



Town of Horicon Historical Society



horiconny.gov / horiconmuseum@yahoo.com | Box 51, Brant Lake, NY 12815 |

Do You Know?

What year did the first airplane land on Brant Lake and where did it land?

Send your answer to tjohansen001@nycap.rr.com

The answer will appear in our next newsletter

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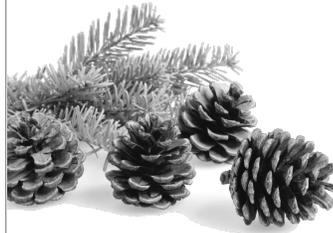
Town Historian
Colleen Murtagh

Editors:
Sylvia Smith
Mather Media

Town of Horicon Historical Society
Newsletter is published for the dissemination to Members, Supporters and County Historical Societies.

We welcome comments, corrections, articles, pictures, reminiscences & letters to the editor.

Greetings!



How quickly time passes! Our present becomes our history..

We hope you enjoy this update and stories from the past in our Town of Horicon Historical Society Newsletter.

A digitization project is in process where all items in the museum will be featured on-line, making our history more accessible to the community.

The main house of the museum has been rearranged to enhance our artifacts. We thank Mary Ann Hill and Tom for spring cleaning and Barb Blum for hanging the shades and new curtains.

Our Carriage House is currently under renovation where part of the building has been set up as our office and work area for the digitization project. The remaining space will feature updated displays.

We would like to recognize the Town of Horicon Beautification Crew lead by Kevin Kilcullen for ground work, mowing and tending flowers. Members Terry Schuerlein, Sylvia and Bob Smith, Joyce Houck and Tom Johansen were responsible for planting.

An envelope is enclosed for 2015 membership dues. Please respond in order to keep active in the Historical Society.

The Military Monument Walkway continues to grow. In May, four new pavers were added. We are researching updated costs for bronze to enhance the road side of the Monument.

Do You Know?

From our last newsletter

Where was the first Post Office in Horicon?

Answer: Haysburg at the junction of Bolton and Haysburg Roads. The first Postmaster in the 1840's was Howard Waters from one of the early families. (Edith Mae Barton Clifford notes)

*The Museum Annex (1881 Union Church)
in the hamlet of Adirondack*

- \$45,538 raised (\$5,000 in kind materials)
- \$7,206 spent for emergency repairs
 - detailed exam of Church confirmed rapid deterioration of basement and need for emergency stabilization of foundation.



The stone foundation is failing.

- Competitive bids went out for foundation
 - bids received 5/6/15 low bid \$65,891 (new basement only)
- Applied for NYS Grant. Looking forward to info from NYS confirming monies and date of actual receipt.

Looking Back to 1860 from Edith Mae Barton Clifford

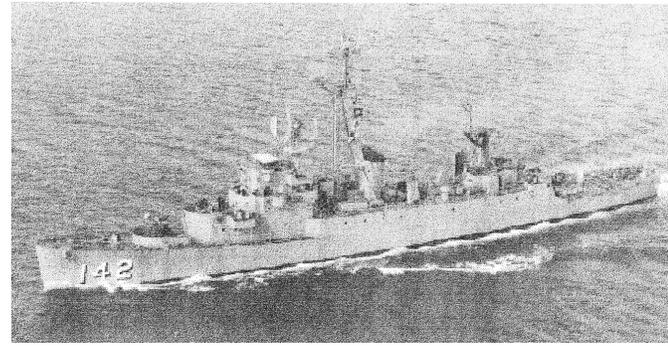
HORICON-FRENCH GAZATEER OF NEW YORK -1860-

Horicon was formed from Bolton and Hague, March 29 1838. It lies upon the North border of the county east of Schroon Lake. The greater part of its surface is occupied by two branches of the Kayaderosseras Mountains, which are here divided by the valley of Brant Lake. In the north and east, these ranges rise in numerous sharp rocky peaks 1,600 to 2,000 feet above tide, but in the south and west they sink into a hilly plateau region. About half the surface is arable. Among the hills are great numbers of small lakes, laving with their crystal waters, the base of the huge rocky masses which tower above them. Brant Lake, the principle of them, is 5 miles long and is everywhere surrounded by precipitous hills. The soil is a sandy loam. Horicon, situated on Schroon River in the south-west part of town, contains abut 20 houses and Millbrook (Adirondack) on Schroon Lake, 15 houses. Aaron Harris, Joseph Gregory, Bishop Carpenter and Timothy Bennett were some of the earliest settlers. Also Howard Waters, Nathan, Benjamin and James Hayes, Benjamin Hayes 2nd, John Robbins, James Frazier and Benjamin Wright were early settlers. Hanna Reynolds taught the first school.

Brant Lake elevation 797.



EARL PERSONS
 World War II USN
 Town of Horicon Supervisor
 (1957 - 1963)
 Historical Society Member and
 one of the Founders



DE 142 Fessenden

1911 - 2006

SAGA OF THE SEA...FIRST CRUISE...EARL PERSONS, USN

October 8, 1944

Dearest Wife and Family;

Due to strict censorship of all mail that leaves this ship, I cannot write you the day to day events that take place and really have come to miss writing you. To fill the vacuum created by cessation of our beloved correspondence, I shall write below some facts which may never be mailed but which I hope the future will "God willing" allow me to recount to you some day. At else some of the facts and dates should belated herein to prevent any loss by failure of memory.

On Sept. 8, 1944 my ship Fessenden sailed from Norfolk at 3 P.M. of 1500 and before nightfall the coast of good old U.S.A. had slid over the horizon and all the world had become sea. My feelings were a mixture of awe, thrill and a specter of fear behind all to be at last out where the active theatre of war might at anytime engulf us. For we are out to hunt Hitler's Wolf Pack of Submarines that even at this late date are sinking a certain number of every hundred vessels that cross the ocean to carry the supplies needed in Europe. Our ship is overcrowded with men and there is no bunk for me nor any place where I could hang my hammock, so each night I am supposed to have a folding canvass cot to open up and sleep wherever there is that much available space. "Note" The cots are soon wrecked and thrown overboard and many nights I sleep on topside on a steel ammunition box with one blanket, half under half over me. Here with nothing overhead except the stars "that sometimes leak" I have plenty of chance to meditate upon the relative comforts of home and this hull of steel which may serve was such until this war is won. There is not a single chair or stool of any description in any of the crews compartments for about the narrow deck that surrounds the super-structure. So if one desire to sit he must do so upon the deck or an ammunition box. I failed to mention that my ship is one of a task force made up of four other D.E.s and a carrier. The D.E.s are named after people. The names are Howard, Hill, Blakely, Farquhar and our own Fessenden. My naturally poor writing is not benefited any by the constant motion of the ship rolling and pitching.

...to be continued in future newsletters

Noteworthy



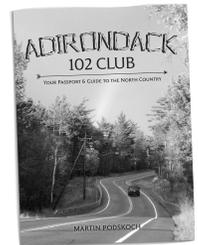
Visit **THE LAZY MOOSE** to check out Historical photos displayed. The Lazy Moose has been named the Post Star's 2015 "Best of Region" for Best Gift and Best Speciality Store - Congratulations!

THE ADIRONDACK GENERAL STORE has interesting history going back to 1855. Stop by to visit this landmark.



Saturdays Farmers Market at **CLARK'S MALL** on Route 8, Brant Lake, not only has farm fresh produce but features an Adirondack Author each week for book signings and sharing history.

Joyce Houck and Barb Blum, our own Town of Horicon Historical Society Members, have completed visits to all of the 102 Adirondack Towns. They are the first to achieve the Vagabond Awards in the entire Adirondack Park. We are so proud!



Town of Horicon Library and Friends of Library organizations add to our year around activities. Check them out on Facebook or contact Sally at 260-0043

We Need You!

The Horicon Historical Society needs your help. Volunteers are needed for inventory, cleaning, creating displays as well as Museum guides and other projects. We are also looking for computer savvy people to help with the massive digitization project.

To volunteer, contact Tom Johansen at 494-3759 or Sylvia Smith at 494-3443.

Horicon Historical Society Monthly Meetings
2nd Monday of every month, 7pm at the Horicon Community Center

***A Year Around Our Active Community
Horicon Happenings To Come***

August 2

Horicon Day

Vendors, food, music and fireworks
2pm - Dusk Horicon Community Center

August 8

Adirondack Garage Sale

9am - 3pm Hamlet of Adirondack

Adirondack Shindig

5 - 8pm Hamlet of Adirondack

August 22

Horicon Central School Alumni Celebration

3pm Horicon Community Center
For more info - 494-4135

September 3

Adirondack 102 Club Dinner

6pm Jimbos Club at the Point
For more info - 494-5812

September 11

Charles Alsheimer Sportsman Presentation

7 - 9pm Horicon Community Center
For more info - 494-2722

October 10

Lazy Moose Fall Festival

October 11

Brant Lake Duck Race

Noon Mill Pond
For more info - 494-3357

November

Thanksgiving Crafts

Horicon Community Center
Date TBD

December

Christmas in the North Country Tree Lighting

Date TBD



Adk Yard Sale 9am - 3pm

For Spaces Contact Peggy 494-4430

Saturday August 8th

Enjoy The Day In Adirondack, NY 12808!

Adirondack Shindig

Food...City Limits Band 5 - 8pm...Dancing

Free Admission

Sponsored by the Horicon Historical Society Museum Annex

For More Information Contact Tom Johansen 494-3759