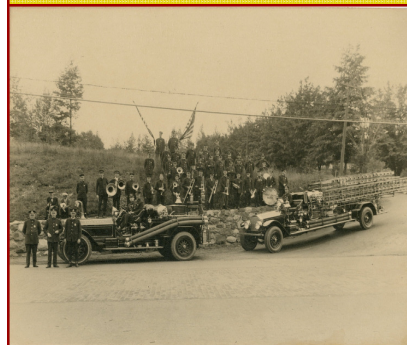
A DONATION



St. Peter Ski Medal #10.1582

Fran donated this lovely medal with the following handwritten note:

'Good St. Peter, oh, may we have some snow? In the valleys or far above, skiing is the sport we love!!'



WHO, WHERE, WHEN?



Do you know this woman and child?
Thehistorymuseum@verizon.net



Ralph Waldo Emerson

‘Music takes us out of the actual and whispers to us dim secrets that startle our wonder as to who we are, and for what, whence, and here to’

SOCIETY SEEKING

SOCIETY’S WISH LIST

- VOLUNTEERS FOR ACCESSIONING!
- Flat storage files for maps & documents

SOCIETY UPDATES

UPCOMING EVENTS 2011 “ODDS AND ENDS” WINTER LECTURE SERIES HOWARD JOHNSON’S 7:00 P.M. ADMISSION FREE

JANUARY 26—Caperton Tissot
“Adirondack Ice: A Cultural and Natural History”

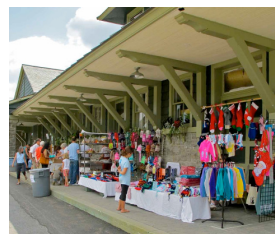
FEBRUARY 16— Ernie Stretton,
John Friedlander, Roger Loud
“The History of Education in Lake Placid”

MARCH 23—Andy Flynn
“Adirondack Artifact Night”

APRIL 27— Paul and Rosemary Reiss
“Forever Music: The First 95 Years of the Lake Placid Sinfonietta”

PAST EVENTS

Thanks to you our 2010 Heritage Day Celebration was a success! Great music, creative vendors, thoughtful donations and community support made our annual fundraising event better than ever.



FOR MORE DETAILS VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT
WWW.LAKEPLACIDHISTORY.COM

BEV'S BITS...*A report from the Town Historian, Beverley P. Reid*

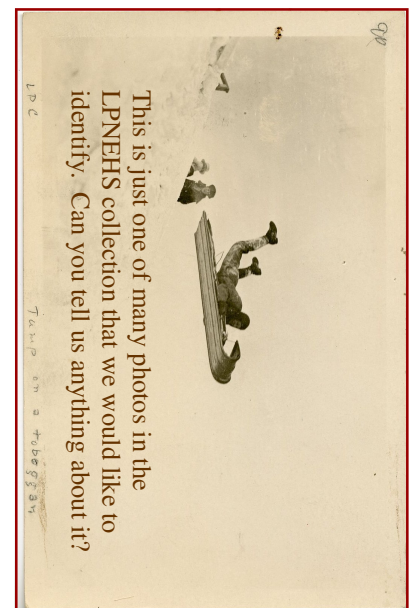
The Sinfonietta beginnings can be traced back to the Lake Placid Club and 1917. In the spring of that year a septet from the Boston Symphony Orchestra was hired under the direction of Daniel Kuntz. From then until 1978, "the Club was never without a small symphony orchestra during the summer season". Many famous conductors are included in the lists for those years.



In 1939 Dr. Paul White became director and it was then spelled: "Sinfonietta". Dr. White continued for thirty-four years increasing the orchestra number to sixteen musicians and accumulating an outstanding collection of music, which is still available. Upon Dr. White's demise in 1972 Carl Ebert, a student of Dr. White's, took over the conductor baton.

During the "Club" years the orchestra played seven free concerts a week in the Club's Agora Theater. In the 1970's Concerts were held at the CMDA, the History Museum and churches as well as in the Village Park on Mirror Lake in a makeshift shell that were called "Cushion Concerts". In 1976 the shell was re-built to resemble an Adirondack lean-to and was dedicated in Dr. White's memory. The free concerts thrived. The shell was again re-built in 2005 when the park was refurbished and renamed "Mid's Park". During the summer months, residents and visitors alike are still enjoying these "Cushion Concerts" presented by the Sinfonietta.

Like many organizations, money problems existed. The Lake Placid Club Education Foundation, Victor Herbert Foundation, CMDA, The Lake Placid Association for Music, Drama and Arts, and others were responsible for continuation of the Sinfonietta until 1981 when the formation of the Lake Placid Sinfonietta, Inc. provided funds to continue this wonderful organization and beautiful music.



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