

Between the Lakes

A Newsletter of the
Interlaken Historical Society

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www.InterlakenHistory.org



*1860s
traveling
forge at the
Summer
Celebration.
See more
pictures
throughout
the issue.*

Bicentennial Celebration 200 Years of Transportation

Saturday, September 9, 2017 from 10 am until 3 pm, the Brook Farm Barn at 8228 Route 96, just north of the Village of Interlaken, will be alive with displays, hands-on activities and speakers. They will be sharing information on the many modes of travel through our area in the past 200 years.

The early settlers arrived on foot, or driving horse or oxen carts. Others arrived by boat. With the opening of the Erie Canal, more people came into the area.

Children's author, Dorothy Stacy, will be present to talk about life on the Erie Canal in the 1840s. Her program at 1:00 will focus on life on the canal.

In the 1870s the railroads would reach our area. The Upstate Model Railroad group from Glens Falls will be on hand with their T-trak model railroad and welcome questions on railroads through the years. They will also talk about how model railroading preserves the history of train travel.

Did you know that boats were built in the Town of Covert? The Finger Lakes Boating Museum of Penn Yan is bringing an original boat built by Vince Campbell. Continued page3

Bicentennial Celebration Evening of Music and Dance October 14, 2017

As the celebrations wind down on the Town of Covert Bicentennial, the fun continues. An evening of Music and Dance featuring two local bands, lively music and a chance to learn both history and dance moves. The bands are Uncle Joe and the Rosebud Ramblers, and the Zedeco Trail Riders.

Doors open at 5 pm on Saturday, October 14th, at the Brook Farm Barn. Dance instruction will be given before and during the evening. Bring your chair, dancing shoes and join in the fun.

Uncle Joe and the Rosebud Ramblers offers a mix of lively up tempo New England fiddle tunes, energetic old time tunes from before the Civil War and family oriented traditional folk songs that have stood the test of time. It's a common sight to see a spontaneous square dance or elegant waltz

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President's Report

Welcome! It's been a busy summer with lots going on — library events, concerts, and the wineries with tours and music venues. The Historical Society has been active with our usual involvement with Olde Home Days, three Fish Frys which we also provided baked goods for, and the preparation for the Bicentennial summer.

We would like to thank all those many who helped make the Summer Social very successful. Some of the activities of the day included Petting Zoos, Kids Games, Book Sales, Civil War Reenactment, Postal Cancellation, Silent Auction of over forty items, Art Contest Display, Paint Ball Demonstration, Corn Hole Contest, a Dunking Booth, and of course, Food. We had a few bumps in the day, but everyone pulled together and a great day resulted with 400 plus people on the grounds. A special thanks to Richard Richardson for lining up a tent, stage, and P.A. system and also to the Interlaken Fire Company for use of their field.

Next on the agenda is the "200 Years of Transportation" celebration on September 9th. Attractions will include Horses, Buggies, Various Saddles, Old Cars and Trucks, New Cars, and a Semi Tractor, Boats, Tractors, Radio Controlled Planes, Model Railroad, and a Speaker on the Erie Canal.

And, what would an event be without Food and the Playground Train?!? So, on September 9th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., bring a lawn chair, relax, have some good conversations. Free parking, free admission,

come rain or shine to the Brook Farm Barn at 8228 Rt. 96, Interlaken, N.Y. For more information call me at 607 592-3224.

Our last big event for the Bicentennial is music and dance at Brook Farm Barn on October 14th. Uncle Joe and the Rosebud Ramblers start off at 6:00p.m. With a Caller giving instructions for Square Dancing, the first half of the evening will go quick. The second half will feature Zydeco and Trail Riders will entertain the rest of the evening. Someone exclaimed, "A free dance in a barn, I'll be there!!" So again, on October 14th, from 6:00p.m. to 10:30p.m., rain or shine, see you at Brook Farm Barn. Light refreshments, of course!

Thanks for your help and interest...

John Hunt
President

Please note

Our normal features of new members, new life members and recent gifts to the Society will resume in the January issue.

It has been a wonderful year, and we all hope you have enjoyed the many events, or if unable to attend, reading about them in the newsletter.

We also welcome your articles about events from the past.

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Join them for more information on boating and boat building.

Saddles were an important part of travel, for work or pleasure. Be sure to see the display of saddles and hear about how they changed over the years. Then step outside to meet and greet several horses and their owners.

Of course, automobiles and trucks have played a major role in the changes to our area. Look for a display of vehicles from times past, as well as trucks used today to transport goods as well as people.

Have you seen an electric car or the charging station that is needed? There will be one on site.

For the kids, the large wooden train will be in the inner court area. Photo opportunities abound, so bring your camera and catch the stage coach in the kids' area as well.

Food and ice cream will be available for purchase. The local historical societies will have displays and books.

We are still putting all the plans together. Check for updates on Facebook.com/TOC200.

Parking and admission is free. Come early and stay for the whole day. For more information, contact the Interlaken Historical Society at 607-592-3224.

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break out among the toe tapping audience during a performance. Joe's wonderful renditions of traditional folk songs are enhanced by Mike's solid guitar playing. Robin holds down the groove and keeps 'em honest. Renee's thirst for finding new tunes for the fiddle offers the listener and dancer new treats at every show. They take the stage at 6:00.

Earlier this Spring, Renne Baum visited the museum and took with her an early 1900s violin and music written by local composer, John Chadwick. The violin, turned fiddle for the evening, will be used and it is hoped that a variation on one or more of Chadwick's lively tunes will also be played. For more about Uncle Joe and the Rosebud Ramblers check out their Facebook page at [UncleJoeandtheRosebudRamblers/](#)

At 8:00, the **Zydeco Trail Riders Band** will perform. The group was formed in 2004 and plays locally in upstate NY and some in Pennsylvania. The members are from the Trumansburg-Ithaca area. Zydeco has been called the "feel good" music which gets everyone on the dance floor. Sally Frund who plays the rub board, will be giving dance lessons before they play. /Zydeco-Trail-Riders

A grant from the STEPS program provided the funds for bands and healthy snacks. There will also be other food items available for purchase. Watch the TOC200 and Interlaken Historical Society's facebook pages for more updates.

Restoration of a Caboose

Ed and Sharon Compton, of Route 89 Auto fame, have a little known desire to preserve history. This became evident April 27, 2017 when a 1913 Norfolk and Western CF series caboose showed up in his driveway.



Built for \$1,151.27 it was taken out of service and donated in 1971 to the Elmira psychiatric ward where it was used as a workshop, and in 1972, during flooding from Agnes, used as an emergency office.

During its time, there the caboose was climbed over and walked through, and everything except for the ice box was stripped out of it, including the toilet, bunks, lights, railings, and kitchen. Caboose (this one slept 6, is 34 feet long and weights 44,000 pounds) were used for resting, eating, and working, as well as bring up the end of the train.

25 years ago, it was donated to be an information center for the Black Diamond hiking trail and was moved to Ithaca and parked on rails behind the Hanger Theater. But after sitting for years it was deemed not worth using and was put up for sale.

Sold for \$10.00 it was going to be cut up for scrap, but the buyer did not have a permit to work on state park land.

Sold again (on e-bay) for \$500.00 the buyer had no way to move it. (Too heavy) Ed heard it was going on e-bay again and won the bid. He built special “trucks” to move it up Route 89 after removing the railings on the roof, (14 feet 11 inches).

He now has it in place on the opposite side of 89 from his business where he plans on restoring it starting with the roof, then windows, doors.

He is currently searching for components to restore the interior. One set of trucks has been restored and put back underneath, the other is now being worked on. Of the 381 CF series cabooses built, this is one of the few remaining that have not been wrecked, burned, or scrapped.

Look for restoration being done as you drive by on Route 89.

Gary Hunt

Even Cubby the Cub Scout bear had his picture taken on the train at the July 29th event. The train will be at 200 Years of Transportation as well.

