

Between the Lakes

A Newsletter of the
Interlaken Historical Society

Volume 35, No. 4 April 2010

www.InterlakenHistory.org



IHS April Program History In the Making Conifer Village at Interlaken Monday April 26, 2010 7:30 p.m. Town of Covert Municipal Building

Conifer Village at Interlaken, more than five years in the planning, is now under construction. The 28 one-bedroom units will be ready for residents in August.

Join the Interlaken Historical Society as we welcome Chuck Bosman from Interlaken and Lisa Goodberry from Conifer Development who will share the history behind the new building, pictures of the construction, and information on what people can expect as they consider options for applying to live at Conifer at Interlaken.

Chuck has been taking pictures from all angles and will be sharing a slide program for those who have not seen the building either outside or inside. Lisa will be talking about the details of the project, and answer questions that people may have.

Beginning on page four Chuck shares some of the background, but you will want to be present to see the many pictures and architects drawings.

On Monday April 26th please join us as we learn more about Conifer Village at Interlaken, its history and future...

The program will be held at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, (the former American Legion Building). All are invited to attend, and refreshments will be served

For more information please contact the Society at museum@interlakenhistory.org or Diane Bassette Nelson at 607-532-9227.

If you are unable to attend the program and would like to speak with someone regarding rentals at Conifer Village at Interlaken, please call 1-888-213-4958.

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President's Message
Events, Enjoy and Everyone

One look at the calendar and we realize how many dates are getting filled in with events we need to plan, attend and enjoy. June 12th is Olde Home Day 2010. Both the Main Museum in the telephone company building and the Farmers' Museum will be open during the day for you to come and enjoy the exhibits, including a few old favorites and many items shown in a new light.

If you aren't able to visit the museums on Olde Home Day, plan to stop in on a Saturday in July and August when we will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

July will also include our quarterly program featuring Nancy Radloff as she shares more on Olive Williams and her life as a young lady in the 1870s. Copies of the book currently being written will be available, with a book signing to follow the program.

Sunday August 1st will be our fourth annual Community Social. Looking back on our first three Socials you can expect to meet family and friends

If you are looking ahead to the fall, September 25 will be the Historical Society's third Country Fair and Plowing Day featuring exhibits in and around the barn and plowing with animals and tractors at Brook Farm, Interlaken. Watch for more details on all of these events in the newsletter and at the Society website at

www.interlakenhistory.org.

Events from years past are something many of us at the Historical Society work on as well. When we are preparing displays the question is often asked, "Do we have anything from that event?" Sometimes we do; other times we try to find someone who might have materials that will appeal to

everyone. Such is the case with our display honoring the first 100 years of the Boy Scouts of America. Over the years there has been both a Pack and a Troop serving young men in this area, and we have a number of items on loan to add to the materials from our collection.

Each year we have Scouts from Camp Barton on Cayuga Lake visit the museum for our Indian Artifacts. This year they will have even more items to look at as we will have a number of artifacts from the Cayuga Indian Site right here in Covert. These items have been loaned from the University of Buffalo, and University staff will be providing the much needed interpretation for the display. A full article on the new display will be printed in our July issue.

We would also like to invite everyone, to share their ideas, stories, photographs and memories with us to provide those needed bits and pieces for when we do an exhibit in the future.

And to everyone who has been a part of this organization, thank you! We have been blessed with a great history, great people, and many hours of enjoyment working together to provide for our organization.

**A Special Thank You for these
Financial gifts from**

Carl Tatlock, Charlotte, VT

Carolyn Young, Blacksberg, VA in honor of her grandfather, Arch Chadwick

Ari VanTienhoven, Ithaca in honor of Marty Schlabach's March birthday

Please Welcome Nancy Radloff,

At the March 2010 Interlaken Historical Society Board meeting the Trustees elected Nancy Saultz Radloff to become our new Trustee.

Nancy has been volunteering with the Historical Society, working with the collections committee, assisting with displays and interpretation, as a docent, and on the publications committee.

Nancy has an earned doctorate in musical art from The Peabody Conservatory, at the Johns Hopkins University. She is the parish musician at St. John's Church, Ithaca, a concert artist, a composer, and an author who writes on musical and historical topics.

She has had articles published in musical and historical journals, and we have all enjoyed her articles in Interlaken Historical Society newsletter.

Nancy is currently writing a book on the 1870s diary of Olive Williams. She is using the diary as a starting point to describe life in this area through the eyes of a young teenager from 1873 to 1878. The volume will be published this summer.

Nancy and her husband Bruce have lived on Interlaken Beach for 10 years. They have 3 grown sons.

Thank you Nancy for all you do. We look forward to having you on the Board.

See page 5 for pre-publication ordering information for Nancy's book on Olive Williams. Nancy has used Olive's diary, and extensive research, to set Olive's life into the context of both the local area and the national scene.

New Members

Charles and Doris Dunlap, Trumansburg

New Life Members:

Charles and Marsha Bosman, Interlaken

Donations to the Society

Carolyn Young — Photographs of Arch Chadwick and family.

Corinne Coe— nursing uniform photographs and housing floor plan

Library News

Have you visited the library recently. The Children's Room is a bright open area for all to enjoy.

For those coming to the Library for research this summer our hours are Monday, Wednesday and Saturday mornings 9 to noon, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons 1 to 5 pm and Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings 7 to 8:30.

See you on Olde Home Day for our book sale.



Conifer Village at Interlaken

By Chuck Bosman

It all started in the spring of 2004 with a discussion between a lady senior citizen and a very naive man. The woman had lost her husband the year before, and was having trouble maintaining her large, old home in the Interlaken area. She had contacted several senior residences in the area, and found that they had long waiting lists, and while she did not want to leave her community and church where she was very active, she was beginning to realize that she would need to leave the area to find a suitable senior citizen facility.

Since the man had a nice piece of land adjacent to the village, within walking distance to shops and churches, he knew that he could get a facility built in SHORT order and have a nice place for seniors to live. Thus began a six year adventure thru governmental mazes, forms, applications and red tape to where we are today.

After getting little help from local county government officials, contact was made through some friends in Habitat for Humanity with Better Housing of Tompkins County. A meeting was held with John Spencer and representatives of Conifer Development. Later the representatives toured the 8.3 acre site, and were very enthusiastic about the prospects for development. State officials were brought in, and they agreed it would make an ideal site because this part of the county needed such a facility.

Representatives of the village board, led by Barbara Stewart, were involved and toured several sites which Conifer had developed in the area. Conifer has over 200 develop-

ments in the five state area including Penn Yan, Linderman and Ellis Hollow in Ithaca. Conifer was selected as our developer, and Better Housing as our 501C partner for a number of reasons. First is their experience in the field. Second is the fact that they not only build the residences, but agreed to manage them for at least 25 years and probably longer. Third is the way they maintain their residences and require the tenants to follow the rules.

And so, we assumed that the building would be up and running in no time - (I said we were very naive.) We did not count on government applications going to downstate, more "Desirable" projects, and MANY meetings discussing annexation of the property into the village, PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes) discussions, assessment, water and sewer issues, seniors versus mixed use discussions, number of units justifiable under the current census figures, and a host of other issues. The plans went through many revisions, and many applications were made to state agencies. Through it all the local government units, the town under the leadership of Mike Reynolds, and the village under the guidance of Barbara Stewart and Ray Langlois, held together.

The road into Conifer Village as building begins.

And so, on October 9, 2009 the land clearing began and in just 9 short months (and after 6 SHORT years) the project is scheduled to open in September 2010.

The 28



one bedroom apartments are located off Cayuga Street; the complex also includes a large meeting room, laundry room, exercise facility and computer center.

Management will be on site, and maintenance will be handled by a Conifer employee. The residents will have access to the local area transit bus, meals on wheels, visiting nurses and a host of other local service groups. Already we have had volunteers willing to come and play music for the seniors, assist in the computer center and help out in other ways. Local businesses will be delivering medicines, and food will be available delivered by local merchants and restaurants.

It is turning into a truly community project. The community is anxious to help our new neighbors and the residents will help the community remain viable.

Donation to the Society

A recent gift to the museum will help preserve the memory of the Busy Bee. Look for a piece of the Busy Bee in the Farmers' Museum this summer. This photograph of the sunken hull was taken during a past winter when the lake water levels were low.



Olive Williams' Diary

The Interlaken Historical Society is pleased announce their collaboration with Nancy Radloff on the publication of Olive Williams' Diary, 1873 to 1878. To highlight the writings of this remarkable young lady, Nancy has researched and written about the topics Olive includes in the diary. Farm life, school, travel, medicine and the economy are just a few of the topics covered. We have highlighted a few of these areas in recent issues of the newsletter.

Nancy's work is written especially for the middle school level of students as this was Olive's age at the time.

You can pre-order your copy now and save \$3.00 on the cost of the book later this summer. Copies purchased before August 1st are \$9.95; after that date they will be \$12.95.

Please use the enclosed membership renewal and Gift Shop Order Form to insure you receive your copy in July.

Resources from the Society

The new owners of O'Malley's Restaurant have asked to copy several of our photographs and other memorabilia of days past. Look for them when you visit O'Malleys after their grand opening in April.

If your research project includes local materials please contact the Society at museum@interlakenhistory.org or by mail at PO Box 270, Interlaken, NY 14847 to see what materials we might have to help you.

Did You Miss the Sale?

A.D. Chadwick is becoming quite an expert at photography and has on exhibition at the post office a fine collection of views taken in the village or nearby, which receives the commendation of all. He has recently taken a series of views covering the entire village. These pictures should be in the homes of every former resident. They are already selling well here.

Saturday Morning Review, Farmer Village, June 16th, 1888

The Interlaken photographer, Archelaus D. Chadwick, did indeed take magnificent photographs of the village, but getting fine prints of these photographs has not been easy for the Interlaken Historical Society. Therein lies a story. In 1976, John Kellogg gifted the Society with 1,100 glass plate negatives of Arch Chadwick's photographs. As the story goes, the negatives were recovered from a chicken coop! Holding a glass plate negative up to the light is not very satisfactory! The Society has housed these negatives with great care. They promised to represent a glimpse of Farmer Village, later Interlaken, that is fresh and new. But efforts to recover the images have met with frustration.

Through the support of the Delavan Foundation, and the technological savvy of some members of the Historical Society, we finally can get a first glimpse of Arch Chadwick's work. During the summer of 2010,

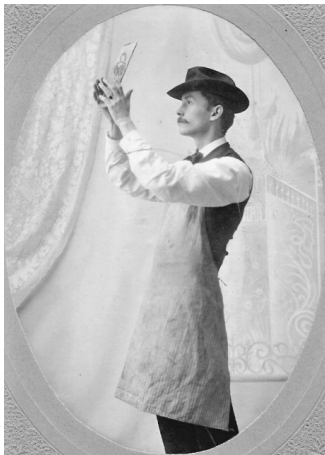
the Society is excited to host an exhibit of prints of the village. Come see the houses, stores, streets, landscapes, and vehicles around the turn of the century. That is 1900! The photographs will be displayed in the Telephone Building Museum. The photographs are the fine work of a young artist working out of a studio on Railroad Avenue. Arch had a long and fascinating career as a photographer/artist/set designer and it begins right here in Farmer Village!

Arch Chadwick's Remarkable Career

by Ann Buddle

Arch was born in Ovid in 1871 and educated in Rochester. His parents, John and Rhoda Jane Rappleye Chadwick, had strong ties to the South Seneca area, and Arch eventually settled in Farmer Village (Interlaken after 1904). In February of 1898 Chadwick married Edyth Rappleye. The newspaper account of the wedding states "... the newly wedded pair left amid hosts of congratulations and showers of rice for a two week stay in Binghamton and the neighboring cities, after which they will be home to their many friends in this village."¹ Chadwick and his business partner Frederick Haskin opened a photography studio on Railroad Avenue. Considering the collection of glass plate negatives and oil paintings owned by the Society, Arch seems to have specialized in landscapes, village scenes and portraits. Many of the sets for productions in the Boyer Opera House on Cayuga Street in Interlaken are credited to him. His father, John, a Civil War veteran was a fine composer, and was also the music director of many of the productions .

When the silent movies came to Ithaca,



Arch was employed by Wharton Studios to design the scenes. The article “An Ithacan Feature” by Bob De Lany, printed in *The Ithacan* on April 20, 1932, states: “As technical director he supervised the planning and execution of every detail relating to the physical side of production.” The same article wonders “...how a man can transform crude lengths of muslin into great living wood scenes, majestic palaces or rough cabin interiors with the ease and methods that typifies Chad’s methods.” Modern studios would employ whole staffs to achieve what Chadwick was able to do as a pioneer in the motion picture field.

It must also have been great fun to work with the silent movie stars who were the heroes and heroines of the spine-tingling thrillers. The series, *The Perils of Pauline* starring Pearl White, enraptured audiences as they waited breathlessly for the next episode!

After the motion picture industry moved to Hollywood, Chadwick continued his work in set design. He became a member of the Ithaca Conservatory staff, which later became Ithaca College. He was a professor in the Theatre Department, teaching many students while plying his craft. However, Chad, as he was frequently called at Ithaca College, does not fit the stereotype of a tweedy academician. The *Ithaca College Quarterly* describes the artist: “For years, his unchanging garb was dark coat over white overalls (paint-splattered), bow tie, and companionable felt hat with brim upturned.”² While working in the parking lot outside the main Conservatory building on Buffalo Street, Chadwick would spread out flats for the plays that he and students were designing. Folks passing by would offer comments and suggestions.³ The professor

was much loved by students “...for his patience, for persistent teaching, for the fact that his voice never raised above level speech”.⁴

Failing health forced Arch Chadwick to resign from Ithaca College in 1939 shortly before his death. His teaching and creativity touched many lives, and we, of the Interlaken Historical Society, are fortunate to have a collection of his photographic prints and oil paintings to enjoy. Ithaca College plans to put photographs of his many dramatic stage sets on FLICKR in the fall of 2011. Something exciting to watch for!

Footnotes:

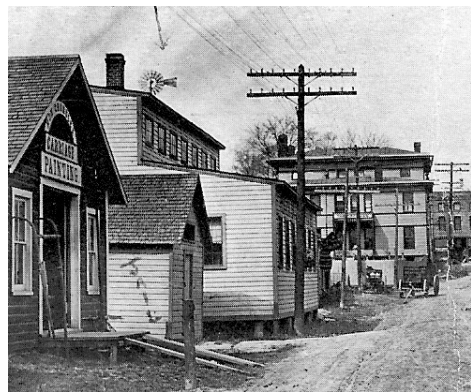
1 *The Interlaken Review*, February 23, 1889

2 *Ithaca College Quarterly*, Winter 1992

3 *Ibid.*

4 *Ibid.*

Arch Chadwick’s studio on Railroad Ave., the building between the jail and the Goodman Hotel



How Does Your Garden Grow?

by Barbara Stewart

On 6 April 1875, Olive reported that, “I sent for my flower seeds today. Asters, Balsams, Camillias, Chrysanthemums, Pansys, Violets, Verbenas, and Zinnias.”¹ Elsewhere in her diary, she mentions that her gardens included, “slips” or cuttings from larger plants. Mrs. Nivison, her neighbor and wife of the man who owned the grain cradle factory, apparently shared her love of plants, flowers and gardens.

Olive was only 10 when she wrote “I went to Mrs. Nivison’s in the PM. I took a slip of moss rose over to her and she gave me a little root of musk.”²

We don’t know if Olive was aware or familiar with the Victorian Era custom of using flowers to send messages. Someone worked out a meaning for many flowering plants, shrubs, tree branches and other greens. With this written guide one could put together a bouquet to send to a friend or, if one were courting, to the lady or gentleman of interest.³ These people had far too much time on their hands!

An example would be: “May maternal love protect early youth in innocence and joy!” The flowers needed to create this bouquet would be: moss for maternal love, Bearded Crepis for protect, Primroses to represent early youth, Daisy for innocence, and Wood Sorel to represent joy.⁴ Just imagine if someone chose the wrong flower or color of flower and changed the intended message!

The flowers that Olive chose for her garden have the following meanings.

Aster (China): afterthought, variety

Balsams (red): impatient resolves, touch me not; (yellow): impatience

Camillias (white): excellence in woman, perfected loveliness; (red): pity, unpretending excellence

Chrysanthemums: cheerfulness, cheerfulness under adversity; (red): love, (white): truth (yellow): slighted love

Pansies (Heartease): thoughts, think of me, you occupy my thoughts

Verbenas: enchantment, (pink): family union, (scarlet:) unite against evil, church unity (purple): regret (white): pray for me

Violets (blue): faithfulness (dame): watchfulness, (purple): you occupy my thoughts (sweet): modesty, (white): innocence, modesty, purity (wild): love in idleness (yellow): rural happiness

Zinnias: thoughts of absent friends⁵

A message that could be sent might say “It is with cheerfulness, you occupy my thoughts - thoughts of absent friends, and not as an after thought.”

If one had the time, it could be fun to put together bouquets and see if others could find the meaning, with some cheat sheets, of course!

In keeping with the plan that the IHS porch box and garden space reflect the yearly theme of the Main Street Museum. The hope is to plant some of Olive’s choices to be enjoyed through the summer and fall. Please be sure to plan a trip to both of the

society's museums this summer. There will be several new exhibits.

- 1) Olive's diary
- 2) Ibid.
- 3) *The Language and Sentiment of Flowers* McCabe, James D. 2003
- 4) Ibid.
- 5) Ibid.

Life Events from the Diary of Olive Williams

Editor's Note Olive Williams included in her diary many of life's milestones. We share with you here a few of her recordings with her unique spellings of some of the names, and her comments on the people and events. You will find many more of these items when you enjoy the full diary to be published in July of this year.

April 27, 1873 Ma and David went to Mrs. Bainbridge's funeral in the afternoon.

June 7, 1873 Charley [Chaffee] is 22 years old to day. [Charley was the hired man.]

June 18, 1873 There was a wedding to day. Miss Clara Lefter [Lefler] was married in the afternoon to Mr. Peter Crise.

July 3, 1873, Thursday My birthday. I am 11 years old to day.

September 17, 1873 Mr. Abie [Abram] Peterson and Miss Carrie Bainbridge were married in the evening.

March 16, 1875 ...to day is Father's birthday. He is 57.

April 12, 1875 Mr. Calvin Willers was buried to day at this cemetery. He died last Friday night [April 9] of Typhoid fever.

January 15, 1876 Mr. Talmage is going to be married to a Miss Anna Becker of Mecklenburg next Wednesday.

February 20, 1876 Mr. Nivison was very sick all of last week with congestion of the lungs and died yesterday morning at about 10 o'clock. His funeral is Monday [February 21] at 1 o'clock.

July 9, 1876 I have not told you of our baby [Ransom and Loraine's son John] who was born April 27th. He is now a nice boy, laughs and plays and is greatly attached to Mother.

See page 5 or the insert for pre-order information on Olive Williams' Diary. Order now and save \$3.00.

*Photograph of
Olive Williams,
probably taken in 1877*



Olde Home Day 2010

June 12, 2010

Olde Home Day 2010 has the favorites and a few new events this year as well.

Vendors, music, displays and food are all on the line up, as is the bouncy house for the littlest visitors. New events this year are a photography contest and a building search for youth.

South Seneca Chapter Order of the Eastern Star and Farmerville-Union Masonic Lodge are sponsoring a community wide photography contest. There are two categories **Our Beautiful Community** and **People Making a Difference**, and three age divisions 4th to 8th grade, 9th to 12th grade, and Adults. Community voting on Olde Home Day will determine the winners in each category and division. Photographs need to be taken since last year's Olde Home Day by residents (year round or occasional) of the area. Entries need to be delivered the week of June 1 to June 7th to Jay's Deli and Video so that they can be numbered and prepared for display.

Visitors on Olde Home Day will be given a ballot and asked to select their favorite in each division and category. At the end of the day, six winners will be announced, prizes given, and the photographs placed on display for the rest of the month. For a complete set of guidelines visit www.villageofinterlaken.org.

Also new this year is a building search for children. Visit the Interlaken Grange table at the library to receive a picture search card. On the card will be pictures of buildings along Main Street or people at Olde Home Day. At each location the card will be stamped. Once all the squares are stamped return the card to the Grange table for a small thank you gift.

Even as the new items are added, all the old favorites will still be available. There will be music all day and dancing in the evening. A variety of musical events are planned for the morning, the South Seneca School groups will perform after the parade, and Silverado closes the event in the evening.

Vendors are a main fixture of Olde Home Day and organizers report a great group for your shopping experience. Vendors are still needed, so if you are interested in being part of Olde Home Day 2010 contact our coordinators at historian@villageofinterlaken.org or call 607-532-9227. Look for the Green Thumb Garden Club on the Library Lawn along with the Library Book Sale and many others.

Lots of great food will be available all day. Merchants and organizations will have everything from chicken bar-b-q to hot sausage and maybe even strawberry shortcake for you to enjoy.

The Interlaken Historical Society museums will be open, Car Pride will have their cars on display and in the parade, and a number of local organizations will have informational tables. The parade forms at the school and steps off at 1:00 p.m.

For more information, schedule updates and the latest in vendor lists see www.villageofinterlaken.org, or call event chair Keith Jay at 607-532-9375. Plan now to be part of Olde Home Day 2010.

Looking Back at the Lehigh Valley Railroad Depot



The first Railroad station in Farmer, removed to become a lake cottage after the new station was built in 1910.

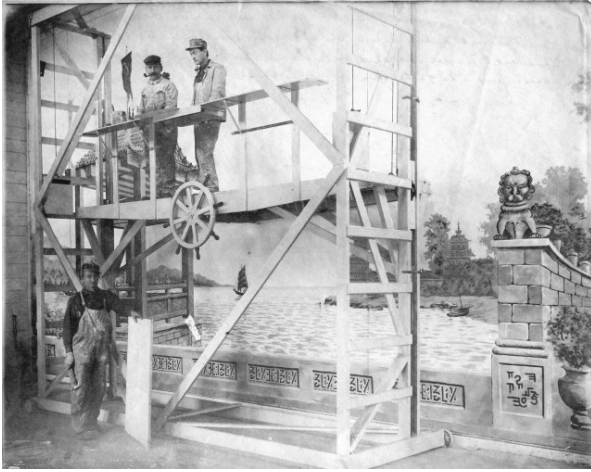
Lehigh Valley Railroad Station opened in 1910. The new station was build just north of the original building. Note the bicycles and baggage cart under the portico.



View of the station with the Milk Plant to the left, the smoke stack and water tower at the Canning Factory in the back left and Daily Brothers Grain building in the back right.

November 1983, The end of an era as the station is torn down.





Arch Chadwick, (right) and Uhl Frost painting scenery at the Boyer Opera House. Fred Haskin stands below. See pages 6 and 7 for more on his life, his work, and the 2010 display featuring a number of his glass plate negatives.

The Historical Society

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Mark your calendar

April 26, 2010 History in the Making: Conifer Village at Interlaken 7:30 p.m.

June 12th Olde Home Day 2010

July 26 Summer Program, Olive Williams and her Diary.

August 1, Fourth Annual Community Social

September 25th Country Fair and Plowing Day