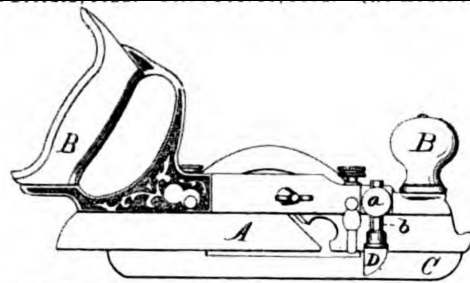


Between the Lakes

A Newsletter of the
Interlaken Historical Society

Volume 45 No. 2 October 2019

www.InterlakenHistory.org



Patent by Farmer Resident Frank Rappleye. See page 3 for details. Learn more at the October Meeting.

Monday, October 28, 2019 7:00 p.m.

19th Century Western New York Toolmakers

From Syracuse to Buffalo, Auburn to Ithaca, and in Interlaken as well, Upstate New Yorkers of the 1800s were active in designing, patenting and manufacturing tools. Focusing on the tools of the woodworker, this talk will highlight some of these homebred innovative contributions, and their impact on the larger national scene during the industrial revolution. The presentation will be accompanied by slide illustrations and noteworthy local tools.

Our speaker, **Dan Weinstock**, a retired physician from Geneva, NY, has been a collector of antique tools and scientific instruments for over 40 years. He is Vice President of the Western New York Antique Tool Collectors Association, Past-President of the Geneva Historical Society and he was Chairman of the *Directory of American Toolmakers* project of the Early American Industries Association. He has contributed articles to *The Chronicle of the EAlA*, *The Journal of the Oughtred Society*, the *Archives of Natural History*, and the *NY-PA Collector*.

Please join the Interlaken Historical Society on October 28th as we learn more about the tools, and about a local gentleman who created and patented a variety of items.

The meeting will be held in the meeting room, second floor 8396 Main Street, above Hubbard Heating and Plumbing. The area is handicapped accessible and refreshments will be served.

For more information please call 607-592-3224

An update on the Seneca Army Depot

By Gary Hunt and Dennis Mooney

This article is to bring you up to date on the happenings since the Army closed the depot in 2000.

When the Army closed the Depot in 2000 it left about 1,000 people without jobs. The Army turned the 10,587 acres over to the Seneca County IDA

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President's Report

I trust everyone has had a great summer. As we head into fall, I'd like to personally thank everyone who helped this year, from tending to our buildings and landscape, to those who volunteered as docents, and organized for our newsletter and fall schedule.

I had the pleasure to go on a three-farm tour this summer. They included a dairy farm, a farm that produced beef, pork, and poultry products, and a cash crop farm. Arranged by the Cooperative Extension, Soil Conservation and Farm Bureaus, the tour showed us the conservation practices used on these farms to protect our environment, the use of wise land management programs, and ways to provide for future generations to come.

It got me to thinking of how our forefathers cleared land, established crops and animal husbandry to provide for their families. Now, as farms have grown in size and have diversified, while the farming population has grown smaller, those practices have become more important as we have a whole hungry world to feed.

The three farms we visited are planning and looking to the future for their families, the world, and themselves to continue in wise use of the assets God has entrusted to them.

My thanks to all of our Interlaken Historical Society supporters. Might we all work together to remember the past, to help us be the stewards of the land, protecting what has been entrusted to us for future generations.

As always, let us know of ideas for programs, displays, and how we can better encourage the generations to come. 607 592-3224

John Hunt, President

Recent Donations

From Marty Schlabach and Mary Jean Welser of Interlaken, a 1932 Treasury Department, Order form for opium or Coca leaves, delivered to C F Swift, Main Street, Interlaken.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT
DUPLICATE
Value One (1) Cent
UNITED STATES INTERNAL REVENUE ORDER FORM FOR OPIUM OR COCA LEAVES, OR COMPOUNDS, MANUFACTURES, SALTS, DERIVATIVES OR PREPARATIONS THEREOF UNDER SECTION 2 OF THE ACT OF CONGRESS, APPROVED DECEMBER 17, 1914. SERIES OF 1923

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TO BE FILLED IN BY PURCHASER

THIS ORDER IS FOR EXACTLY 2993 CLASSES 485 ITEMS.
NUMBER OF THIS ACT AS SPECIFIED BY PURCHASER FROM RECEIPTS

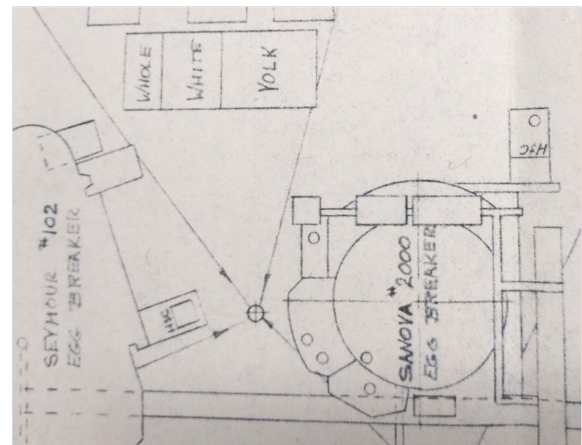
NAME, ADDRESS, RESIDENT AND CLASS NUMBER, AND SUBJECT TO BE INSERTED IN COLLECTOR'S OFFICE

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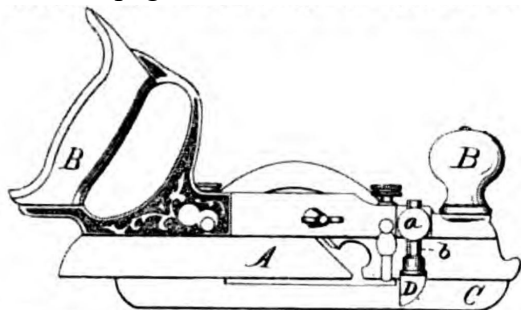
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The merchandise requested below may not be furnished if this form shows any alteration or erasure or evidence of

Dick Austic of Trumansburg, floor plan of the Eggit Building on Cayuga Street, including the egg separator operation.



The patent description of the planner shown on page 1.



CARPENTER'S PLOW. Frank A Rappleye, Kendaia, NY assignor to the Stanley Rule and Level Company, New Britain Conn. Filed Feb 15, 1882. (No model)

Claim: the convertible plow and slitting tool, substantially as hereinbefore described, consisting of the plow-stock A, adapted for the attachment and detachment of the ordinary plow-bit, the slitting knife D, secured to one side of said stock, and the fence C, secured to the opposite side, the bottom face of said stock being between the fence and knife, the latter extending downward from the lower outside corner of the stock, substantially as described, and for the purpose specified.

Dues are due: please check the date on your mailing label. Dues for 2019-2020 are now due. If your label has a date prior to 2019 please consider bringing your membership up to date. If you feel there this an error in the date shown, please contact the society.

New on the Bookshelf

In preparing for the Town of Covert Bicentennial in 2017 Village of Interlaken Historian, Diane Bassette Nelson researched and wrote or edited over 200 articles or blogs under the heading "Snippet From the Past." Each item was tied to a specific date and related to items within the history of our community or area. They were published online on the dates noted in the article. A few of the Snippet items were also reprinted in this newsletter.

Earlier this year, as requests for reprints of articles, or help finding people and events noted in the Snippet items were received, and realizing that online materials sometimes get lost in the clouds, she began the task of turning the electronic words and images into a printed format.

The result is a spiral bound volume of over 300 pages, 840 names in the index and hundreds of photographs from the Historical Society collection as well as other photos to highlight the articles.

Snippet From The Past

Honoring the 200th Anniversary of the
Town of Covert in Seneca County, NY
while sharing my love for history through
articles old, new, expanded
December 2016 through December 2017

Diane Bassette Nelson
Historian, Village of Interlaken

Copies of *Snippet From the Past* are available from the Interlaken Historical Society for \$35.00 each plus postage, or the Interlaken Public Library. Please see the updated Book order form on the last page.

Continued from page 1 Seneca Army Depot (Industrial Development Agency). Since the closing, there have been businesses moving in and currently there are more jobs than when the army left.

On the north end where the 295th military police and the Q area was, the Hillside Children's Center leased, although they are gone as of September 2019. The Q area is leased to First Light, which bought Finger Lakes Technology Group, the previous operator. They are using two of the special igloos for data servers, and others for storage. There are also igloos being used by municipalities for storing papers. Two igloos are used by a pyrotechnics company.

On the east side of the depot the former enlisted men's housing is now Spring Meadow apartments. The Seneca County Law Enforcement center is further south where the piles of ore use to be.

South of that on the south east corner in the area where Vance Crane's family was displaced in 1941, is the Five Point Correctional facility. There are several small businesses using some of the old 150 feet by 800 feet warehouses, though some of the buildings have fallen into disrepair.

On the west side, the eight standard magazine buildings are being used by Western Ag to build industrial pond liners.

The land south of the Q area, not including what was sold to Spring Meadow, the Sheriff and Five Points, was 7,000 acres and was put up for bid in early 2016 by the IDA.

There were 17 bids received with the highest bid almost 2 million.

With over 150,000 online petitioner signatures to save the white deer, the land was sold to Earl Martin, the third highest bidder, of Seneca Falls for \$900,000. Earl and Seneca White Deer (SWD), a not for profit (c)(3) organization working together came up with a plan to save the white deer. SWD is an organization whose mission is to save the white white tail deer. Earl currently leases the northern end of 3,000 acres to SWD. Of the remaining land on the south he has sold 2,500 acres to 25 Amish families who started this spring planting crops between the former ordnance igloos and have had livestock there since the spring of 2018. It was noted that this is the first time in 78 years the land has been plowed. This time by horses and maybe the last time was also by horses. Some people feel that the swords of the former Depot have now been beaten into plowshares.



Earl's plan is to one day have a mini Lancaster PA., where buses and tourists can visit and shop. The remaining land Earl is reserving for personal use and for future plans. He rents the 7,200 foot airstrip to the state police to practice high speed maneuvers and to the SCCA (sports car club of America) for meets.

He also has a railroad siding to receive metal shipments by rail for his businesses, Seneca Iron Works and Seneca Dairy systems. As of this writing (September) he is asking the Town of Romulus to rezone 70 acres so he can build a state of the art galvanizing plant employing over 150 people over a 10-year time frame. In 2016 before Earl had clear title to the 7,000 acres he spent over \$250,000 of his own money to put a 10 feet high fence along the south end of the SWD's lease area to try to keep the deer out of the Amish section. He also fixed the fences which had not been repaired for months at a time, which had let coyotes and hunters in. He planted 100 fruit trees, several hundred acres of food plots including corn, soybeans, turnips, carrots, and grasses.

A little information about SWD. In 2000 there were 600 deer in the depot of which 300 were white. in Spring 2016 there were 300 deer of which only 80 were white. Since 2016 Earl has

cleared 200 acres of woods and brush putting it into piles not to burn but make a habitat for rabbits, foxes, etc. 2019 saw him plant 150 acres of corn and 100 more trees, some fruit, some nuts. Deer like the edges of the woods to graze and hide.

SWD offers tours year-round, weather permitting, 4 to 5 days a week with 2 touring buses and lots of volunteers. The tours are about two hours long. You will see a beaver dam and bald eagle's nest, go in a personal bomb shelter and a bomb igloo, which could hold up to 265 500-pound bombs, and see the security measures for the Q area. Besides the bus tours there are also hiking, birding, personal photo, and biking tours. July 2018 saw 150 boy scouts camp over night.

SWD is also looking at tax maps, Cornell aerial maps from 1938, the 50s and 60s looking for where the homes and buildings of the 135 families who had between three days and three weeks to pull up stakes and



leave. In the spring groups of flowers, left behind by the families, help us locate those foundations. We have in the last year found a farm dump which included two light bulbs intact after laying on top of the ground for at least 78 years! Oh, the stories they could tell if only they could talk. In addition, a harness repair shop, two out-house foundations for a school (no school foundation), 11 and 25-cow dairy barn foundations, and some regular barn foundations have been located

The Kendaia Baptist cemetery is now being taken care of by the Kendaia First Baptist Church Board. They still have an open house the Sunday of Memorial Day as the Army did. Anyone who would like to visit the cemetery at a different time needs to contact Jane Braunig the secretary, who works for the Town of Romulus.



Photographs from the Seneca White Deer Facebook page. Three deer on the railroad tracks, a Hummingbird Moth, and hawk at the next.

For the history of the building of, operations, and closing of the depot, see Walter Gable's book: *The Seneca Army Depot*.

Library News

Our Library was bustling all summer! This year we saw more patrons participating in our Summer Reading Program and coming into the Library than any other summer on record. While we were very busy assisting patrons and enjoying more than 50 programs, we found time to give a fresh look to the Library.

Our Genealogy collection has moved! This gem of our community is now in a brighter, larger space within the Library. If you haven't been in to see the change, we urge you to stop by. This special collection has been reorganized for easier accessibility. To assist patrons find what they need with greater ease, books are in the process of being re-stickered. With the help of Diane Bassette Nelson we have been able to utilize this great treasure of our community. Moving forward, items used in reference will be tracked by the Librarians and statistical data will be more diligently collected. We urge anyone looking to avail themselves of the Genealogy collection to contact the library for assistance.

Moving into cooler months, we begin the process of strategic planning. This planning process allows us to hear from the community directly. Needs of our residents vary widely and are not limited to books or entertainment material. We urge everyone to participate and help ensure the Library is growing with the community and meets the needs of our residents in the coming years.

Chelsea Hastings
Interlaken Library Director
607-532-4341

**INTERLAKEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY
GIFT SHOP ORDER FORM**

<i>Snippet From the Past, Covert Bi-Centennial Blog</i> Diane Bassette Nelson	\$35.00	_____
<i>Covert Memories 1950-2015</i> , Interlaken Historical Society	\$12.50	_____
<i>The Seneca Army Depot</i> , Walter Gable & Carolyn Zogg.....	\$21.95	_____
<i>Seneca County in the Civil War</i> Walter Gable (Summer 2014)	\$21.95	_____
<i>So Good A Time, Life in the 1870s as Documented in the Diary of Olive Williams 1873 to 1878</i> , 2010 Nancy Saultz Radloff	Softcover \$12.95	_____
<i>Historical Images of Interlaken</i> a coloring book based on historical photographs 12 full page drawings of historical buildings with descriptive text.	\$3.50	_____
<i>Town of Covert</i> , 1976 Wayne Morrison	Softcover \$25.00*	_____
.....	Hardcover \$35.00*	_____
<i>Index to the Interlaken and Ovid Newspapers 1822-1994</i>	\$55.00*	_____
<i>The Covert Family</i> , 1989 C W. Fischer, Wm. V Covert, M. L. Patterson...	\$35.00*	_____
<i>Between the Lakes</i> , 1976 Maurice L. Patterson	Hardcover \$25.00	_____
.....	Softcover \$15.00	_____
<i>And Let My Memory Cherished Be, Remembering the Families of the Old Covert Cemetery</i> , 2006, Diane Bassette Nelson.....	\$18.00	_____
<i>Interlaken Oral History: Life & Times of the Area 1900-1950</i> including the History of the Halstead Canning Co	\$10.00	_____
<i>The Diary of Herman T. Smith, 1884-1893</i>	\$10.00	_____
<i>Descendants of Thomas Horton of Springfield & Descendants of Phineus Pratt, Carl W. Fischer</i>	\$35.00	_____
<i>Silas Halsey, Pioneer Settler of Lodi, N.Y., A Chronology of His Life and Times 1743 – 1832</i> , Alta E. Boyer.....	\$15.00	_____
<i>The Geology of Seneca County</i> , John W. Wells	\$10.00	_____

Order total _____

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DUES are due beginning July 1, Still only \$10 a year!

Interlaken Historical Society
PO Box 270
Interlaken, NY 14847-0270

www.InterlakenHistory.org

For more information on the Historical Society events contact President, John Hunt, 607-592-3224

Monday, October 28, 2019 7:00 p.m.
Dan Weinstock, 19th Century Western New York Toolmakers
8396 Main Street, 2nd floor, entrance on the south side of the building. Handicapped accessible.
Museums open by appointment,
607-592-3224 or 607-280-2099

* * * * *

2019 Interlaken Grange Flag Retirement, Sunday, November 17th, 3:00 pm at the Interlaken Grange, Route 96 at West Covert Road. All are welcome to bring used American Flags to be properly disposed of. For more information, or to have your flags picked up, call 607-532-4627

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