

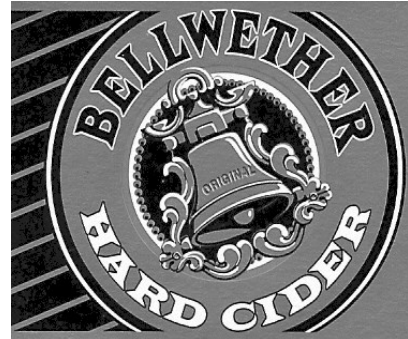
# Between the Lakes

A Newsletter of the  
Interlaken Historical Society

Volume 32, No. 2      October 2006

[www.InterlakenHistory.org](http://www.InterlakenHistory.org)

*Logo from the  
Bellwether Hard  
Cidery on Route  
89.*



## **Fall 2006 Program Premium Ciders Leading the Revival of an American Tradition**

**Bill & Cheryl Barton, Owners  
Bellwether Hard Cider  
Route 89, Interlaken  
Monday, October 23, 2006**

Bill & Cheryl Barton have been in the hard cider business for six years beginning at the Old Babcock Hatchery Building which is now an antique mall near Jacksonville. Desiring to be closer to the Cayuga Wine Trail and in a location where they could plant an apple orchard, they purchased property in the Town of Covert. The business was moved to a new building on the property on Route 89 halfway between East Covert Road and Halls Corners Road. Because of the high acid and tannin content Bill and Cheryl have planted varieties that are common in the Celtic region of Europe. However, they are very interested in native varieties and are testing Northern Spy, Tompkins King and Golden Russett apples. Of special interest is the Tompkins King because of a source in Kingtown.

Bill is interested in researching the local, historical connection with apple cider and will not only be presenting a program but will be asking questions. He points out that the farmyard cider that most of us are

familiar with is not the same as the hard cider of today. Today's hard cider, some sparkling, some still, is very food friendly, can be consumed the same as wine and used for cooking.

Please join the Interlaken Historical Society at Bellwether Hard Cider at 7:30 PM on October 23, 2006 for a presentation on the history and current practices in hard cider making and for a tour and tasting. The program is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. For more information please call Mary Jean Welser at 607 532 3467.

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## President's Message

Thanks to Sally Hubbard, trustees of the Interlaken and Ulysses Historical Societies and about forty docents, we have had another successful event. On a beautiful day in August over 180 people turned out to visit the historic buildings, cemetery, Pratt Vault and Americana Winery in the Hamlet of Covert Historic District. A display of photos from the day is on pages 8 and 9.

As you know from previous newsletters, we have been searching for a new home for the Interlaken Historical Society. The museum above the library has served the Society well for many years, however as the collection continues to grow we have run out of space. There is also growing concern about access to the museum on the second floor of the Hinman Memorial Library.

After looking at ten properties, all having potential, the trustees have accepted an offer from the Trumansburg Home Telephone Company to lease and later purchase the Telephone Building in Interlaken. For the next twelve to eighteen months, the Telephone Company will continue to use part of the building. The Society will begin to develop the leased space for exhibits, storage of artifacts and work space. A partition will separate the two spaces providing security for both the Telephone Company and the Society.

Utmost in our minds as we searched was, and still is, the need to keep operating and maintenance

costs as low *Trumansburg Telephone Company building 1955*



as possible. The Telephone Company Building is rock solid and should require very little maintenance in the years to come. Since the building is mostly unfinished inside, there is opportunity to create optimum energy efficiency and environmental conditions suitable for a museum.

As with any property there will be costs both for purchase and initial changes to the interior. The Society will embark on a capital campaign in the near future to raise money for those needs. We hope that our members and others will find ways to help.

## Recent donations to the Historical Society

### *Financial Contributions*

Margaret Lorenz, Arlington, VA  
Tom and Betsy Salm, Interlaken, NY  
Margaret Huckle, Trumansburg, NY

### *Artifacts*

Ray and Berry Ferrand: kerosene lantern projector (shown at right) with 49 slides of agricultural and educational functions circa 1915; and slip scraper, skis & poles, fence stretcher and wagon jack.



### **Welcome New Trustee**

Please join the board in welcoming Philip Stannard as our newest Trustee. Phil grew up in Ovid Center on the family farm and moved to Interlaken in 1966. He worked at the Seneca Army Depot for 27 years, then in farm seed businesses and currently at Schaefer Yarn on Kelly's Corners Road.

Phil was Chairman of the Grange Committee for the 1976 Bicentennial which took on painting and reopening the Covert Baptist Church. As a member of that church he held several leadership positions.

He is a member of Interlaken Grange # 160, Seneca County Pomona Grange, and the State and National Grange. He has held numerous positions locally and at the county level. In the early 1970s Phil was one of the youngest Masters in New York State. Presently he is Treasurer of County Grange and Secretary of Interlaken Grange.

Phil also organized the creation and approval of the Covert Historical District in 1977. The historical district is now on the National Register of Historical Places. If you missed the historical district display at the Covert Tour see the picture page in this issue.

Phil lives in the Village of Interlaken and has one son, Scott, who is a student at SUNY Cortland.

Welcome aboard Phil! Thank you for your service and we look forward to having you working on the many projects of the Historical Society.

### **New Members**

Mary Louise Stilwell, Interlaken, NY  
Anna Mae Warwick, Trumansburg, NY  
Yvonne Ashcraft, Trumansburg, NY  
Richard Champion, Napa, CA  
Sonja Nelson, Fargo, ND

### **New Life Members**

Charles E. French, Slaterville Springs, NY  
Megan Mullins, Ovid NY  
Julie Clawson, Hector, NY  
Albert Ganoung, Ovid, NY

### **Red Dots**

Is there a red dot on your mailing label? If so this is your last issue of the newsletter. Please consider sending in your dues today.

### **Neighbor News**

#### **Finger Lakes National Forest**

**Volunteers Needed:** The Finger Lakes National Forest is considering the formation of an Historical Association. The vision for this group would be to further research the properties on the FLNF, learn more about the people that lived here, what they did, how they lived, and what the areas looked like. Included would be a segment on women's history and the Boy Scout camp at Caywood Point. This information would be shared through publications, field trips and collaboration with local historical societies. Since the communities surrounding the FLNF were an integral part of life here, volunteers from these communities, residing here now or in the past, will be an important part of this group.

If you are interested in becoming involved, please contact Kari Lusk at 607 546 4470, ext. 316 or [klusk@fs.fed.us](mailto:klusk@fs.fed.us).

## Library news

By Pat Moore

Where did our summer go? Fall is already here and much work to be done. Our lights have been updated. It is great to read the titles of the books again. Our windows are all done now, so we will be warmer this winter.

Did you notice the geraniums in front of the library? They were donated by Barb Stewart. With all of the summer rains they have been gorgeous.

Our library was able to donate over 100 new and slightly used books for libraries trying to rebuild after Katrina. It was our small way of helping them in their time of need.

Wendy Barrows put together a great Teen Night. The theme was "Books a Treasure" and we had over 30 young adult books on display. Wendy and her helpers built a castle with a drawbridge to see when coming into the library. There were games and prizes for the 16



young people who attended. The pizza was donated by Little Venice Pizza of Trumansburg.

Glen and Wendy were the chaperones and dressed as folks in the medieval period. Some of the youth were in costumes too, and got a prize.

There was even a stuffed dragon for all to enjoy. It belonged to Ashley Barrows. Many of the games were about the library and the kids really had fun finding items, like fiction, mystery, westerns etc in the library.

There was also a hidden treasure chest with gold coins for them to find. Andy Herrela, board president, was there as a guest, and the librarian stopped on her way home. Thank you Wendy and helpers.

I would like to say thank you to all, for your thoughts, prayers and kindnesses at the loss of my husband.

### ***Index to the Interlaken and Ovid Newspapers.***

After many hours of work, this 680 page volume lists over 71,000 names of people, organizations, and events in the lives of the community. Included are births, marriages, deaths, anniversaries and other happenings from 1822 to 1994. The alphabetical index gives the newspaper date so you can quickly find items in the newspaper microfilm. It is available in a 3-ring binder. The cost for the index is \$55.00, with the first printing available at the October 23rd meeting, or see the insert for ordering by mail. A bound copy will be available at the library.

*Editors Note: In the President's message in the April newsletter, I asked if anyone knew the proper procedure for trimming a wick in a kerosene lamp, implying that mine smoked a lot. Thanks to Bruce Clark, the following article not only addresses the wick trimming issue but provides detailed information on kerosene lamp maintenance. Thank you Bruce. Now none of us have an excuse for a smoky lamp.*

## **Kerosene Lamps Burn Clean If Used Properly**

*By Bruce Clark*

I have been familiar with kerosene lamps for over 50 years. Most people that I have observed today have very little experience and do not know how a kerosene lamp burner should perform. Poorly maintained or adjusted lamps can cause many problems, and have brought a bad name to lamps. Incorrectly adjusted or maintained lamps can lead to dangerous overheating of the burner, smoke, strong kerosene odors, blackened or broken chimneys, and black soot on ceilings and walls.

All of this is completely unnecessary if one knows the proper way to use a kerosene lamp.

There are different kinds of lamp burners, but I refer to the simple brass burners found on standard household kerosene lamps. The wick should not exceed more than 1/8 of an inch above the wick tube under the hood (never above the hood).



Once it is lighted, allow the flame to remain low, to slowly warm the glass chimney and avoid breakage from rapid change in temperature. Once the chimney is heated the flame can be raised to a clear and steady flame. If the flame smokes, something is not

adjusted properly. Some modern lamp burners are so cheaply made and lack the refinements of older burners. They will not burn properly no matter how carefully lighted. Many are cheap tin that are brass colored. Many lack the necessary amount of ventilation holes that allow a flame to burn clear and odorless. Solid brass older burners are a better choice.

Strong odors from kerosene lamps is a result of several things: improper combustion, old kerosene, or commercial scented lamp oil, which can damage lamp burners by corroding and covering the burner with an unpleasant gummy substance. Buying refined lamp oil is wasteful, at \$4.95 a quart, verses kerosene at about .69 cents per quart.

Good kerosene should be almost clear as water. Some grades have a slight yellow coloration. If the kerosene you have is deep yellow or orange, do not use it in a lamp, because the kerosene is either old, or contaminated with furnace fuel oil, and will cause major problems.

Starting with a very clean lamp, clean burner, clean chimney, clean wick, and fresh kerosene, a kerosene lamp will provide satisfactory light.

Black soot on the chimney is a signal that the wick is not adjusted properly, or the lamp is adjusted with too high a flame. After about eight hours of use, a lamp chimney will show signs of light fogging, and should be washed and thoroughly dried. Before

*Continued on page 6*

washing the lamp chimney, it must be at room temperature. Trying to wash a hot chimney will cause it to break.

If the lamp burner and wick are dirty, they can be cleaned by boiling them in ammonia, water, and liquid dish detergent.

Kerosene lamps should be dismantled and thoroughly cleaned every six months. A very dirty lamp bowl can be cleaned by using nail polish remover. In addition, a mix of tepid water, liquid dish detergent and ammonia are useful. Do not use hot water, because the temperature change can break a lamp. I recently discovered a new product called "Power Dissolver," made by Dawn dishwashing detergent Co., is excellent for cleaning old lamps and burners. Spray it on the lamp and allow it to remain for an hour. The majority of old grime will rinse off. Should any accumulation remain, it can be removed by repeating the process.

Wicks should be initially trimmed straight across the top of the burner tube. Then, the corners should be trimmed so that the wick has the shape of a thumbnail.

(Slightly rounded) This prevents a jagged flame which might break the chimney, and cause smoke.

Once the wick is trimmed, it will not require trimming again for several days or weeks.



Black carbon deposits are wiped off each day, lifting the hood, using a soft cloth, or simply pinching the black residue on the wick between the fingers, then wiping the fingers on a paper towel. The wick only will require trimming when it becomes ragged or the flame is uneven.

Kerosene lamps should not be filled to capacity. Leave a little room for expansion, or your lamp might overflow on your furniture. If there is any doubt, place the lamp on folded newspaper, or folded towel.

If the lamp is not used regularly, the kerosene should be emptied from it and stored in a cool dark place away from sunlight until needed, but not stored longer than a year. Otherwise, kerosene stored in a lamp will deteriorate, rot the wick, and cause the burner to become gummy.

In an emergency, charcoal lighter can be used in a kerosene lamp. It is basically highly refined and deodorized kerosene, however it will not burn quite as well as a good grade of K-1 Kerosene. Never use gasoline or camp stove fuel.

As a final word, use caution in the placement of your Kerosene lantern, allow plenty of space between the top of the lamp chimney and the ceiling. To be safe, four feet from the ceiling. The heat from the chimney is intense. If a lamp were placed on top of a high cabinet the heat coming from the top of the chimney could cause a fire.

### Follow-up File, (or the rest of the story)

In the January 2006 Newsletter Bill Gates shared the newspaper article about travel to Florida in 1920. Bev Close sent him this 1908 photo of several of the Egan family members.

Standing left to right: Florence, Bert, and Mable, seated: Flora and "Lou" Egan .



Dear Bill

I found your recent article in the Historical Society Newsletter very interesting. The "Lodi to Florida Trip" included my grandfather, Alonzo Egan, along with his wife Flora and my Great Aunt Florence. He would have been age 62 at the time of this trip, Flora 60 and Florence 38. How adventurous of them!

*Bev Close*

Summer 2006

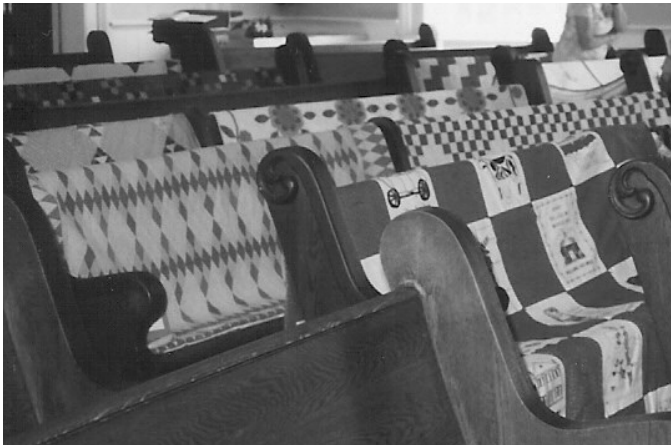
Interlaken Historical Society Staff,

We wish to thank all of the staff of the Interlaken Historical Society who made it possible for this year's Camp Barton Indian Lore Merit Badge class to experience the artifacts that your museum has on display. With the help of the museum staff, forty-four Scouts were able to complete the Indian Lore Merit Badge this year. Thanks to all of your efforts, Camp Barton can continue to provide the best scouting experience for our youth.

*Jeff Andrews*  
Outdoor Skills Director

*Included in the 44 Scouts were 6 young men and their leaders from Naples, Florida.*

*A very special thank you to Betty and Ray Ferrand and the other docents who helped make this opportunity for the Scouts possible.*



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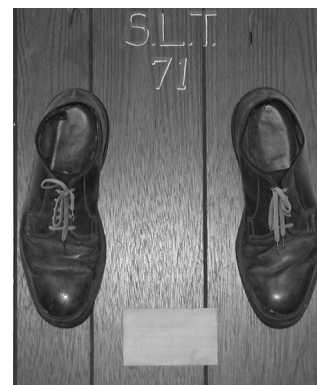




*Left side, top to bottom: Dresses, hats and piano music at the Baptist Church. A special Thank you our pianist for the music.  
A few of the historic quilts on display at the Church.  
Dave Powell greets visitors at the Pratt-Gregg-Salm Home.*

*Center*

*A review of the Covert Historic District at the Grange Hall  
Look up at the Church to see the hats hanging from the balcony.  
Inside the Pratt-Gregg-Salm home. Chad Hubbard often visited his Grandmother in the home as a youngster.*



*Right side:*

*Joe Baldwin talking with visitors at the Town Hall.  
Does anyone know the story behind these shoes on display at the Town Hall?  
Ann Buddle chatting at the Cole McDaniel home.*

Also included on the tour was the Pratt Family vault and the Old Covert Cemetery. See page 11 for information on the new publication: *And Let My Memory Cherished Be, Remembering the Families of the Old Covert Cemetery.*



## Dissension in the Ranks

No, the dissension was not about publishing another calendar. We were all thrilled with the response to our first effort at a calendar. Over 300 copies of the 2006 calendar were sold. We were quite amazed and pleased. The decision was an easy one to publish a 2007 calendar.

We were all also in agreement that we needed your help to share your special photographs with us to enrich our collection. As we decided on themes for the 2007 calendar, we discovered some excellent ideas were not represented with photographs in our files.

The dissension began with a discussion on what was a historic photograph. Not 1970! That was just yesterday. Certainly not 1980 or 1990! Maybe the 1940's or 50's. It's all in your perspective. I would contend that yesterday is on its way to being historic. Fifty or a hundred years from now, I expect the Society to still be going strong and for members to be smiling over our quaint clothes and hairdos. Our granddaughter, born in 1998, was overheard explaining to her younger sister about the "old days!" Talk about perspective!

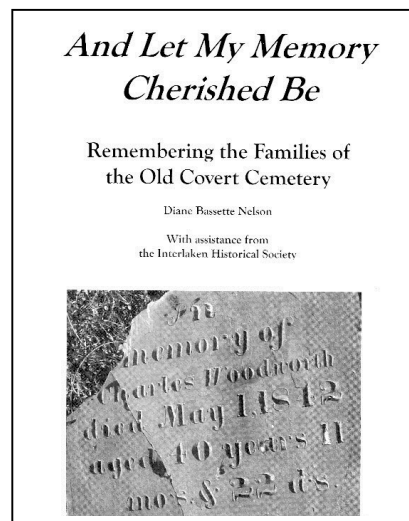
What type of pictures are we looking for – photographs that show life in our community. Sure we love to get the really "old" photos from the turn of the century. That would be 1900! It's hard to think of 2000 as turn of the century. But we'd love photographs from all of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, as well as yesterday. Consider pictures of family celebrations, weddings, birthdays, Christmas, Thanksgiving, Halloween, lake side activities like boating, swimming, businesses, life on the farm, kids' activities and on and on. If you have a photograph you really

like, that's probably the one we would like too.

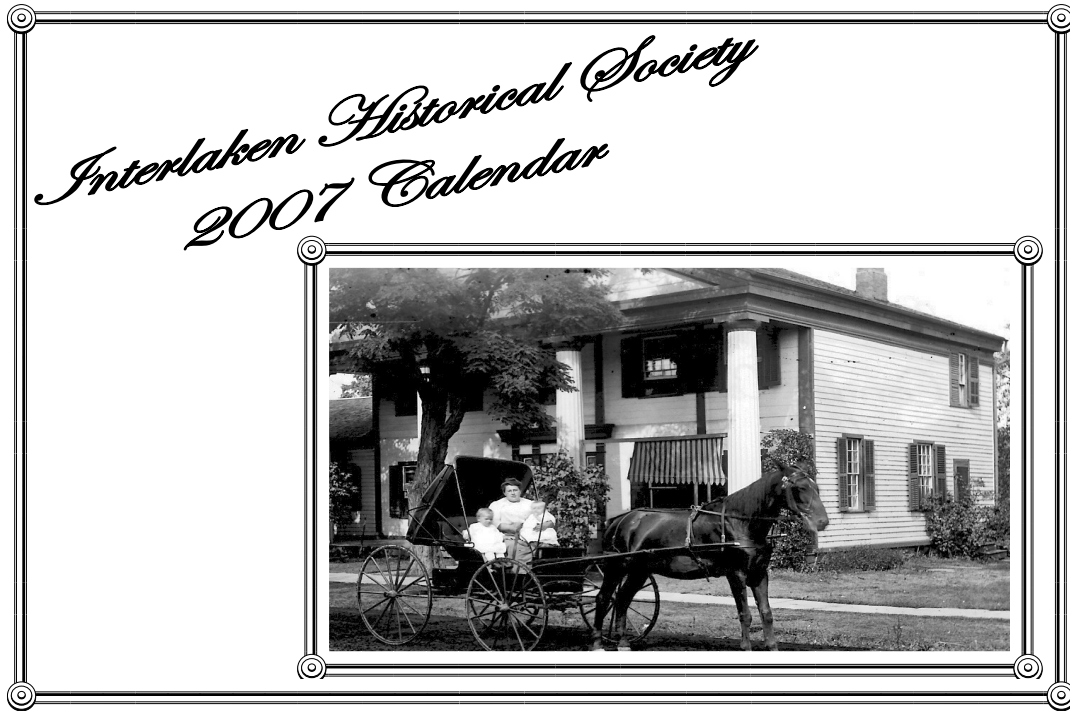
With our modern technology, you can send digital pictures directly to [museum@interlakenhistory.org](mailto:museum@interlakenhistory.org) or we can scan and return your special photographs to you. If you are local, please call Diane Bassette Nelson 532-9227, Kitty Ritter 532-4752, or me, Ann Buddle 532-4213. We'll pick up your pictures, scan them and return them to you. If you are not local, please use the form on the insert and mail the photographs to the Society. We will scan them and mail them back to you. Kindly provide as much information as you can. Where was the picture taken? Who are the individuals? When was it taken?

Thank you so much. We'll look forward to an influx of new views of life in Interlaken and the town of Covert.

Ann Buddle



2007 Interlaken Historical Society calendar featuring historic photographs  
 Now on Sale for \$5.00 at local businesses or see insert or [www.interlakenhistory.org](http://www.interlakenhistory.org)



*And Let My Memory Cherished Be  
 Remembering the Families of the  
 Old Covert Cemetery*

This volume looks at many of the early families who lived in Covert from 1800 through the 1880s. Using records contemporary to the period Town Historian Diane Bassette Nelson discusses each family with burials at the cemetery, and adds new ideas to old family histories. Over 130 photographs show the details on the stones.

Shown at right is a list of the families with burials in this cemetery. The 82 page book has detailed end notes and full index to the people buried as well as many of their family members. The cost of the volume is \$18. See the insert for ordering details.

Archer	Frits	Noble
Arrosmith	Frost	Ogden
Beach	Gregg	Pine
Boice	Hall	Porter
Brown	Hand	Pratt
Campbell	Hazen	Smith
Cheesman	Holmes	St John
Close	Horton	States
Coborn	Jeffery	Stillwell
Cole	Johnston	Terry
Corwin	King	Thomas
Crandal	Leggett	VanDyke
Crawfford	Losey	Warren
Culver	Lyons	Wheeler
Denison	McLeur	Winans
Durand	Murphy	Woodworth
Forman	Niverson	

## Movies and Popcorn at the Lakes Theater

*Reprinted from the Interlaken Alumni Newsletter  
with permission.*

It hardly looks like a theater now, but next door to the Interlaken Public Library on Main Street was a favorite meeting place for townfolk for decades: the Lakes Theater.

Built about 1920, the Lakes Theater first showed silent movies. Pauline Knight and her sister, Marian Burr, played the piano as an accompaniment.

Marvelous Melville, who performed at the Boyer Opera House on Cayuga Street, built in 1853, moved to the Lakes Theater after the Opera House burned in 1913 and had a hand in its operation.

In the 40's, Ray Pashley owned the theater. Dorothy Wickes (wife of druggist Charles Wickes) worked there for years selling tickets. Roy Covert worked there, too, running the projector. In the 40's Ray would take Roy and Dorothy with him to Willard State Hospital when they showed movies to the patients. Dorothy's daughter Phyllis sometimes went with Dorothy to watch the movies.

Floyd Dickerson and Bill Ganoung also worked at the theater. There was always popcorn to sell.

In 1955 Spike and Iris Wilkins and Bob and Therese Elliott bought the Lakes Theater for \$7500. It was titled in all four of their names.



At first the two couples took turns running the theater. Soon they realized that this required babysitters, so the teams changed to Bob and Iris and Spike and Therese. Bob Elliott says that Therese can't face popcorn to this day as the girls sold tickets and ran the concessions.

Tickets in those days were 35 cents for adults and 15 cents for children. Normally Bob and Spike ran the projector, but they used Willard Georgia as a backup and paid him \$1.00 an hour.

Double features were common. Because the Lakes Theater had been in business so long, it got the pick of many first run movies.

Bob said that owning the theater was much harder than they had anticipated, but there were funny times, too. One was when he was in the projection room looking out the little observation window. Probably tired from burning the candle at both ends, he rested his forehead against the glass and, surprise, the glass pushed out. He rushed downstairs, fearful that a patron had been cut by the falling glass, but found nothing. Eventually, he found that the glass had only

slipped into the partition and had not fallen into the crowd.

Many of us remember how cold it could get in the winter in those days. Bob admitted that they had to close in the winter because they could not keep the theater heated. He said one of the catastrophies involved six cases of Ginger Ale that froze and burst.

Around 1963 the Wilkins and Elliotts sold the theater to Jerry Brewer, who converted it to a laundromat. School Superintendent DV MacDonald asked Bob if they had gone bankrupt. Bob answered that they had not. They had sold it for “enough to pay the taxes.” MacDonald replied, “I see. You didn’t lose your shirt, but you have a considerable rent in your jacket.”

Those of us growing up during the ‘50’s will always have a fondness for that old Lakes Theater. Many a box of popcorn or package of Jujubes was consumed on Friday night movie dates.

*by Art Thompson and  
Nancy Booth DeMarte, class of 1960  
Information from Bob Elliott and Naomi  
Craft Brewer*

*Editor’s note: we know there are many more stories of Lakes Theatre experiences that need to be told. We would love to print them.*

## **Cousin’ Hunting**

*August 16, 2006*

*Interlaken Historical Society*

*I have been perusing with interest and reminiscing over your Historical Society pages. I conclude Interlaken has undergone many changes, some the result of growth.*

*I moved away from town in 1939 with my family. We were victims of the depression era, and my father was seeking a means of livelihood. Our family consisted of father, Wilfred J. (Bill) Simpson, mother, Lillian, older brothers Wilfred B. and Francis. My older brother worked as the projectionist at the Lakes Theater. Fran, I think, had finished high school, and I was just entering high school. We lived in a house on Prospect Street.*

*The new school was opened at midyear for classes. How spacious and grand it all seemed! I believe I was in seventh grade with Mrs. Hildebrand as teacher. I remember the recent, young college graduate who became our science teacher, Maurice Patterson. Also an attractive new music teacher came on the scene, Ferne Kitson, and apparently love blossomed.*

*I attended St. Francis Solanus Catholic Church, sang in the choir, and sometimes played on the pipe organ.*

*I am now a widow, with a married daughter and two marvelous adult grandchildren, a boy and a girl. I reside alone with my 14-year old feline companion, Noel, in the vicinity of Elmira Heights, New York.*

*I would welcome correspondence or e-mails form Society members.*

*Sincerely,  
Ruth S. Robyck  
rthRoby@aol.com  
213 Devonshire Drive  
Elmira Heights, N.Y. 14903*

## **The Women's Land Army A contribution to post war recovery in England**

**By Muriel R. Allen**

On a recent trip to Niagara Falls, some friends and I enjoyed great hospitality in a brief stay with Ann and Allan Buddle on their farm. The sights and smells of the farmyard revived memories of my service in the "Women's Land Army" after World War II in England. Allan invited me to write about this experience and thought it would be of interest to readers of the Between the Lakes newsletter.

Although farming was a reserved occupation from the draft, in both world wars, the WLA was formed originally in WW I to replace the men who had voluntarily joined the armed forces when the male population was decimated by that carnage. Revived in 1940 to serve the same purpose; it was an all female uniformed trained force which continued to recruit and function for some years after the war because the men who had died at the front could not easily be replaced, and also it found that those who had survived, and had originally left the farms, and the rural way of life did not necessarily want to return to it, or their former occupations (having learnt new skills, and seen a wider world not related to farming and animal husbandry). Our uniforms were practical and useful garments but not very feminine or attractive. We had a thick heavy coat, and felt hat and corduroy riding breeches worn with cotton shirts, green woolen pullovers, and long woolen socks. The shoes were heavy and masculine in appearance. We were given an issue of heavy

cotton overalls and rubber boots and cotton scarves to cover the hair. The shoes were the worst feature because they were so heavy and difficult to break in. We also were given a bicycle to get around the rural areas as there was not transport and petrol was still strictly rationed.

After training the women were sent to different types of farming and you could express a preference, although it did not always get your choice. I chose dairy farming, because I liked the idea of working with animals. The other choices were market gardening and poultry keeping. The younger women were not sent to farms on their own, but were accommodated in hostels in groups because it was thought that they were less vulnerable together. On the farm I was sent to, there was a herd of Ayrshire cows; a horned breed chosen for the quality of their milk and their milk yield. The herd was Tuberculin tested, which meant careful monitoring and testing of both animals and milk.



Each Land girl was given 20 cows to be responsible for, and it was an efficient system because it encouraged competitiveness and high standards among us. Although the milking was done by machine (the Alfa Laval models) we were taught hand milking necessary

because the machines sometimes left residues of milk in the udder and this could result in mastitis if left. We wore white smocks and small round milking caps for this. I remember the pleasure of being seat-

ed on a stool, with my head in the warm cows flank, on a cold and frosty morning in winter. Milking was done twice a day. We fed the animals, mucked out the manure (pushed in heavy wheelbarrows to the yard), gave fresh bedding, and groomed the animals, washed the udders prior to milking. We also washed the tails in hot soapy water. Because we were women, we then took pride in plaiting the tails, which when dry and undone gave the tail a nice wave! Almost as though these were show animals! Milk yield was monitored once a month and we watched for any signs of sickness in the animals which would be reported to the farmer who called in the veterinary service, as necessary. When we fed baled hay we watched carefully for the baling wire because pieces of wire could cost the life of an animal if swallowed during feeding. Feed in the form of "Dairy Nuts" was measured to each animal and adjusted when in calf, with silage given in winter months, until the new Spring grass pastures became available.

The milking machines were heavy even before the milk was in them so we were taught to use our knees to empty them. After milking, all equipment had to be washed and sterilized as well as the milk churns which we learned to roll and place in the steam sterilizing cabinet, along with the steel buckets of the milking machine. After the early morning milking we returned to the hostel for a hearty breakfast. During the morning we went into the fields to plant, hoe and weed crops or to harvest according to the seasons. We learnt to manage heavy loads; for example sacks of potatoes, by good team work, to take the sack between two of us and sling it on to the lorry.

Farm machinery was old fashioned and cumbersome to use as there was little mech-

anization due to the war. In the post war period, it was difficult to get spare parts if there was a breakdown, as the factories had gone over to the war effort for munitions and tanks and artillery. It took time to reorganize production later. The American Lend Lease Programme and the Marshal Plan for the post war recovery in Europe was a Godsend to English farming; for one thing it meant new tractors and the arrival of a tractor with the distinctive red and black paint work of the International Harvester Company, was cause for celebration although the aid was slow to arrive, and uneven in distribution.

*To be continued January 2007*

*About the author*

Muriel was born in London, England but due to the war was evacuated to the country with all other London school age children, and saw the countryside for the first time. As a teenager she joined the Women's Land Army as the men had not returned from the front in sufficient numbers to manage the farms. She served in that organization for several years. She retired from a career in the penal institution of England. Muriel is an accomplished story teller, and travels throughout England on public speaking engagements for fund raising charity events. The Buddles were fortunate to have her company this past Spring.



*Bill Barton about to enter one of his hard cider tanks to clean it. See page 1 for information on the Fall Program scheduled for the Bellwether Hard Cidery.*

## **The Historical Society**

### **Board of Trustees**

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Sally Hubbard, Vice President

Mary Jean Welser, Secretary

Karen Madison, Treasurer

Trustees Doug Barkee

Ann Buddle

Diane Bassette Nelson

Philip Stannard

Doug VanBenschoten

Mary Willers

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### **Mark your calendar**

Have you sent in your 2006-07 dues. If there is a red dot on your address label your dues are still due. If you have sent in your dues, Thank you. Your support is appreciated.

October 23rd: Program at Bellwether Cider on Route 89. The 2007 Calendars will be available

December 1st: Newsletter items due to editors

January 22, 2007 Interlaken Historical Society Program