



DHS News

The Official Newsletter
of the

Deposit Historical Society

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The Deposit Historical Society

145 Second Street

Deposit, New York 13754

(607) 467-4422

Website: www.deposithistoricalsociety.org

Note: You can view our newsletters with color pictures in pdf format on our website!

Presidents Message

I would like to thank all of our patrons for a very successful year! Our Board members have worked diligently to provide a truly enlightening experience at DHS. Our programs have been extremely educational and entertaining. Two of our outstanding programs, "Voices from the Grave," attended by over 100 people, and our Cannonsville program with standing room only at the State Theatre, are examples of the type of program we offer.



We have two more programs to finish out the year. On Thursday, November 16th at 7pm, we will offer "STORY of the WRIGHT Brothers," a live performance by Judith Present's Theatre Company, Presentarts. Also, On Sunday, December 3rd at 2pm, "A Holdrege Family Christmas," will feature holiday music with Patty, Gary & Family.

The Museum visiting hours are now closed until next Memorial Day weekend, however, you are welcome to make an appointment to come visit. We have been very busy and welcome you to our Museum and research center! Our research team still meets Tuesday mornings from 9:30 -12:00. Please give them a call to set up a time for your research, or walk through the back door of the Bundy House at 143 Second Street on Tuesday mornings. If you have any family history that you would like to share, please give us a call. (607) 467-4422

President Terry Raymond

Excerpts from a Boy's Journal 1915

Ever wonder what life was like a century or two ago? Often times we find bits of history in journals that the museum acquires. Not only do the journals preserve history, they also connect us with the lives of people in the past, perhaps even ancestors that we did not really know. Come visit the museum and explore the journals we have to see the past through the eyes of the authors.

In a recent donation from the Axtell family, there were several journals. Here are some excerpts from the journal of 10 year old Kenneth Axtell in 1915.

January 15: I helped Momma feed the hens and went to school. It snowed last night and this morning and it snowed to rain.

February 19: I helped Momma feed the hens and then went to school. Poppa fixed my sleigh wagon. The Van Akin's were up tonight to hear the phonograph.

March 11: I helped Momma feed the hens and went to school. After school I went down to Lawrence Smiths after some buckles to put on my boots. I rode my calf down and back.

April 15: I helped Momma feed the hens and then to Deposit. We got our car today, we went with horses.

May 15: I feed the hens and then went to town and came back with Roy. Poppa and Mama went to Binghamton to a show. We got home about one. Poppa got me a pair of hip boots for my birthday-present. I got me a ball mit it cost me \$1.00 very fancy and went down to Deposit after Poppa and Momma. I caught a trout that was 10 ounces. I caught it on a fly.

June 24: I feed the dog and then feed my rabbits and then we went to town come up to Grandpa Franks to dinner and then we plaid ball with Cannonsville. We beat them the score was 8-4 our favor.

July 28: I feed my rabbit and then mowed some grass for the hens then I drove a load of hay on my cart . We had company John Axtells wife and her two boys. They plaid ball with me their names was Roger and



Herold Poppa took them home.

August 26: I got the milk and feed the hens and rabbits then took Martha and Lucy Axtell to the Axtell reunion. We started about ten o'clock we got down by Henry Hess's and had a blow out. We got to the reunion about eleven o'clock we plaid ball all day. Hamletville and Stilesville 25-5 favor Hamletville. Mr Frank gave me \$2.50 gold piece for keep sake for the trout I caught.

September 7: Feed the hens and chickens and then went to school. today is the first day. Poppa and Momma took Uncle Rob and Aunt Dora to Oneonta to a funeral. Papa broke a front spring they got back about eight.

October 12: I built a fire, got the milk, feed the hens and chickens then went to school. Momma got up this morning but she had to go to bed again. After school I got my night wood we took the leaves out of my rabbit pen.

November 24: I got the milk, feed my rabbit then ate my breakfast. I looked at my three traps and didnt catch anything. School was let out at three o'clock. I set twelve traps. Gardiner folks came up for awhile tonight. I fainted away because I caught my finger in a mouse trap.

December 24, I got the milk, feed the rabbits then ate

my breakfast. Stanley and I went hunting and we got one rabbit. Momma gave me a pair of 4 buckle artics for Christmas, a pair of woolen shirts, a book and a lot of other things. Eldridge gave me a book, Mrs Gardiner give me a cup and saucer. Dora give me a necktie.

Kenneth was the son of Herbert and Flora Axtell whose homestead, a large dairy farm, was on Route 8 in Barbourville. Kenneth lived on the homestead all of

his life. After graduating from the Barbourville School District No. 10, he married Sylvia Frank, and they had two children. Kenneth retired as the chairman of the Deposit Advisory board after the Farmers National Bank merged into the National Bank and Trust Company of Norwich. He was also Chairman of the Board and former treasurer of the Delaware County Republican Committee. He died in 1989 at the age of 85 and is buried in the Barbourville cemetery.



Barbourville School picture

Kenneth- front row L to R is the 6th child

others mentioned in Kenneths journal: Lawrence Smith who is on Kenneths left, Eldridge Axtell front row L to R first child and on his right Stanley Gardiner

The Art of Schrimshaw

On June 21st, local artisan Tim Beers, who has been crafting pieces of schrimshaw since 1979, was invited to speak at the Historical Society. Schrimshaw began as a folk art first practiced by whalers in the early 19th and 20th centuries. Tim explained how schrimshaw was done in the past and how it has con-

tinued to the present day in much of the same manner. He brought smaller completed pieces with him along with photos of some of his larger pieces. He passed the photos around for inspection while he answered questions about the craft.




Loomis Gang of the Nine Mile Swamp

On July 19th, Vicky House, the Oxford Town Historian, entertained with the story of the Loomis Gang. The family, known as the Loomis Family Gang, were

well known for committing robbery, rustling horses and cattle, thievery, assault and arson in Central New York and Pennsylvania during the mid-19th century.

\$500 REWARD.
FOR THE APPREHENSION OF WANTED DOLOGUES



The said Loomis is forty years old, of average height and of sturdy build, has regular features, sandy, thick hair, dark blue eyes, is said to be very affable and an exquisite dresser. He is suspected of taking part in the recent attempt to assassinate Constable James Filkins on the night of 22nd July, 1863 assisted by members of

The Loomis Gang

Also Wanted

including Frank Loomis, and including this man, who is supposed to be a member of the same gang, and who is also suspected of taking part in the recent attempt to assassinate Constable James Filkins on the night of 22nd July, 1863 assisted by members of the said Loomis.

Washington Loomis

The said Loomis is forty years old, of average height and sturdy built, has regular features, curly black hair, dark blue eyes, is said to be very affable and an exquisite dresser. He is suspected of taking part in the recent attempt to assassinate Constable James Filkins on the night of 22nd July, 1863 assisted by members of

The Loomis Gang



The Loomis Gang
By George W. Walter

"The Loomises and their gang lived like robber barons and ruled Upstate New York for 100 years. Like modern day gangsters they ruled with an iron hand and were well protected by attorneys, judges and law offices. No one dared to oppose them until a small sandy-haired constable named James L. Filkins came along.

Constable Filkins was almost as ruthless as the Loomises and never stopped his pursuit until the family had nearly been wiped out."

Women's Suffrage in the Southern Tier

On August 16th, Emma Sedore, who has served as the Tioga Historian since 2001 and the Town of Owego Historian since 1987 gave a historical account of womans's suffrage in the Southern Tier. She also

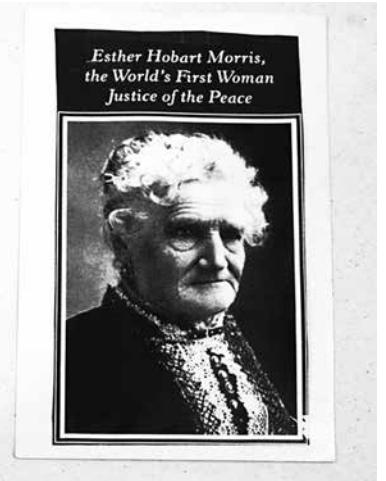
gave a personal look at the women who struggled and finally succeeded in winning the right for women to vote.



Susan B. Anthony



Alice Paul



Esther Hobart Morris

Ladies Tea

The high tea held on September 30th at the museum was a great way to celebrate fall, the holidays, friendships, and fundraising. Delicious munchies and

tea were served and a fun game of holiday trivia was played. Special thanks to Carol Sanford and Trades of Hope for the program and donation.



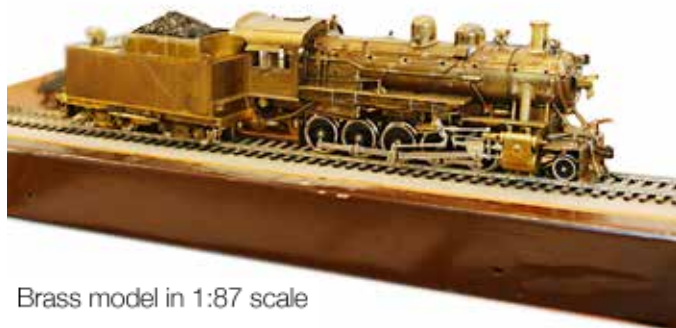
Memorial to Karl Crantz

The evening's program on September 20th was dedicated to the memory of a beloved member of our board of directors, Karl Crantz. Karl's wife, Dottie, and other family members attended this program celebrating Karl's love of trains and railroad history.

Karl restored the train in our museum display following water damage in the train room. He was meticulous in taking apart the model tiny piece by tiny piece, and removing all signs of rust.

For our Olde Tyme Craft Fairs, he would put his miniature trains on display and be the happy engineer answering questions to young and old. Dottie brought and displayed some train models that Karl had built. His love of working with very small items grew out of

Karl spent much time working with our speaker, John Good-nough, who is a member of the Susquehanna Valley Train Regional History Society. John brought glimpses of railroad history in our surrounding area and paid tribute to some outstanding people who helped to preserve and chronicle that history.



Brass model in 1:87 scale

his admiration of his father who was the watchmaker for Macy's on 34th Street in New York City.



Voices from the Grave

The night of October 28th was the Revolutionary Cemetery presentation of "Voices from the Grave." The cemetery was lit by lanterns, torches, and flashlights, as community members represented notable founders of Deposit, Deansville, and Barbourville. A repeat performance was given October 29th in the museum. The characters featured were: Margaret Whitaker Edick, the wife of Revolutionary war veteran Conrad Edick; Dr. Bundy, a noted Civil War surgeon and Deposit doctor; Nathan and Lois Dean, the founders of Deansville (Broome County side of

Deposit); Moses Lafayette, a Boston Tea Party participant and settler of Barbourville; Eunice Whitaker, daughter-in-law to Squire Whitaker who shared her dying wishes to her family; John and Abigail Hulse, the first white settlers in Koo Koose/Cookhouse (the Delaware side of Deposit); Betsy Pine Butler, part of the 2nd family to settle Cookhouse flats and who defied her parentst and married the man she loved; and Elizabeth Whitaker, wife of Squire Whitaker who survived two Indian massacres before settling in Cookhouse.

Photos on the next page BR

DEPOSIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2023 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

All programs are free of charge and everyone is welcome. Programs are held at the Museum, 145 Second Street, unless otherwise specified. Please check our website for any changes or cancellations. All programs are followed by refreshments in the train room.

November 15th Wed. 7pm, Live Performance by Judith Present's Theatre Company, Presentarts.

December 3rd Sun. 2pm, "A Holdrege Family Christmas," Holiday Music with Patty, Gary & Family.

Beginning Memorial weekend and through Columbus weekend, the Museum will be open for exhibit viewing on Saturdays and Sundays from 2pm - 4pm. Admission is free.

Our Research Library in the Bundy House remains open year round on Tuesdays from 9:30am until noon, or by appointment (607) 467-4422.



Membership Renewal Time Again

If you are not a Lifetime member, it is time to renew your membership for 2023.

Membership rates are as follows:

Lifetime -- \$250

Annual -- \$20

Please submit your membership renewal promptly to Deposit Historical Society,
145 Second Street, Deposit, NY 13754.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Contact the DHS News editors for information, suggestions, or address changes...

If you have information to share with us about our mysteries, historical events, or suggestions for new articles or projects at the Museum, **or if you have moved**, mail it to DHS Newsletter editors Michael and Gail Musante at 145 Second Street, Deposit, NY 13754, or email it to one of us at gail.musante@gmail.com We will be delighted to hear from you! Thanks!!

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