

# Summer 2016 Newsletter

Volume XXVI #2

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Become a new member, or renew your membership with WCHS—see form on back page.

# Battles and Brews: A Tour of Washington County Revolutionary War Sites

The following article provides some background information on our upcoming fundraiser, "Battles and Brews": a tour of Washington County, New York. This tour will be held on Sunday, October 2, 2016. The cost of the tour will be \$50 for members and \$55 for non-members. For more information call Pat Niles at (518) 538-1235. Reservation forms can be found on wchs@wchs-ny.org.

Washington County is the war-path of America. Though other portions of the continent have been the scenes of more terrible conflicts, no other of equal size has been crossed by as many hostile expeditions as the one which is the subject of this history. Occupying as it does the territory between the Hudson and the northern lakes, it has been the ground over which Hurons and Iroquois, Canadians, New Yorkers, and New Englanders, French, and English, Continentals and Hessians, have successively passed on their missions of attack and defense, of destruction and of vengeance. <sup>1</sup>

Washington County's location made it America's warpath for several centuries. The Washington County Historical Society will visit several American Revolution War sites in the county as part of its "Battle and Brews" tour. Military action took place in several towns, which include Whitehall, Fort Ann, Fort Edward, Sandy Hill, Argyle and Fort Miller. The war was not only a war of liberation, but a civil war that pitted neighbor against neighbor, brother against brother, and father against son. In this article the voices of eyewitnesses who witnessed the war firsthand will be used to convey a sense of these remarkable events.

On the evening Ethan Allen and Benedict Arnold took Fort Ticonderoga, the Salem rangers took Skene's Manor in Skenesborough. (Present-day Whitehall) Dr. Asa Fitch, the preeminent nineteenth century Washington County historian, chronicled William McNish story of his father's role in the Skenesborough action; William was the second son of Sarah and Alexander McNish. Local Patriots believed that Philip Skene, who had first come to the area in 1758 when he fought and was wounded at the battle of Ticonderoga, was a loyalist. Skene had been encouraged by General Amherst in 1759 to start a settlement—what would become Skenesborough. Skene permanently settled in Skenesborough in 1770 after selling his British commission and immediately set up a plantation and trading area. In 1775, Skene went back to England to get a royal charter to settle the New Hampshire Grants controversy. Upon his return, Skene's ship was captured by the patriots and Skene was arrested. (Skene was under arrest at the time of the Barnes raid on Skene's plantation.) <sup>2</sup>

The following passage is an account of that action:

Barnes' company was ordered out to proceed to Skenesborough and capture Lord Skene. Father, the two Armstrongs, Issac Lyttle, et cetera were at this time with Barnes. Intending to approach there in the dead of the night, they did not start till afternoon. When darkness overtook them they had twelve miles farther to go. A double sentry guarded Skene's house, a fact which they were not aware of. A sentry was placed at the house and another half a mile distant on the road. Before they were suspicious that caution was necessary, a gun was fired toward the residence of Skene. Knowing the alarm was now given they started forward at their utmost speed. At the same instant, another gun was fired at the house. They rushed on and surrounded the house on all sides.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Crisfield Johnson, *History of Washington County*, New York (Philadelphia: Everts & Ensign,1878), p.9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Thomas B. Allen, Tories: Fighting For the King in America's First Civil War, New York: Harper, 2010), 221-223.

#### Washington County Historical Society Mission Statement

The Washington County
Historical Society is an
educational organization
dedicated to engaging diverse
audiences in the study and
application of the collective
heritage of Washington County,
New York, and its environs.

- Rev. October 2005



#### Heritage Research Library Hours:

Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fridays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

WCHS has a constantly growing collection of information, original documents, and other items of interest about Washington County and its inhabitants, past and present. We encourage you to stop by and take a look!

If you would like to find out more about volunteering to help with the Heritage Research Library, please contact the Historical Society and let us know.

Newsletter Editor: Kelly Mead



# **How To Contact Us:**

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## **Greetings From WCHS President**

It is July! We are heading into summer and, we hope, pleasant weather. After a rather warm winter, and a wet cold spring, people are ready for a Northeast summer.

Our program schedule began with a very successful "God's Architecture" tour in May. That tour visited a select group of churches that were built in the late 18th and early 19th century (highlights and photos appear on page 8 and 9 of this Newsletter). The Cronkite Lecture Series was reinstated in June after a hiatus. August will find us increasing our presence at the Washington County Fair with an improved slide presentation, as well as having historical pictorial calendars and more books on hand for sale.

In the fall, we will be conducting a tour of American Revolutionary battle sites within Washington County called "Battles and Brews". It will be a mixture of history and visits to micro-breweries within Washington County. The focus will be on battles sites such as the Whitehall Harbor, the Fort Ann battle, revolutionary leaders' gravesites and part of the Baum Trail (which the WCHS helped develop and inaugurate in 2013). The intent of the tour is to be a fundraiser emphasizing Washington County's military history as well as be an introduction to the new developing micro-breweries in the county. After all, beer/ale was the beverage of the Revolutionary troops. This Newsletter features a historical article about these events.

The WCHS Annual Membership meeting will be held on October 22 on Rogers' Island. This meeting will include the yearly business meeting, a boxed luncheon, an open house at the Wing-Northup House and finally a tour of Rogers' Island lead by yours truly. We hope to see you there. Details and reservation information will appear in the fall Newsletter.

Being interested in military history, I have found places such as Whitehall Museum, the battlefield at Fort Ann, the Old Fort House in Fort Edward, Rogers' Island and travel along the Baum Trail using the Lakes-to-Locks website to be fascinating. So come explore with family, friends, and visitors these Washington County historic sites, which you and your guests will find interesting. In addition, recently I was asked to research and present a program on the most prominent men in the history of Washington County. In doing so, I found the that our county had a President, Senators, Congressmen, a Supreme Court Justice, Ambassadors, Civil Rights Leaders, business and religious leaders, all of whom were recognized on a national level. Washington County has a rich history and we citizens should be proud of it and know about it.

A big help to learning more about the history of Washington County is the newly redesigned WCHS website. Also our Heritage Library is open Wednesdays and Fridays, 10am – 4pm. Come see us at one of our programs, the fair, and/or attend our annual meeting.

Remember we welcome volunteers in a number of areas. Why not become one?

Pat Niles Washington County Historical Society President

# Battles and Brews: A Tour of Washington County Revolutionary War Sites (Continued from page 1)

Some of their number now searched the house thoroughly-but Skene had escaped. They supposed he had fled into the woods when the alarm was first given. They found the corpse of his wife in a small apartment partitioned off in the cellar. It was laid in a very nice wooden coffin, superior to anything which the carpenters of the country could make. And this was enclosed in a lead coffin which was sealed and soldered up so as to render it quite air tight. His wife had a legacy left her of a certain sum per day whilst she was above ground, and Skene had placed her there to receive this legacy.

On opening it [the coffin] the corpse was found but little changed. The coffin must have been purchased in Montreal or Quebec. The coffin was taken out and buried. The lead was too much needed for bullets to be buried, and it, together with the choice liquors found in the cellar, was delivered over to the commissaries of the continental army. There were about forty Negroes were all full-blooded Africans, save one, a girl six or eight years old named Sylvia who claimed Skene for her father. Captain Barnes brought her home with him on his return. She remained in this town and died but a few years ago. <sup>3</sup>

Skenesborough became the base for the building of the naval force used by Benedict Arnold in 1776. Arnold used Skene's boat, which became the *U.S.S. Liberty*, and his shipyard to build a small fleet of ships used to attack the British fleet at Valcour Island in 1776. The United States Navy, built at Skenesborough, caused British General and Governor of Canada, Guy Carleton to build a navy which caused the planned invasion to be delayed into the fall. That delay helped prevent the British Army from invaded northern New York until 1777.

July 5, 1777, General Burgoyne's took Fort Ticonderoga; at the time the American army split; with one part sailing down Lake Champlain to Skenesborough, eventually retreating and taking sanctuary at Fort Ann, located south of Skenesborough in Washington County. The Battle of Fort Ann proved an important action to the outcome of the Burgoyne Campaign, and took place on a hill a short distance north of the present hamlet. The battlefield today is called "Battle Hill." One of the principal sources used by modern historians is a first person account by Captain James Gray, a Patriot officer who saw action there. It is a letter from Gray to his father-in-law, which is now in the possession of a direct descendant, which bears the location "TICONDEROGA" and date of June 26, 1777. What follows is an excerpt from this letter:

Monday, 7<sup>th</sup>, - Got into Fort Ann at 6 ye morning; everything in the utmost confusion; nothing to eat. At 11 o'clock A.M. was ordered to take the Command of a party upon a scout and marched with 150 men besides 17 Rangers; had not marched from Garrison into the woods more than half a mile, after detaching my front, Rear and flanking Guards, when we met with a party of Regulars and gave them fire, which was Returned by the enemy, who then gave back. I then pursued them with close fire till they betook themselves to the top of a mountain. At the foot of this mountain we posted our and continued our fire until 6 P.M., when a reinforcement of 150 more joined me; but night approaching obliged me to return with my party to Garrison, after finding one of my party killed and 3 wounded, and three of the enemy killed by our first fire.

Battle and Brews article continues on page 4 >>>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Winston Adler, Their Own Voices: Oral Accounts of Early Settlers in Washington County, New York (Interlaken, New York: Heart of the Lakes Publishing, 1983), pp.37-38.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> James Kirby Martin, Benedict Arnold Revolutionary Hero: An American Warrior Reconsidered,( New York: New York University Press, 1997), pp.246 – 249.

# <u>Battles and Brews: A Tour of Washington County Revolutionary War Sites</u> (Continued from page 3)

"Tuesday Morning, 8th, - Myself, with Capt. Hutchins, with the same number of men, marched to the aforesaid mountain and attacked the enemy very warmly. The engagement lasted about 2 hours, at which time the Commander of yo Garrison sent Colo. Ransleur with a small party of militia to reinforce us. We then advanced (firing) up the hill, where we found the enemy's surgeon dressing a Capts Leg. Those, with two of their wounded soldiers, we took and sent in, and a number of our own people, men & women, who were the day before cut off by the enemy, we retook. At last, finding out ammunition gone and none to be to be had in Garrison, ordered off my wounded and some of the dead, and formed a retreat. Much fatigued when I returned and found no refreshments, neither meat or drink; immediately a Council was called and the prisoners who were retaken brot upon examination, who gave information that an express just arrived before we made this second attack and gave the enemy intelligence that a reinforcement of 2000, with Indians, were near at hand join them, at which time they were to make a general attack upon us. It was then determined upon retreat to Fort Edward, after setting fire the Garrison. Accordingly, the wounded were sent off, except one, who was one of my own Company; him the Surgeon that proper not to order off, that he would soon expire, or that if he was likely to live, the enemy, when they took possession, would take care of him. This I knew not of till we were ordered to march, at which time I turned back alone (my Company being gone) to the rear of the Army, where I found him. I then picked up a tent & fastened it between two poles, laid him upon it, and hired four soldiers to carry him. I took their four guns with my own and carried them to Fort Edward; this was about 3 o'clock P.M.; rained very hard; distance from Ann to Fort Edward; 14 miles; arrived at Fort Edward at 10 in the Evening; no Barracks nor Tents to go into; therefore laid down in the rain and slept upon the ground; the fatigue of this day I believe I shall always remember.

"Colo Ransleur, wounded; Capt Weare, wounded; Ensign Walcutt, killed Isaac Davis, a sergeant in my company, killed. Our loss is the two skirmishes about 15; the Enemy's unknown. <sup>5</sup>

As noted, the Patriot Army divided on its retreat from Fort Ticonderoga and had gone in two different directions, one moving southward to Fort Ann and the other through Castleton to Rutland, Vermont, and eventually on to Fort Edward. Indians were used by both armies, General Burgoyne's Indian allies were used as a screen to scout and terrorize patriots in advance of the main force. The story of the killing of Jane McCrea at Fort Edward is well known but a lesser known incident was the killing of an Argyle Loyalist family. the Allens, who were killed and mutilated. Maria McEachron was eighteen years old and recently married at the time of her sister's murder.

My father, Yerry Killmore, told my brother Adam to and help Allen get in his wheat, but Adam felt lazy and wouldn't go, and Father used afterwards to say he could forgive Adam for all his disobedience, he was so glad he disobeyed him this time. So he sent his Negro Tom, who was a young man grown, in Adam's place, and the wench Sarah, who was about twelve years old, and my sister Catherine also went along. They went on foot early on Saturday morning and were to return home at night.

They wrought together in the harvest field. Mistress Allen binding the sheaves, the black girl carrying them together, Allen and Tom reaping, and Catherine at the house taking care of the babe and getting their dinner—she having gone for this purpose, that Mistress Allen might help in the wheat field. To make sure of killing all, it was supposed the Indians lurking in the woods waited till they should be all in the house at dinner, for twas then that the attack was made.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Epsonhistory.com/Epsom/biography/jgray.html

# Battles and Brews: A Tour of Washington County Revolutionary War Sites

(Continued from page 4)

Catherine and the Negroes not coming home at night, on Sunday morning Father sent the boy Abram, Tom's brother, on horseback. Catherine was lame in one foot at this time and he sent the horse for her to ride home on—not knowing but what her foot might have got worse from walking and thus prevented her coming home the night before.

[After coming upon the scene of the massacre] Abram jumped on the horse and rode homewards, three miles to McKallors—choked and crying, he could scarcely for a time make out to them the tale. He durst not ride any further. They thought at first he was afraid of the Indians in the woods and had lied to them about the family's being murdered as an excuse for his fears, and to get them to send somebody home with him.

Allen was found on the path to the barn and near to the barn. A piece behind him was Catherine; behind her and half way for the house to the barn was Mistress Allen with her babe in her arms and placed at her breast—where it must have been put by the Indians, for to scalp it they must have had it out of the mother's arms. The two children and the Negro girl had tried to hide themselves in the bed, for they were found there, the bedclothers gashed and bloody form tomahawks. Blood was tracked all around the floor. Bullet holes were perforated through the door, and there was one bullet through the cupboard door in the northeast corner of the house.

I was living with my husband, Peter McEachron, at the head of the lake [Cossayuna]. On that Saturday he was over at Salem helping them put up pickets around the Presbyterian Church, and came home at night. The next day, Sunday, we heard of the murder, we forsook it and it our two boats went onto the island in the lake where we stayed all night, not venturing to kindle a fire lest it should reveal our hiding place to the Indians.

Next day some of our neighbors passing saw our house deserted. Alarmed, they called our names walking along the lake shore. Hearing and seeing who they were, we answered and came ashore. Cheered up by them, we concluded it was better to stay at home and defend our house if attacked, than forsake it and thus invite its being destroyed. <sup>6</sup>

Fear gripped the countryside; homesteads and entire villages and towns were abandoned and their inhabitants fled. Those who did not leave hid or took confidence that the British Army would protect them. Since 1775, Bennington patriots had gathered and stored military supplies. General Burgoyne, desperate for these supplies, sent Colonel Baum with a small contingent of dragoons, loyalists, rangers, and Indians--a force about 750 troops. Baum was to supplement those troops with more Loyalists, who would theoretically join his ranks during his march toward Bennington. The expedition started from Fort Miller and traveled through the towns of Fort Edward, Easton, Greenwich, Cambridge and White Creek before entering Rensselaer County, New York, where the battle occurred. While entering Cambridge, Baum men were attacked by the Cambridge Militia. <sup>7</sup>

Battle and Brews article continues on page 6>>>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Adler, Own Voices, pp. 51 – 54.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Patrick Niles, "Baum's March to Disaster: "Turning Point" of the British Campaign of 1777", The Journal of the Washington County Historical Society, (2014)

# Battles and Brews: A Tour of Washington County Revolutionary War Sites (Continued from page 5

During the march Baum sent the following communication to Burgoyne:

Cambridge, 13<sup>th</sup> August, 1777

Sir,

In consequence of your Excellency's orders I moved this morning at 4 o'clock with the corps under my command, and after a march of 16 miles arrived at Cambridge at 4 in the evening. On road I received intelligence of 40 or 50 of the rebels being left to guard some cattle. I immediately ordered 30 of the provincials and 50 savages to quicken their march in hopes to surprise them. They took 5 prisoners in arms who declared themselves to be in the service of the Congress. Yet the enemy received advice of our approach and abandoned the house they were posted in. The provincials and savages continued their march almost a mile, when they fell in with a party of 15 men who fired upon our people and immediately took to the woods with the greatest precipitation. The fire was quick on our side but I cannot learn if the enemy sustained any loss. A private of Capt. Sherwood's company was the only one who was slightly wounded – in the thigh. From the many people who came from Bennington, they agreed that the number of the enemy [there] amounted to 1800. I will be particularly careful, one my approach to that place, to be fully informed of their strength and situation and take the precautions necessary...

I cannot ascertain the number of cattle, carts, and wagons taken here, as they have not been yet collected. A few horse have also been brought in, but I am sorry to acquaint your Excellency that the savages either destroy or drive away what is not paid for with ready money. If your Excellency would allow me to purchase the horses from the savages, stipulating the price, I think they might be procured cheap. Otherwise they ruin all they meet with, their officers and interpreters not having it in their power to control them. Our Excellency may depend on hearing how I proceed at Bennington, and of my success there. Praying my most respectful compliment to Gen. Reidesel, I am most respectfully,

Sir, Your most obedient and humble servant, F. Baume

P.S. The names of the men taken in arms are as follows: George Duncan, Joseph Slarrow, Samuel Bell, John Bell, Matt. Bell, Hugh More, a noted rebel, surrender yesterday morning. The express [carrying this dispatch] left Cambridge at 4 o'clock in the morning of the 14<sup>th</sup> August. <sup>8</sup>

Baum and his troops continued on to Walloomsac, the site of the battle, where on August 16<sup>th</sup> his troops were defeated, thereby ensuring Burgoyne that no supplies would be forthcoming.

Participants in the "Battle and Brews" tour will explore these areas of the counties as well as sample some local breweries offerings on the tour. To join the event, contact Pat Niles at at (518) 538-1235 or reservation forms can be found on wchs@wchs-ny.org.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> John Burgoyne, *A State of the Expedition from Canada*, (London: J. Almon, 1780); reprint by The New York & Arno Press, 1969, xxxviii.

#### **WCHS Members Benefits**

We value our members!

As a member of the Washington County Historical Society, you can have the satisfaction of knowing you are participating in the preservation of the important historical heritage of Washington County, New York.

Don't forget—your member benefits include:

- Our quarterly newsletter
- A copy of the latest Annual Journal of the Washington County Historical Society
- A 10% discount on all purchases made at the Wing-Northup House Bookstore

Please note that WCHS membership runs January 1st - December 31st. New memberships received after October 1st will be honored for the following year. Annual memberships and donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. There is a membership form on the back page of this Newsletter for your renewal or to pass along to a friend you think would be interested in joining!

Additionally, members are welcome and encouraged to offer help on various committees, projects, or volunteer to help in the Library. If you'd like to find out about opportunities to volunteer, please contact the Historical Society—we would love to have you on board!

# Washington County Fair—Volunteers Needed!



Volunteers greet visitors during their shift at our booth in the County Bounty Building during the 2015 County Fair.

We welcome volunteers to help us with our locations at the Washington County Fair! We need help staffing both the booth in the County Bounty building and the Caboose. The Fair runs from August 22—28, 2016.

The booth in the County Bounty building was newly updated last year, and we are hoping to improve even more this year. Volunteers are asked to man a four hour shift and greet visitors and sell some select items we will have for sale.

Volunteers working in the Caboose greet visitors and maintain a presence as fair goers review the railroad history depicted in our displays in the Caboose. Adults and children alike enjoy the display as they walk through the Caboose. If you'd like to help, contact the Historical Society for more information or sign up for an available spot. Or pick up the phone when you are called to volunteer. See you at the Fair!

## **WCHS Conducts Tour of Historic County Churches**

The WCHS conducted a well-attended guided interpretive bus tour of five southern Washington County churches on Saturday, May 14. The tour focused not only on the architecture of the various buildings visited, erected between 1787 and 1838, but also on the history of the congregations and the communities they served, and how they fit into the larger patterns of Washington County history. The tour was a success on several levels; between \$500 and \$600 was raised for WCHS operations, while attendees were provided with a unique historical experience and one which reminded all of the value of these important Washington County historic assets.

The first stop, after leaving the rendezvous point in Salem, was the Coila Presbyterian Church. Rose Bates, the church historian, and Bill Krattinger, the WCHS tour guide and trustee, led the group through the building there. Ms. Bates provided an overview of renovations made to the church, which was accompanied by Bill's interpretation of the building's architectural design and aspects of this congregation's historic development.

Next, the tour traveled to the two Quaker meeting houses in Easton. At the south meetinghouse the group was met by Bill Reagan, who opened up the building for the group and spoke about Easton's Quakers. Both Reagan and Krattinger conveyed the "Fierce Feathers" story, an event during the Revolution in which a group of Native American warriors from Burgoyne's army entered the Quaker's meetinghouse while the group was worshipping; they later dined with the Quakers and left the group in peace.

Next up on the itinerary was the Quaker north meetinghouse, where the group was met by an active Quaker who offered her insights into contemporary worship there; WCHS trustee Debi Craig additionally offered insights into the building's connection with the Underground Railroad, the Anti-Slavery movement, and the family of Susan B. Anthony.

The tour's next stop was the Fort Miller Reformed Church, where the group was addressed by Mac Sanders and Fort Edward historian Paul McCarthy; McCarthy spoke about the church's central place in the historic Fort Miller community as well as the larger region, while Saunders explained renovations made to the church while also offering an overview of its history. While in Fort Miller the group was treated to a tour of the old cemetery there, which serves as the final resting place for many prominent historic Fort Miller citizens.

The final stop was the Old White Meeting house in Salem, one of the county's most iconic historic structures. Krattinger explained that when completed the church was the largest house of worship that existed north of Albany and south of the Canadian border. It was the third church built for Dr. Thomas Clark's congregation from Ballibay, Ireland, and aspects of its history were discussed by Dolorus Phanuef, Ruth Innes, and Norma Skellie. Longtime WCHS trustee Kay Tomasi offered some additional thoughts on General John Williams's part in developing the church and how his family continued his legacy of giving to both the church and the Salem community.

The WCHS wishes to thank all those whose efforts made the day a success and for the generosity of the various groups which opened the doors of their buildings for this event.







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Tour day in photos (photos courtesy Debi Craig and Bill Krattinger)

















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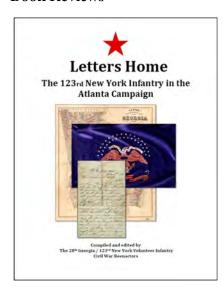
#### **Notes from the Library**

If you would like to volunteer to work in the Heritage Research Library, please call us at 747-9108. We will match what you would like to do with the tasks that need to be done. Most tasks do not involve the use of a computer.

Recently, I walked out the back door of the Wing-Northup House and noticed something had disappeared: the bandstand. It is completely gone. Now we have a fuller view of the River, but we used the bandstand to judge how high the water was getting during the spring thaw. When only the roof was visible, we became vigilant.

In March, I attended a workshop, held at the Schenectady County Library, about the use of Social Media in libraries because we are now on *Facebook*. Please **Like** us on *Facebook* if you get the chance.

#### **Book Reviews**



Letters Home: The 123<sup>rd</sup> New York Infantry in the Atlanta Campaign, Compiled and edited by the 28<sup>th</sup> Georgia/123<sup>rd</sup> New York Volunteer Infantry Civil War Reenactors. 2016.

Here are letters home from the soldiers of the 123rd New York, augmented by photographs and maps. Many of the letters are accompanied by photos, and there are four photos of the 123rd in group form. The letters are from Captain George W. Baker, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Seth Carey, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Robert Cruikshank, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. George L Robinson, Sgt. Henry C. Morhous, Cpl. Henry Welch, Pvt. Noah G. Hill, Pvt. Thomas Mahaffy, and Pvt. Harlan P. Martin.

A letter from 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Robert Cruikshank of Company H, 123<sup>rd</sup> New York Volunteer Infantry while outside Atlanta, Georgia:

There was sharp fighting this morning. The enemy gave us a shelling. One shell struck the ground, then bounded over the works and struck the ground again where Lieutenant Beattie had stepped from, then bounded into a tent ten feet away and landed in a frying pan. It was fortunate for us that it did not explode. How the men laughed when they saw the twenty-pound shell in the pan. They thought they would not cook it as it would be hard to digest.

On a Hill to our right there are two thirty-two-pound cannon that are fired every ten minutes night and day. They are not over one hundred rods from us. They are throwing shell into the heart of the city. I should think there would be but little rest in the city with those large shell bursting every ten minutes. They have been in position four days. This hill is one of the highest points from which several spires can be seen. (page 44)

The 123<sup>rd</sup> New York was the first Union regiment to enter Atlanta. Appendix A lists causalities from the Atlanta Campaign, consisting of the following battles: Resaca, Cassville, New Hope Church, Pine Mountain, Kolb's Farm, Kennesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, and Battles for Atlanta. Appendix A also includes a sizeable list of those who died of disease and by accident.

For more about the 28<sup>th</sup> Georgia and the 123<sup>rd</sup> New York, please visit the website: www.28thGa.org.

The MacNaughtons of Argyle, by James MacNaughton, Jr., 1994. This book is a fine companion to *The Argyle Patent and Its Early Settlers*, also by James McNaughton, Jr. McNaughton traces his family from Scotland to the United States. The book is indexed and the Appendices include a map of Islay, Scotland, a map of the Argyle Patent, a list of where the spouses of the MacNaughtons came from, slavery among the ancestors, and McNaughton-related homes. This text is a gift of Paul McCarty.

#### **Books of Note**

The Old Military Road: from Fort Edward to Lake George, 1755: Burgoyne's Route 1777 from Quebec to Old Saratoga. This text is a scanned reprint by Sleeper Books, 2014. We also have the original, copyright 1927, by Harriet Bentley, with photos and maps. The new edition is indexed. Many researchers ask about this route.

Along the Battenkill, part of the Images of America Series, 2015.

Thank you to all of you who support the Washington County Historical Society and its Heritage Research Library in any way. A special thanks to Keith Truesdale and Steve Lapham.

- Submitted by Barbara D. Anderson, Librarian, BA, MA, MLS (ALA)

## WCHS Calendar 2016

August 22-28 – Washington County Historical Society members will man the Caboose and the County Bounty buildings. Children are invited to come into the Caboose for a free coloring book. Adults are invited to our booth at the County Bounty building to view our historic slide presentation, and to pick up any of the WCHS handouts and to shop our books at the booth. We are also looking for volunteers to work at our two locations for a shift. Please call the Historical Society at 747-9104 if you would like to offer assistance.

October 1 – Join the WCHS "Battles and Brews" tour through Washington County. This tour will travel through many of the American Revolutionary sites in Washington County. See where the American Navy was born, where the death of Jane McCrea occurred, the area of the Battle of Fort Ann, and the beginning of the end when the tour travels along the Baum Trail. The tour also will include visits to Washington County microbreweries. This tour is a fundraiser for Washington County Historical Society. The cost is \$50 to members and \$55 for non-members. To find further information on the tour, call (518) 538-1235.

**October 22** – WCHS Annual Membership Meeting with an open house tour of the Wing-Northup House. The meeting will be held at the Rogers Island Visitor Center from 10 am – 3 pm. There will be a guided tour of Rogers Island to end the day's program. The agenda and reservation information will appear in future WCHS *Newsletters*.

#### 2016 Board of Directors

#### **OFFICERS**

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## **STANDING COMMITTEES:**

Building—Sally Brillon Finance—Kay Tomasi Nominations—John Mead

# TRUSTEES EMERITI

Joan Handy Agnes Peterson

## WCHS HISTORIAN

John A. Mead



167 Broadway Fort Edward NY 12828-1709 Telephone (518) 747-9108

WCHS MEMBE	RSHIP APPLICATION	New	Renev	wal	Summer 2016 New
Name				Date	
Address	City		State		
Telephone ( )	E-mail				
Do you have an off-season	address? (e.g. start: Januar	ry; end: March	)		
Address	City		State	Zip	
Away Date:	Return Date:				
	Membership Ca	tegories			
Benefactor \$500+		_ Family (#) \$25	5		
Sustaining \$150		_ Individual \$20			
Contributing \$75		Senior \$15			
Patron \$50		Student \$15			
☐ I would like to include	an additional gift of \$ for: t becoming a WCHS volunteer.	Library Opera			]

Please note that the WCHS membership year is January 1 thru December 31. New memberships received after November 1 will be honored for the following year. Annual memberships and donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.