

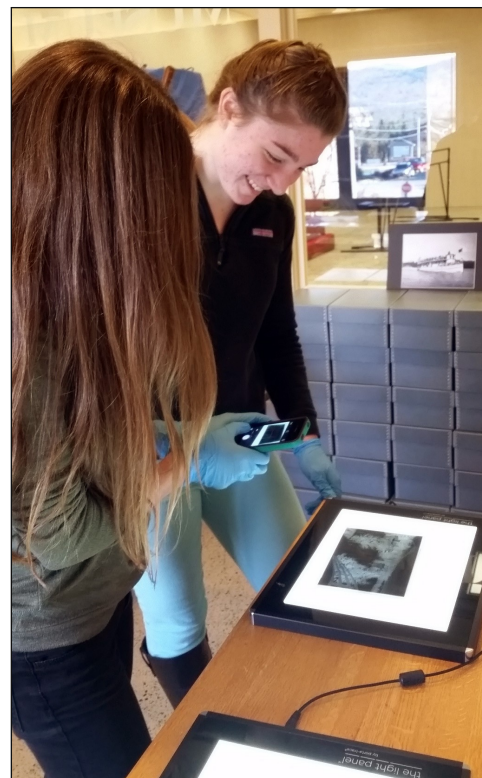
PLACID PIONEER

Lake Placid-North Elba Historical Society Newsletter

December 2015

NORTHWOOD SCHOOL STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT LOGAL HISTORY

This fall, students from the Northwood School Honors History class started meeting once a week at the Lake Placid-North Elba Historical Society office to learn how history can be used outside of the classroom. The class will be working on several projects throughout the school year; however, the initial project was focused on the Steadman and Moses Collection of Glass Plate Negatives. In the first session Historical Society Director, Carla Eilo led the class in a seminar about the history of photographic negatives, Steadman and Moses, and proper care and handling of glass plate negatives. In the subsequent weeks, the students assisted the Historical Society in the accessioning process by cleaning the negatives and journaling their ideas and thoughts about the images. Students were encouraged to utilize light panels to view interesting negatives and share with their peers. Featured below is one student's journal entry after working with the glass plates.



**Above: Students view glass plate negative on light table.
Below: Glass plate negative from Steadman and Moses Collection**



This is one of the glass plate photos that I cleaned on Wednesday. I thought this one was very interesting because it shows what the roots of what skiing looked like.

Skiing is a very old sport, it has been in the Olympics in multiple disciplines since the very first winter Olympic games in Chamonix.

The little kid with huge wooden ski and a long ski pole show how long people have been enjoying the sport of skiing, that has had such a big impact of my life.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE~

Parmelee Tolkan

To all our friends and members—

Thank you so much for your steadfast support in 2015. We have certainly had a fun, entertaining and informative year.

Our highlight was the opening of a new exhibit in the main gallery of The History Museum. "Lake Placid Volunteer Fire Department: 110 Years of Service and Dedication," celebrates our local volunteer fire department through artifacts and photos. If you did not get to visit this year, the exhibit will continue for another season, from May to October of 2016.

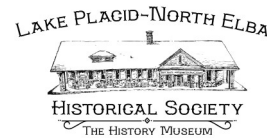
The Northwood School Honors History class is taking advantage of our collections as they join us once a week to accession glass plates and see how a Historical Society actually works, from the inside.

Our summer camp for children has now become a part of the school curriculum for 4th and 5th graders. Our Administrative Director, Carla Eilo, and Board member, Dean Dietrich, help select the artifacts and join the teachers in guiding the students in completing their projects. The children have a hands on experience with artifacts from the Museum and make an exhibit to connect the artifact to the history of Lake Placid.

My term as president has gotten off to a rousing start. I look forward to continued hard work by our whole Board as we push to make the collections as accessible and relevant as possible. Thank you for all your support in the past.

Happy Holidays and a Joyous 2016!

Parmelee Tolkan



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♦♦♦

Carla Eilo—Administrative
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BEV'S BITS~

A report from the Town Historian, Beverley P. Reid

The history of the White Church began in the early 1850's when hardy souls began to move into the Newman/North Elba region. Most were farmers and laborers. Although Sunday was a "day of rest," many desired to make contact with their neighbors and began to hold religious meetings in private homes and buildings, such as "The Stagecoach Inn" and "the Little Red Schoolhouse". As the groups expanded, there was a definite need for a house of worship.

Funds were raised and the first church of North Elba was built and dedicated as "The Union Church" in 1885, but it has always been known as the White Church. Both Baptists and Methodists held their services there and were served by transient ministers. Meanwhile, the Village of Lake Placid was expanding and the population center was shifting from Newman into the Lake area. Religious services were moved uptown and the White Church was used occasionally for weddings and gatherings. (continued on page 4)

WINTER LECTURE SERIES 2016

Wednesdays, 7:00 PM Admission - Free

**Support our host establishments by enjoying
cocktails and dinner before the lectures!**

January 27 - Adirondack Outlaws

Niki Kourofsky, Author

Lecture based on the subject of Kourofsky's book,
"Adirondack Outlaws: Bad Boys and Lawless Ladies"

Location: Smoke Signals

February 24 - Hotel Hope

Historic Saranac Lake

A film about the history of Will Rogers Memorial
Hospital.

Location: Lake Placid Center for the Arts (LPCA)

March 23 -What Style Is It?

Steven Englehart, Adirondack Architectural Heritage
Exploration of historic architectural styles found in the
region and how to identify them.

Location: The Butler Room at Simply Gour met

April 27 - Historic Lake Placid Golf Courses

Peter Martin, PGA Pro and Author

Discussion of the history of golf in Lake Placid.

Location: TBD (call or visit our website for updates)

Congratulations to...

Town Historian and Board of Trustee
member, Beverley Reid for being
inducted into the Lake Placid Hall of
Fame this past October!

Contact us:

🌐 www.lakeplacidhistory.com

✉ thehistorymuseum@verizon.net

☎ **The History Museum** (518) 523-1608

☎ **LPCA office** (518) 523-3830

SOCIETY UPDATES~

This past September, Bill Borzilleri coordinated another successful historic tour. This year's title was, "Saints & Sinners: Places of Worship, Past and Present." The group started the tour at Ruth Hart's Garden, then proceeded to St. Agnes, Lake Placid Synagogue, Wiseguys, Adirondack Community Church, St. Eustace, and the final stop at Smoke Signals. We want to thank all that participated, we can't wait for next year!



Above: Presentation at Ruth Hart's Garden

Below: Group discussion at Wiseguys



BEV'S BITS... (continued from page 2)

After the Civil War, Father Oliver Kelley, The US Commissioner of Agriculture and his niece came up with the idea of The Order of the Fathers of Husbandry, known as The Grange to alleviate the terrible conditions and unrest that prevailed among farmers. The Grange was founded to unite farmers of the North and South and to break down barriers. Lake Placid Grange 1141 was incorporated in 1903 and congregated in several locations before calling the White Church their home in 1924. The building was once again an active part of the community.

By the 1950s The Grange was no longer an active organization in the community and plans were set to build Placid Memorial Hospital on the neighboring property. The White Church was sold to the Hospital for \$1 and used as storage for over 10 years.

In 1969 the Hospital gifted the White Church to the Historical Society for relocation and preservation on a new site. Due to the lack of funds, the Historical Society was unable to remove the Church to their property on Station Street as originally planned. In 1987 ORDA erected the Olympic Training Center and the White Church had to find a new location. After the necessary meetings the Historical Society began to try to raise the total of \$60,000 required to move the church. Due to lack of funds this was not possible and the Society voted to return all donations that were designated for the move of the church. In a March 3rd, 1988 meeting, the Church was sold to Dr. R.R. Bennett for the Trinity Chapel. On June 13th, 1988, the Church rolled down Old Military Road to its present site. The White Church was once again a house of worship.

After more than one hundred years, the White Church is empty again and is waiting for its next chapter.

Lake Placid-North Elba Historical Society

LAKE PLACID-NORTH ELBA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

THE HISTORY MUSEUM

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