



Town of Horicon Historical Society



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Town of Horicon Historical Society
Newsletter is published for
dissemination to Members,
Supporters and
County Historical Societies.

We welcome comments,
corrections, articles, pictures,
reminiscences & letters to the
editor.
horiconhistory.com



Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to Members and Friends from the Folks at the Historical Society...

It has been a truly remarkable year of discovery and progress for the
Projects and Programs
of the Town of Horicon Historical Society!

We acknowledge with gratitude three grants totaling \$2,500
received from the Community Fund for the Gore Mountain Region
[CFGMR]. The money provided for special museum software to
digitize our rare artifacts collection for on-line electronic viewing,
cabinets, and materials.

Thank you for your continued support to the Historical Society.
Major efforts have occurred to preserve and protect our extensive,
irreplaceable collection of rare historical artifacts that captures the
history of Horicon and our Adirondack region.

Want to know more about the Historical Society's exciting programs
and projects? Attend Society meetings on 2nd Monday of each
month, at 7:00 PM at the Horicon Community Center or visit our
new website horiconhistory.com.



Our new website
horiconhistory.com is still a work in
progress. It will have detailed
information on upcoming programs,
status of ongoing projects,
interesting articles from our town
and much more!

On behalf of the Town of Horicon Historical Society, we offer a
simple and heartfelt thank you for your sustained encouragement,
participation and support. - Tom Johansen, President

Rescue Adventures with BRI's Adirondack Center for Loon Conservation

On June 25, we received the first report of a loon who found itself on Mill Pond in the center of the Town of Horicon. People were concerned that the bird couldn't leave the small pond. Because of their specialized anatomy, loons need to run a long way (almost a quarter mile) on the water to get airborne. The Mill Pond loon may have come down in a storm and then stayed on, or it may have thought the pond was a nice spot to set up a territory.



"Kevin"
The Mill Pond Loon

We attempted to capture the loon later that week, but the bird successfully evaded our net many times. After consulting with NYS DEC, a decision was made to monitor the bird, since additional capture attempts with such an active bird would be futile, and stress the loon unnecessarily.

We received a report later in the summer that it was occasionally observed flying on and off the pond, so perhaps it decided it liked the pond and set up its territory there? During its stay, the loon became quite a town celebrity and was named "Kevin" by local residents.

On August 30th, we received reports the dam on Mill Pond was being repaired and the loon was hanging out with the workers.. We made arrangements to do another capture attempt early the following week. Sadly though, on September 1st, the loon was found dead, and was sent to the NYS DEC's Wildlife Pathology Laboratory for necropsy. The results showed that the loon had lots of ingested fishing line and tackle in its stomach (*not surprising since Mill Pond is a popular local fishing spot and many people have likely lost tackle and line there*). It also had tapeworms and liver flukes in its intestinal tract, which may have contributed to weakening the bird. Most significantly, it had a severe case of aspergillosis, a fungal infection which often develops secondary to another problem in loons. The aspergillosis likely was the ultimate cause of this loon's demise,

Dr. Nina Schoch, veterinarian and wildlife rehabilitator, is the Coordinator of BRI's Adirondack Center for Loon Conservation.

**Editors Note: Tuesday
July 11, 2017, The
Horicon Historical Society
will present a program on
Loon Rescues &
Population Management
by Dr. Nina Schoch. Time
& details to com - visit our
website for more info.
horiconhistory.com**



Jabe Pond Loon
Found tangled with fishing line and hooks

To learn more about the loon research and outreach work of BRI's Adirondack Center for Loon Conservation, Visit www.adkloon.org, or www.facebook.com/adkloon. For more information and to meet our staff, please visit the Adirondack Loon Center at 47 Main Street in Saranac Lake, NY, or contact us at adkloon@briloon.org or 518-354-8636.

Adirondack Vagabonds



Joyce Houck and Barbara Blum
First Ever Vagabonds!

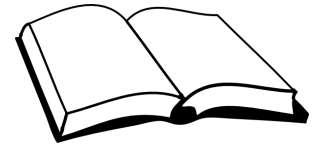
The Adirondack 102 Club book by Martin Podskoch has inspired people to explore the Adirondacks. It is a travel book that invites you to take the challenge and visit 102 Towns and Villages in the Adirondack Park. People gather remembrances of each town. The book invites you to get off the beaten path. Try new places!

Many people have visited our area with books in hand to collect stamps, stickers, photos, or signatures. They visit the town hall; the Horicon Historical Museum; local stores and restaurants; the post office; and the North Warren Chamber of Commerce's Information Center.

Nineteen people who had completed their books by visiting all 102 Towns were awarded their Vagabond Patches and certificates at the annual Adirondack 102 Club Dinners. The Town of Horicon now has 4 Vagabonds -Joyce Houck, Barbara Blum, Helen Smith and Christine Hayes.

The book is available locally at the stores and from the Horicon Historical Society. It makes a great Christmas gift for anyone who loves the Adirondacks.

Captain and Mrs. Charles Stewart Heintzelman and the Heintzelman Library



Although much is recorded about the Heintzelman library and the place the library holds in the heart of the village of the town, not a lot is known about Mrs. Emily Heintzelman and her husband, after whom the library is named.

Captain Heintzelman was a graduate of West Point and served in the Civil War. At the age of 35 he died in 1881 in Washington of tuberculosis. He was a graduate of West Point, like his father before him. Samuel Heintzelman was a graduate of West Point and served as a US Army General through many wars, with the World War II Liberty ship *SS Samuel Heitzelman*, launched Sept. 30, 1942 named in his honor.



Heintzelman Home
On "West Point"



The Heintzelman Library

Before the winter of 1899, Mrs. Emily Heintzelman was visiting Brant Lake. According to Pat Greenwalt, as Mrs. Heintzelman was taking a boat trip around Brant Lake she inquired as to the name of the point on what is now Brant Lake Estates and was so enchanted to hear that it was "West Point", being property owned by The Rev. John West, that she decided she wished to purchase it. By February of 1899 she owned the property. William Oliver was building the large stone home by October of that year and it was to be named "The Whims". Apparently, Mrs. Heintzelman was a dog lover and also built a building to hold her eight dogs. By May of 1900 the house was nearly complete. In August of 1901 Mrs. Heintzelman's dog, Lux was taken ill and died. She renamed her home Lux Holm after him.

In the summer of 1902 she donated 150 books for the library and began making plans for a library in town. In July of that year she held a party at her home for 40 local children. A week later, she suffered appendicitis and died. The funeral service was preached in her home and she was buried in Arlington beside her husband.

The town's people continued Emily Heintzelman's cause. She left another 175 books and money to the library. By 1903 a library was set up in the Perkin's home, on the site of the present-day town hall and library.

In the summer of 1905 a fair was held at the Palisades Hotel, raising \$250 for the library. By that fall books purchased with the money procured by generous subscriptions of different individuals, efforts of summer guests and local families had arrived. Scott and Laura Barton deeded to the Library trustees the land for the building with the stipulation that this building remain a library.

By November of 1906, John Bennett started building the library on the Mill Pond with the help of stone mason Andrew F. Jones. It was reported that "it looked as though it would last" with a veneer of small stone. The library opened its doors in 1907.

As town historian whenever I go to this building to work, I think of Mrs. Heintzelman and the town's people that created this wonderful place. I am thrilled at the fact that we now enjoy it as a Historical Library. I love the story behind this building and would love to find out more about the insightful woman.

*Written By: Colleen R. Murtagh
Town of Horicon Historian*



Volunteering



Definition of a volunteer – “Someone who contributes time, effort and talent to meet a need or further a mission, without benefit of being paid.”

I moved to the Town Of Horicon in September 1992. My first social event was Election Day, held at the old Town Hall on the back side of the Mill Pond, where now The Hub operates. On that day, I think I met half of the Town of Horicon and that became the first day of the rest of my life. Almost immediately, I was welcomed into the families of the community and now today after more than 20 years I find myself volunteering among some of the most spirited and talented locals. I learn something new every time we sit down to work on a project – skills and words of wisdom that I can really use in my life.

A few years ago, my Mother in Law, Maryann Hill and I were talking about the 1881 Church in Adirondack. The building was for sale and I was having visions of buying it and opening a retail store. Well Maryann, would have none of that! She passionately expressed ☺ her thoughts that the building should be purchased by the Town of Horicon and preserved to be a museum of local history.

Once the 1881 Church was purchased by the Town, the next step was to save the building. Maryann asked me to create an event that would generate not only public interest and financial support for the preservation project, but an event that would bring the two villages of Adirondack and Brant Lake together, united into one community of Horicon through the Adirondack Shindig. As we head towards 2017, with three successful Adirondack Shindigs under our belt and hundreds of pages of grant applications submitted, the power of volunteering continues to move our community project forward. The goal of our preservation project, the 1881 Church will soon be realized and the Horicon Historical Museum Annex will become a reality for all to visit.

It feels great to be a part of this community and to volunteer. I have learned some great old fashioned canning secrets. I have learned who to ask for what and have met new neighbors and made many new friends and business alliances. Volunteering has brought out the best in me, tired me out and given me a way to thank the community that welcomed me over two decades ago.

I am proud to invite new members to join the Horicon Historical Society for meetings, events or get togethers. They say the Winters are long here, but there is so much to do in our town. So many events require no money out of pocket to attend, some have great food, but all build an increased sense of community.



Horicon Historical Society Volunteers
Maryann Hill, Kathy Hill & Paul Holmes
Open House 2016

Come join in the crazy fun we create at our meetings and in events like Pot Luck Dinners and Ma & Pa Kettle movies. Together we can sustain the Historical Society for future generations in our great community, the Town of Horicon, NY. Thank you for welcoming me in 1992 and thank you all for being you. Volunteering is easy and priceless! Every one brings something to the table that when added together, creates a good time and provides a valuable sense of pride.



Kathy Mosher-Hill
Volunteer – Horicon Historical Society
ph (518)321 – 3911

P.S. – If you need a ride to a meeting or event, give me a call.

The Town of Horicon
Historical Society Open House
August 20, 2016



(I-R) Maryann Hill, Tom Johansen, Barbara Blum, Camille Dugan, Barb Lafond, Kathy Hill & Paul Holmes

This years Open House included a special presentation on Joseph Brant - Maybe not the namesake of Brant Lake.

When Thayandenegea, was born into the Wolf clan, a clan of low social status in the Mohawk nation. He was given the Anglican name of Joseph when he was baptized. He rose to become one of the most well-known North American Natives of his generation; meeting and negotiating with Presidents and the Kings of England and France and representatives of the newly formed United States.

There are a number of beliefs of common lore about Joseph, the first and foremost that he was a chief. He was a Mohawk leader of great influence but never a chief; not of the Mohawks, nor the Six Nation Confederacy. He was what was known as a "Pine Tree Chief" meaning his political power would rest on the recognition of white political leaders or military leaders, rather than from his own tribe.

The second belief commonly held is that Joseph was the namesake of Brant Lake in the Town of Horicon. He might have been but it isn't likely. More records and details need to be examined on this matter. However, William H Brown was the editor of a reference book, History of Warren County New York published in 1963 by the Board of Supervisors of Warren County. The editor writes "A Glens Falls resident of a few years ago recalled as a young boy he visited his Indian grandmother, then an elderly woman living in North Creek. He heard that her maiden name was Brant and that when she was a young girl, the family had lived in the vicinity of Brant Lake. It is just as likely that Brant Lake has its name from that family as it is that it comes from Joseph Brant, "the Indian leader."

Construction on the Historical Society's Museum Annex in Adirondack is underway!



This October the construction contract for replacing the church's failing stone foundation with a new concrete foundation was awarded to Gallup Concrete, LLC with Berness Bolton Excavating, Inc. as subcontractor.

The Project Architect, Rucinski Hall Architecture, is finalizing bid documents for all work on the church structure above the new foundation. The New York State-compliant public bidding process should be completed for the coming spring construction season.



We are grateful to State Senator Elizabeth Little, Warren County EDC President Edward Bartholomew, Town of Horicon Supervisor Matthew Simpson, and the Horicon Town Board for helping secure the vital \$100,000 New York State Grant awarded toward total Project cost. Our local fundraising efforts continue. Please keep the Society and its exciting 1881 Project in mind.

Stop by to see the construction work in progress - and know that [you helped make this happen!](#)

2016 Town of Horicon

We're all Proud Of The Progress That Was Achieved In Horicon To Enhance Our Safety & Appearance

May



Adirondack Beach Garden helps protect the lake from highway washing the sand away and polluting the water.

May



New sign in Brant Lake

Summer



New Bridge and Dam constructed over the Summer - Bridge Opened in November

Spring



Flower Box Garden built by Roger Daby - Thanks!

Spring & Fall



New Wrought Iron fencing by the Lower Dam. Fall & Spring Gardens around Mill Pond and on Palisades Corner. Many flowers donated by The Lazy Moose

Museum Programs 2017

January 27 Pot-Luck Dinner

Bring a dish and be entertained by Folk Music & Stories.

May 13 Adk Bird Watching

A guided walk with an experienced Ornithologist promises to be a pleasant outing.

July 11 Loon Rescue & Management

Dr. Nina Schoch, Wildlife Veterinarian will present a program on loon rescues and population management

July 22 Open House

Step back to earlier days. Period costumes and demonstrations on work, clothing, food, tools and games kids would play.

August 12 Shindig

Annual "Fun"raising event to benefit the reconstruction of the 1881 Church for the Museum Annex

TBA Astronomy Night

Local Astronomer and Astrophotographer will show his "Hubble Quality" photographs and bring telescopes for all to view the heavens.