

Nanticoke Valley Historical Society

2015 Newsletter # 2 May *edited by Phil Childs*



1870

1830

1840

1845



THE
**J. RALPH INGALLS
SCHOOL**
HAS BEEN PLACED ON THE
NATIONAL REGISTER
OF HISTORIC PLACES
BY THE UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR



J. Ralph
1909



C. Stratton—1972

HISTORY DETECTIVES

We have a wealth of "living" history throughout our community. What is the unknown past to us today is still present in the memories of others. I would like to call all to provide stories or photographs of one community member whose name is notable- **J. Ralph Ingalls**. I know a few details about him, mostly by doing a "Goggle" search. Born: 1896 Died 1972, Married Lucy H. ,born 1897, died 1990, Lived in Maine NY Buried in Maine Cemetery; Veteran WW I; Member of the Maine Community Band (played piccolo) , Grandfather James N. step mother Harriet E. Tucker (married 1890). Maine Central School (Church Street) dedicated 1940 ; re-named 1969 J. Ralph Ingalls School; 1940 Treasurer Board of Education; wife Lucy Ingalls 4th grade teacher; lived on McGregor Avenue;

I'm asking you ,what else do you know about **J. Ralph Ingalls**. In a town filled with so many great individuals why was the school named after him? What is his family tree? (Parents?, Siblings?) Could you send your stories about **J. Ralph Ingalls** to our curator [Susan Lisk nhscurator@hotmail.com](mailto:nhscurator@hotmail.com) The gathered information will be presented in the next newsletter issue. Thanks.



Sandy Rozek : Past President and New Trustee
Carla Sullivan: Incoming President

Officers

President:	Carla Sullivan	862-5385
Vice President:	Alice Hopkins	862-3635
Secretary:	Anita Shipway	785-9207
Treasurer:	Sandy Halliday	862-3470
Museum Curator	Sue Lisk	862-9705
Mill Curator	Tom Kotasek	754-0381

The Board of Trustees*

2015: Phil Childs, Sue Hoskins, Joanne Weir
2016: John Haggerty, Diane Fleenor, Betty Welch
2017: Nancy Berry, Sandy Rozek, Pat Stacconi
* New positions are voted on each year. The term of a trustee is three years. This provides for an ever changing but ongoing board coverage.

PRESIDENT'S PAGE: LAST year at this time, our organization was reeling from the results of a plumbing disaster as we approached the beginning stages of recovery. This year we are enjoying freshly rebuilt walls, ceilings and floors in our Museum rooms as we engage in the process of planning and repairing exhibits.

Now too, a newly-elected presiding officer is trying to fill the shoes of a very capable and long-serving past president. This would be a truly daunting challenge if it weren't for the dependable support of a very competent staff of officers and committees. I'm reminded also that the ground work completed at least four decades ago remains intact because of the dedication of very committed group of visionaries.

Curator, Susan Lisk, estimates two years will be needed to fully refurbish our exhibits. We recognize the need to approach these coming months with the same zeal and commitment the founding charter members displayed those many years ago.

It is my belief that we have both long-standing members and new people in our organization capable of doing exactly that!

As I focus on the future and embrace our past, I remain,
Carla Sullivan,
Incoming president

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JOIN US

JULY 17, 18, 19

at J. Ralph Ingalls

for 2 major happenings! *



⇒ The musical comedy production: **"NUNcrackers"** featuring local talent.

⇒ **Maine's July Kriskindlmart**
an old world winter in summer celebration

YESTERDAY AND TODAY: 1845 ONE ROOM SCHOOL



THE CASE OF THE NO LONGER LONELY SCHOOLHOUSE

What once looked like a shabby Hansel and Gretel cottage in disrepair has for almost 15 years stood with its little head held high for all to see at the point between Rte 26 and Nanticoke Road, across from our museum. What not so long ago was a new acquisition is now a recognizable landmark for our hamlet.

In March of 1998, our one-room schoolhouse was donated by its owners to our historical society if we could raise the funds for relocation. Having been built in 1845 Schoolhouse # 4 had been used as a K-12 school for nearly a century at its location at the intersection of Campville Rd and Cafferty Hill Road as part of the Tioga/Town of Union School District.

Our current trustee, Pat (Kollar) Stacconi and her co-chair, Michele Knaul headed the committee to make this move happen. Fourteen months after the donation was received, ground was broken for the preparatory foundation, after many months of hard work, grant seeking, fund-raising and planning by a committee of our members, teachers at Maine-Memorial School and parents. The actual move took place on June 10, 1999, and further restorations and renovations began in the spring of 2000. On September 24th, 2000, a dedication ceremony took place and Schoolhouse # 4 was officially opened to the public. At this ceremony were members of the student body who had actually attended the school when it had closed in 1942. Some of these were again present at the 10th anniversary celebration in 2010. Many students and museum visitors from all over have enjoyed activities and tours of this jewel in our crown. What a wonderful way to begin a historic millennium!

Sandy Rozek

MAINE, NY 1878

Little Known facts:

In 1878 Maine had:

four(4) General Stores
two(2) Drug Stores
two(2) Meat Markets
two(2) Shoe Shops
two(2) Blacksmith Shops
two(2) Wagon Shops
One(1) Tin Shop
One(1) Flour & Feed Store
One(1) Millinery Store
One(1) Furniture Store
One(1) Hotel
One(1) Tannery

One(1) Creamery
One(1) Rake Factory
One(1) Grist Mill
One(1) Saw Mill
Two(2) Doctors - MD's
One(1) Homeopathic Doctor

TAKEN FROM AN EXHIBIT AT PITCHERS MILL



Maine had various meat markets in the hamlet through the years. Interior shot of Herman Kattell's market on Main Street. NVHS Photo Archives

March 27th, 1848 Happy 166th Birthday
Maine, NY "the township of Maine was formed from the township of Union. Eight years later a small portion of the northeastern part was set off to Chenango, leaving 28,429 acres, which comprises its territory at the present time. At the first election held for the election of officers after the organization of the township the following were chosen: Supervisor, Andrew H. Arnold; town clerk, John W. Hunt; superintendent of schools, Marshall Delano; collector, John T. Davis; justices of the peace, Cyrus Gates, John Blanchard and Hanan W. Mooers; assessors, Orange H. Arnold, Thomas Youngs, Jr., William H. Tuttle; commissioners of highways, Hanan Payne and Edward W. Ward; overseers of the poor, Dexter Hathaway and Matthew Allen; pound master, Lyman Pollard."

History of Maine, New York FROM: BINGHAMTON and BROOME COUNTY NEW YORK A HISTORY
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: WILLIAM FOOTE SEWARD
LIBRARIAN FOR THE BINGHAMTON PUBLIC LIBRARY PUBLISHED BY LEWIS HISTORICAL PUBLISHING COMPANY NEW YORK AND CHICAGO, 1924

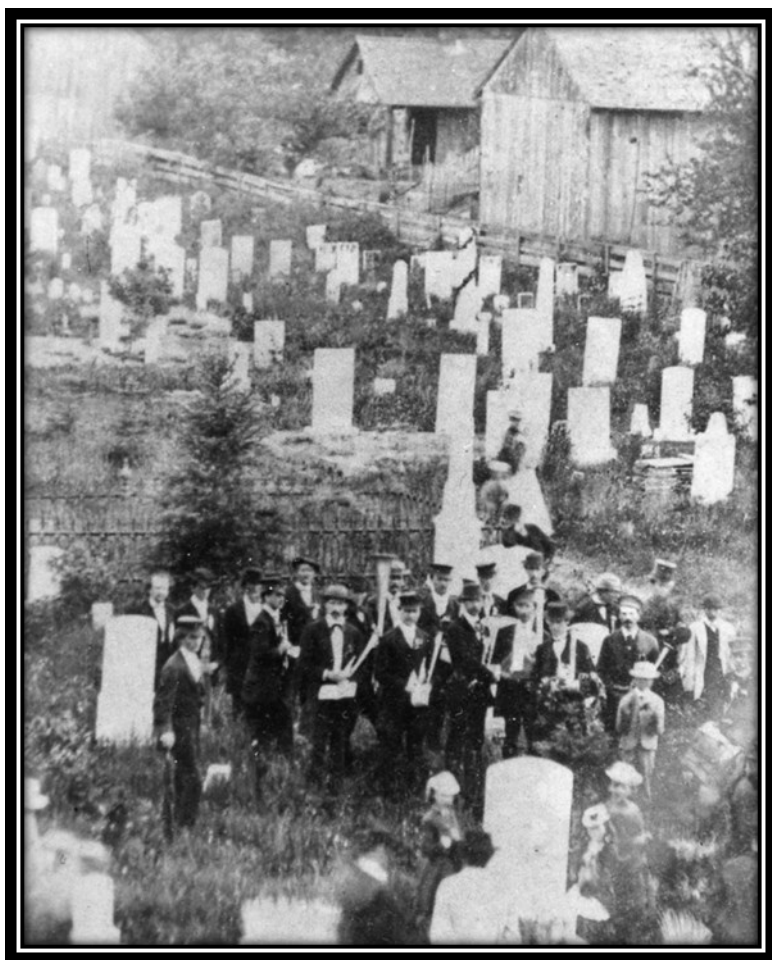
IN MEMORY



Larry Rice

March 31, 2015

The Maine Community Band



Photograph of the Maine Community Band in the *Maine Cemetery* taken in 1861.

"This band, consisting mostly of brass and percussion instruments contained several over-the-shoulder horns. These instruments were only popular during the Civil War, when the band needed to be heard by the following army."

"Members included: N.B. Wright, George Hathaway, E.E. Todd, Henry Marean, F.W. Hovey, Dwight Dudley, Myron Lewis and W.O. Lincoln."

Pg. 114 *Maine and The Nanticoke Valley* by Susan H. Lisk



"Founded in 1861, The Maine Community Band is believed to be one of the oldest community bands in the United States. While we do not know for certain the exact reason for the founding, it seems a logical suggestion might be that the band was formed to play for Union soldiers departing to fight in the U.S. Civil War. In any event, records and diaries reveal the existence of a band in Maine since 1861."

Today, the band continues to practice or perform almost every Tuesday of the year. Our members range in age from early teens to octogenarians. They represent all levels of musical skill. Some members live so close they can walk to rehearsals, while others drive from; Windsor, Montrose PA, Owego, Newark Valley, Binghamton, Johnson City, Endwell, Endicott as well as Maine. There is one thing all members have in common. As a band, we remain committed to one cause: that music should be fun and accessible. We are truly a community band." <http://www.maineband.com>

"Hitch your wagon to a star." - Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)



5.30.2011 Maine's Memorial Day Parade

A WAGON FOR ALL SEASONS

In around 1995 a gentleman named Tom Kotasek, along with his sidekick, Bob Griffin, was enthusiastically working on the renovation of Pitcher's Mill, a stellar property of our historical society. At that time he spotted a farmers' auction in which there was listed a "glorious" wooden farm wagon. He immediately thought of this item as a potentially useful accessory to his burgeoning plans for our future. He anticipated storage under the mill and multiple uses as they should arise. Unfortunately, he was unable to attend that auction in Marathon, so contacted Clarence Ames to represent us on that date. The wagon was successfully purchased, and with the eager motivation of our tireless members, Sue and Stan Lisk, and Betty and Leo Welch, a "wagon refurbishment" event was planned in conjunction with our Bicentennial Celebration of 1998. Our members first laid eyes on that artistic and practical piece of vintage transportation in the parade for that weekend event. Betty had drawn the patterns for the letters that Leo cut out to be attached to the side signs he had created. After the letters were painted, decorative stencils adorned the Welch driveway until new blacktop covered them over. The wagon itself was painted by Sue and Stan, (and perhaps other unnamed helpers) and the multiple sightings of our wonderful wagon have spanned almost two decades. We have gathered up members at almost every Memorial Day parade, carried the wagon to neighboring villages and cities (including Newark Valley and Binghamton), carried visitors on walking tours of the hamlet guided by our community youth, given wagon rides for fundraisers and various celebrations, and could most likely create a whole album of photos of its many passengers. Perhaps some of you have photos you could contribute to such a project.

It was soon discovered that storage under the mill was not a feasible option, but undampened in spirit, the illustrious wagon is currently housed in the Norton Carriage Shops at the end of Tiona Rd. Sandy Rozek



CURATORS CORNER NVHSCURATOR@HOTMAIL.COM On this 150 anniversary of the end of the Civil War, we reflect on Maine, New York's connection to the war. One hundred and ninety of our citizens fought in this conflict and one Dr. Dwight Dudley received from Dr. Charles Leale, his friend, the first medical account of President Lincoln's assassination. The original letters contents were donated to the museum by Myra Dudley daughter of Dr. Dudley and they are now found at the The Shapell Manuscript Foundation which is an independent educational organization dedicated to the research, collection, and exhibition of original manuscripts and historical documents. <http://www.shapell.org> skip to pgs. 8 and 9 to view more

Programs/Trips/Picnic and Fundraisers : 2015

MAY 25 Monday Memorial Day Smokey Legend BBQ and Bake Sale Plus Time 11—2 near museum and school house

SUNDAYS AT THE MUSEUM - June-August
Museum Open for Tours, Call for Hours.

JUNE 7th Sunday **Fieldtrip** meeting at museum at noon for carpooling. Viewing the *Cornell Plantation* the Dr. Clement Bowers Rhododendron connection - Many of the 12 gardens are an easy walk We can meet for lunch afterwards perhaps at the Boatyard Restaurant in Ithaca. RSVP Sandy Halliday 862-3470

JUNE 15 Monday **Picnic** 6 pm at the museum Topic Sharing Memories of Picnics Past - Please bring a favorite dish of yours to pass, bring your own place setting.

Path Through History Weekend (20-21)

JUNE 20 Saturday 1-3 pm at museum. Joyce Jackson/Sue Hoskins **Genealogy Workshop**. Cost \$12.00 to register call Sue Hoskins 862-9437

JUNE 21 : Opening of "Maine Through the Seasons— a photographic essay. Phil Childs Reception 1-3

JULY 17 -19

3 performances Friday to Sunday "NUNcrackers" J.R. Ingalls School. a musical comedy production featuring local talent. details TBA

AND

Maine's July Kriskindlmart you gotta be there!

AUGUST 1,2 Saturday-Sunday SRO Productions **Musical Production** "School House Rock" details TBA J.R. Ingalls School

AUGUST 17 Monday Kimport Ethnic Doll Company- From the Depression to the 1970's. For collectors of foreign costume dolls, the Kimport Doll Company is the jewel in the crown. Presented by Candy Brady - Past President Broome County Doll Club

SEPTEMBER 12 **Fieldtrip** Saturday: Leaving 8:00 AM for 9:30 Tour. Matilda Joslyn Gage House 210 E. Genesee Street, Fayetteville, NY Cost involved \$6.00
www.matildajoslyngage.org RSVP Sandy Halliday at 862-3470

OCTOBER **Cemetery Tour** Date TBA The Allentown Cemetery; Learn about the stories of the 421 Individuals who are interred here. Saturday at 3 PM If weather is poor PowerPoint showing. At the museum

NOVEMBER 11 Wednesday Veterans Day Dinner **Fundraiser** at Friend's Diner Maine NY

NOVEMBER 16 **Presentation** Betty Welch talks about "When the Hamlet of Maine was the place to live if you worked for Binghamton University".



A shout out to Jim McKilligan for mowing the lawn at Pitcher's Mill

Maine, NY : the Civil War and Lincoln's Assassination - Connection



"Veterans of the Civil War from the Maine area Of the 190 men from the area who went to defend the Union, 15 died in battle, from disease, or after suffering wounds. 100 served in the 50th New York Engineers ...Photo 1898 They are from left to right, first row Aaron Travis, Orin D. Gray, John Riordon, Fernando Chancey, William Bronk, Marden Durfee and William Holbrook; second row Horace Butts, Garrett Rozelle, James M. Emerson and Judson T. Brown; third row James Riddle, LeRoy Bostwick, Norman Brown, Joshua Murch, Nelson Barid and Rufs W. Porter; fourth row Morgan Yarnes and F.F. Corwit The last Civil War veteran from the Maine area was Gorge Norton who died in 1931. "

Gen. Robert E. Lee's surrender on April 9, 1865 , Civil War "ends" ., Lincoln Assassination April 14, 1865.



Grand Army of the Republic Grave Marker

"Army Square"
U.S. Gen Hospital
Washington D.C.
May 28th 1865
Dear Friend Dudley
Your last came safely
You will please excuse me
for not answering it sooner
as I have been very busy.
As you noticed I am in the
volunteer service. there were
no vacancies in the regular
army, and after having been
examined for seven days
by three old army surgeons
I was accepted, and have
been on duty since at

May 28, 1865 8 page letter from Dr. Leale to Dr. Dudley concerning his role in aiding Lincoln minutes after Lincoln was shot. The full letter can be viewed at:



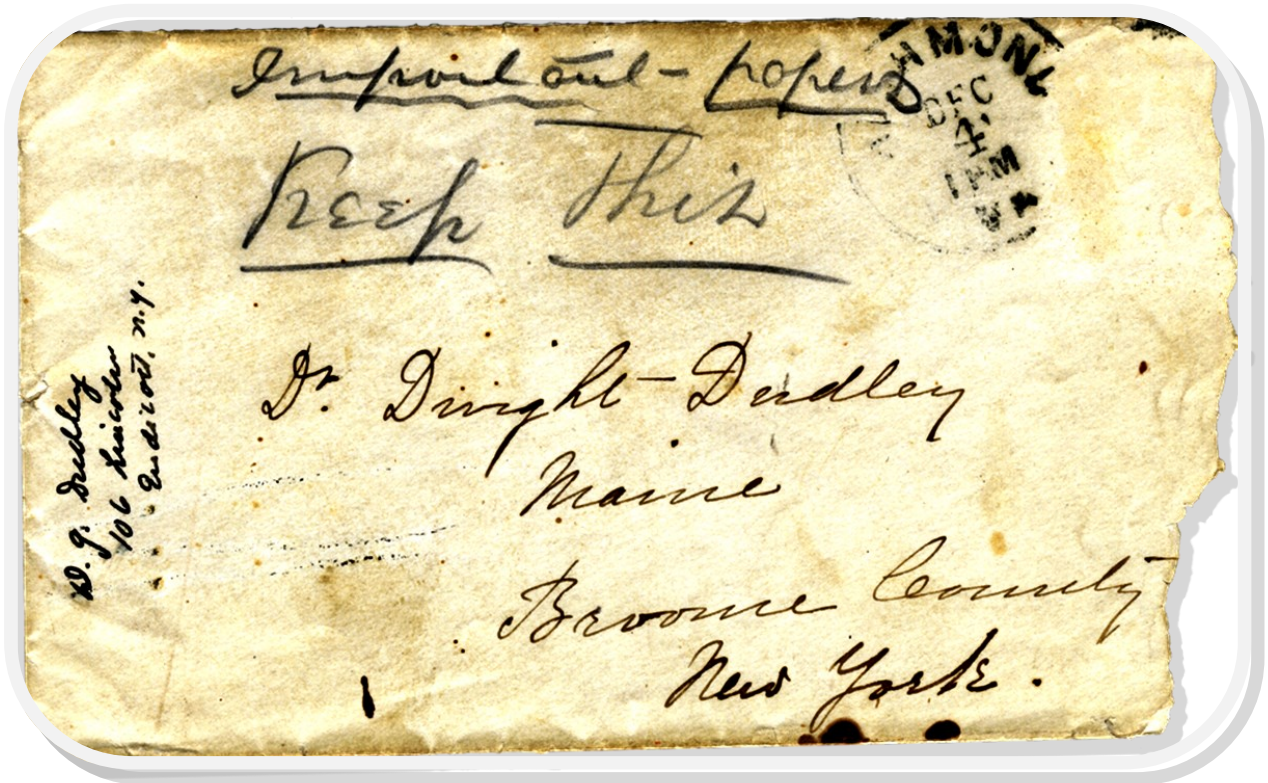
Dr. Charles Leale



Dr. Dwight Dudley (1863)

<http://www.shapell.org/manuscript/earliest-first-responder-report-doctor-leale-abraham-lincoln-fords-theatre-assassination>

Letter sent one hundred fifty years ago to Dr. Dwight Dudley from Dr. Charles Leale about the assassination of Lincoln.



Ford's Theatre to Host Lincoln Assassination Artifact Exhibition in 2015
Silent Witnesses: Artifacts of the Lincoln Assassination, March 23 - May 25, 2015

<http://www.dcoutlook.com/2014/10/fords-theatre-to-host-lincoln.html>

"Included within the *Silent Witnesses* exhibition are: Abraham Lincoln's top hat, cuff buttons, a Brooks Brothers Great Coat and the contents of his pockets from the night of the assassination; Mary Todd Lincoln's black velvet cape; John Wilkes Booth's derringer pistol; a letter from Dr. Charles Leale, the first to attend to the wounded president; the Bunting Flag from the Presidential Box at Ford's Theatre; fragments from the gowns worn by Mary Todd Lincoln and guest Clara Harris; gloves belonging to Major Henry Rathbone; a bloody sleeve cuff and fragment from the costume worn by leading actress Laura Keene; a playbill for the performance of *Our American Cousin*; and a violin and drumsticks used in the orchestra the night of April 14, 1865. [From the Shapell Manuscript Foundation Letter from Dr. Charles Leale to Dr. Dwight Dudley](#). Twenty three year old Dr. Charles Leale, six weeks out of medical school, attended *Our American Cousin* on April 14, 1865. He would be the first on the scene when the president was shot. His May 28th letter to his friend describes the details of the night Lincoln died. The letter is noteworthy, however, in that Leale briefly mentions Lincoln's funeral and also recounts attending part of the trial of John Wilkes Booth's co-conspirators. Memorably, he describes them as a "very inferior-looking set of men."

Nanticoke Valley Historical Society,

PO Box 75 , Maine, NY 13802

May 2015 Issue # 2

Name:	_____
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City/State/Zip:	_____
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(Work)	_____
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Dues:	_____
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Nanticoke Valley Historical Society, Attn: Treasurer, PO Box 75 , Maine, NY 13802

Note: See Address label for your Dues Paid status. Please mail returns to:

Dues Please Circle Year(s) 2015 2016