



LAKE PLACID-NORTH ELBA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

THE HISTORY MUSEUM

June
2013

PLACID PIONEER

NEW EXHIBIT AT THE HISTORY MUSEUM!

A truly historic collection of glass plate negatives, nearly 10,000 in all, were saved from the dump in the 1970s and now, many never before seen images are on exhibit at The History Museum. At our art reception opening at the LPCA in March, Dr. George Hart, former physician at the Lake Placid Club, spoke at length about finding workers loading boxes of glass plates into the back of a truck at the LPC and readying them for a trip to the landfill. Fate intervened that day and now the public can begin enjoying these illustrative and captivating images of early life in Lake Placid.

The new 2013-2014 exhibit **"Developing our History, Finding our Family: The Stedman and Moses Collection of Historic Photographs"** explores several themes coupled with representative images: "Then and Now," "Building a Dynamic Community," "Birthplace of Winter Sports," "Dressed for the Photographer," and "Who am I?"

One entire wall consists of images we know nothing about! We implore you, our community, to come in and spend some time looking at the images on this wall and hopefully informing us the who, what, and where. Complete with post-it notes and pens, this exhibit area allows you to engage in conversation with us about the people, places, and things that you know.

This special wall is interactive and changing. As images are identified, each will be replaced with a new image to identify. We intend to continue this activity over the next couple years in hopes of putting as many names to things as possible.



Who Am I?

Parmelee Tolkan had this to share about the exhibit: "It has been so much fun to work on this exhibit, trying to tell a story through long forgotten photographs. I hope that every citizen of North Elba whose family was here circa 1900 will come look at the photographs and help us begin the long task of identification. The photographs are a valuable source of our history and need to have their secrets unlocked by present day descendants of the photos' subjects."

Caroline Welsh also shared her thoughts: "It has been a wonderful opportunity for me to work on this exhibit with the Historical Society's director Jenn Tufano and trustee Parmelee Tolkan. Lake Placid is indeed fortunate to have such capable custodians of their history and heritage among the trustees and staff of the Lake Placid-North Elba Historical Society. The Stedman-Moses-Barry Collection of historic photographs is a treasure that will yield much information as it is mined for exhibits like "Developing our History, Finding our Family."



Dr. George Hart talking about saving the glass plate negative collection from the dump in the 1970s

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - Peter Roland, Jr.

2013 has been the year of collaborations for the Historical Society!

We have been actively working with the LPCA, the Lake Placid Public Library, the Olympic Museum and Historic Saranac Lake on exhibits and programming. The Winter Lecture Series was well attended, with a range of topics to suit all interests.

Summer is always busy at The History Museum and this year will be no exception. The new exhibit of The Stedman and Moses Collection of Historic Photographs opened Memorial Day and will be shown for the 2013 and 2014 seasons. The exhibit was co-curated by Parmelee Welles Tolkan and Caroline Welsh and most of these photographs from the early 20th century have never been seen by the public. We are especially interested in your assistance identifying the people and places in the photographs, so please come in to view the exhibit during the season.

The annual Heritage Day event will be on Saturday July 13 and include the usual great crafts, bake sale, silent auction, music and children's activities. An exciting addition for this year is antique appraisal with Ted Comstock, who is generously donating his time with all proceeds to benefit the Historical Society. "Antiques Roadshow" has nothing on us!

The History in Progress (H.I.P.) Camp for elementary school children will be held August 12-15 and includes a week of research on a topic of their choice concluding with presentations for friends and family at The History Museum. Last summer's presentations were impressive, and we hope you will encourage your children or grandchildren to participate in the H.I.P. Camp this summer.

On Thursday September 14 we will be hosting the first ever Lake Placid Historic Pub Tour. This will include a visit to five locations with a short presentation at each on the history of that establishment and its place in our community. Watch the local papers for details or visit our website at www.lakeplacidhistory.com for more information on this and other events.

So there is lots going on this season, and we hope you will take advantage of the benefits offered by *your* historical society. It is clear that the ability to continue our current operations and expand programming in the future is totally dependent on the support of our membership and other organizations which underwrite our efforts. If you have not renewed your membership this year or would like to make an additional donation, please use the form enclosed to show your support. Your financial contribution, along with a dedicated corps of volunteers, will allow the Historical Society to continue providing service to the Lake Placid-North Elba community.

We thank you for your support and wish you a fine Summer Season!

HALLIE BOND AT THE HISTORY MUSEUM

Our first collaboration with Historic Saranac Lake and with a speaker's series grant from the NY Council for the Humanities, Hallie Bond, former Curator at the Adirondack Museum, presented "Common Threads: Adirondack Quilts Tell Their Stories." Over 20 people enjoyed this program in May. Thanks to Hallie and Amy Catania, Director of Historic Saranac Lake.



LAKE PLACID – NORTH ELBA HISTORICAL SOCIETY



THE HISTORY MUSEUM

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Jennifer Tufano



Hallie Bond addressing the crowd
May 30 at The History Museum

WHO, WHERE, WHEN?



Do you know anything about this picture?
From the Stedman and Moses Collection of
glass plate negatives



H.I.P. (History in Progress) Summer program for kids

• **August 12-15, 2013**

- 9am-12pm M-TH, 6pm Thursday night
- Open to kids currently in 3rd-6th grades

Kids will interpret historical objects, buildings or events artistically or technologically then produce a project which will be installed in a temporary exhibit at The History Museum!

The last evening will include a reception for family and friends. \$50 fee + \$10 materials. Full scholarships available. Call, email, or visit the museum website for more information.

SOCIETY SEEKING

OUR WISH LIST

- We need a HEPA filter vacuum cleaner for the museum building—one with a long attachment for cleaning tall windows.
- **Tax deductible!**

SOCIETY UPDATES

UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE 30 VAN CLIBURN
COLLABORATION AT LPCA; 7:30PM

JULY 13 HERITAGE DAY AT
THE HISTORY MUSEUM
10-3PM

AUGUST 12-15 HISTORY CAMP FOR
3RD THROUGH 6TH GRADERS!

AUGUST 22 ANNUAL MEETING AT
THE HISTORY MUSEUM. ELECTION
OF NEW OFFICERS. ALL ARE WELCOME.
4:30PM, 242 STATION STREET

ANTIQUES APPRAISAL RETURNS

By popular demand and for the first time since 2007, Ted Comstock will be here during our Heritage Day celebration from 11am-1pm to appraise your valuable items (no stamps or coins, please!). Keep an eye out for more information on how you can have your items appraised!

All proceeds benefit the historical society!

GRANTS NEWS!

The Society was the beneficiary of several grants this winter which help support many areas of operation. Jenn Tufano received a stipend from **MANY** to attend the annual April museum conference in Syracuse. **New York State Council for Humanities** contributed \$3000 in matching funds to support our new photographic exhibit. **Stewart's Shops, Lake Placid Rotary** and the **Charles R. Wood Foundation** contributed funding toward our H.I.P. summer program for local kids. Thank You!!

**FOR MORE DETAILS ON ANY OF OUR
UPCOMING EVENTS VISIT OUR WEBSITE
WWW.LAKEPLACIDHISTORY.COM
THEHISTORYMUSEUM@VERIZON.NET**

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

Once again, a search for one particular item led me to another topic. While searching for information on a Pharmacist named Albert Q. Green, I found many interesting ads about the Drug Store-Pharmacy establishments over the years.

Mr. G.B. Merriman opened Mirror Lake Pharmacy in 1902 on Main Street opposite the Palace Theatre. The building continued to house a pharmacy for the next fifty plus years when Harry Marshall, then owner, moved next door to the area once known as Leonard's. During those years it was also known as Post Office Pharmacy, Feek's Pharmacy, Warren Volpert Pharmacy, and Marshall's Drug. At one time there were as many as four "Drug Stores" in the village.

The best memories of these drug stores are the great Soda Fountains. Who doesn't remember ordering the Hot Nuts and/or homemade ice cream? What a wonderful gathering place for young and old. We pooled all our change to order a huge Banana Split to share (more for your money) and a large soda or maybe just a root beer float?

The older stores also had their own laboratories and invented their own "cures and creams." One medicine that was widely advertised was 'VINOL.' Apparently this was a cure for poor blood, rundown conditions, etc. with money back guarantees. Another had the cure for all symptoms of "Piles" for 50 cents. All fishing supplies were available and often the place to buy your raffle tickets for the ongoing fund raisers.

Weren't the old days fun? (Never did find much information on Green, however.)

Where am I?



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