MARCH PROGRAM

80th Anniversary Lightning Regatta

Mike Yates, Committee Chair, will be presenting plans for the 80th Anniversary Lightning Regatta to be held July 6-8, 2018. That’s right—not this year, 2017, but next year, 2018. That’s an indication of the planning that needs to go into this event to make it successful and to run smoothly. While many of the events and the sailing will be based out of the Skaneateles Country Club, they hope to make this a community event.

As an avid Lightning sailor, Mike has been the owner of Skaneateles-built Lightning #378 “Acme” for 30 years and has raced her in each of the 50th, 60th, and 70th Lightning Regattas, and looks forward to racing her again on her 79th birthday with his daughters, Emily and Nora McNeil, in the 80th. Having owned the Sailboat Shop from 1992-2005, Mike has a close connection with the local sailing community and looks forward to sharing the committee’s plans.

Please join us on Tuesday, March 28 at 7:30 pm at The Museum at The Creamery. The public is always welcome, and refreshments will be served.

Lewis Wellington, d. 2-3-2017

Our sincere condolences to Lew’s family. Lew was on our Board of Directors for several years, and was passionate about Skaneateles history and the preservation of the cleanliness of the lake.

PROPOSED LIBRARY PLANS

For those of you who are local, and are interested in learning about the proposed library move to the former Stella Maris site, the first four community workshops are scheduled for the following dates and times. Please note that the content and purpose of these meetings are the same; multiple sessions have been scheduled to provide more opportunities for participation:

Thursday, March 23 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the fire hall
Thursday, March 23 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the high school cafeteria
Saturday, March 25 from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Skaneateles Schools Board Room in the District Office Building
Tuesday, March 28 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Skaneateles Schools Board Room in the District Office Building

There is also a website, http://skaneateleslibrary.org/project-bookends/ that has an excellent FAQ section that addresses many of the questions being asked.
APRIL PROGRAM
The Erie Canal—The Early Years

Using seldom-seen manuscripts from the New York State Archives from the first days of the Clinton's Ditch, Craig Williams will provide an illustrated overview of how the people of New York State learned to survey, design, construct and operate this unparalleled engineering achievement. Who took the first shovel and where? Once built, who was going to maintain it and how? New Yorkers were the first to undertake such a massive public works. As we approached the bicentennial of the Erie Canal, now is an especially good time to better appreciate this truly remarkable accomplishment.

Craig recently retired as a senior historian at the New York State Museum after more than thirty years of service. From 1978 to 1983 he was the director of the DeWitt Historical Society of Tompkins County in Ithaca. He was curator at the Erie Canal Museum from 1976 through 1977.

Please join us on Tuesday, April 25 at 7:30 pm at The Museum at The Creamery for an insider’s look at the Erie Canal. The public is always welcome, and refreshments will be served.

Sheet music for the song many of us learned in grade school—“I had a mule, her name was Sal…”

The Weighlock building on the Erie Canal is Syracuse, 1903. It is now the Erie Canal Museum.
CREAMERY HOURS
Jan-June, Fri-Sat, 1-4 p.m.
Or by appointment

Please note our closing policy
If Skaneatele Schools are closed on the Tuesday of our monthly program meeting, the program will be cancelled.
If schools are closed on a Friday, the museum and gift shop will be closed.

Membership Renewals
Thanks to all those who have sent in their membership renewals. We are still trying to have all our memberships renew in January — easier for you, easier for us.

Recent Acquisitions
Books by Louisa Shotwell, photos, and articles related to her works
Postal history items, including envelopes and letters from the 1800s-1900s
Ashtrays from former Skaneateles hotels

AMAZON SMILE PROGRAM
Do you shop at Amazon? If so, they have started a new program that donates a percentage of all eligible sales to a charity of your choice. The Skaneateles Historical Society is now participating, so all you have to do is go to:

http://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7339639

and shop as usual. No cost to you, a benefit to us — what a great deal! Give it a try! We have 26 people who regularly shop on Amazon and select us as their donor benefit.

We’re now on Facebook!
Let us know what you’d like to see on our page! It’s under Skaneateles Historical Society.

BOARD MEMBERS: President, David Bates; V-P, Bill Stinson; Secretary, Mona Smalley; Corresponding Secretary, Karen Lengyel; Treasurer, Tessi Spearning; Town Historian, Beth Batlle; Village Historian, Jorge Batlle; Members-at-large, Dan Bangs, Julie DiBagio, Doug Hamlin, David Miller, Karlene Miller, Barbara Patrick, Joseph Spalding, Susan Spalding, Richard Whalen
MUSEUM DIRECTOR: Laurie Winship
RESTORED PHOTO

West Lake Conservators has recently finished restoring this photo captioned “Skaneateles Yacht Club Fleet, Photographed Aug 10, 1868.” It is the oldest known photo we have of boats on the lake, so it’s a very important piece of our collection. The photo on the left is the “before.” The main detail that stands out is the horizontal line near the bottom—that’s where moisture had gotten in behind the frame, and the photo was stuck to the glass. You can also see the poor condition of the frame. The photo on the right is the restored photo. It was detached from the glass and as many other marks were removed as possible without compromising the original photo. The original frame was carefully mended. This project was made possible with a grant from the Greater Hudson Heritage Network with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts. The photo will be hung in the Boat Building or annex, once we determine the best place for viewing as well as protection for the photo.

Detail of the hand-written caption on the photo prior to restoration.
Civil War and Skaneateles Money: A Bank in a Pocket?

By Scott Hauver

Did I tell you about the time I bought the 15-cent bill with Skaneateles written on it? One day I was on an Internet bidding site (history geeks who are trying to save money should not be on Internet bidding sites, but I was) and typed in Skaneateles as keyword and scrolled through the flotsam and jetsam of post cards, books, artwork, and other interesting items when I came across this.

An 1863 15-cent bill? Interesting. Curiosity got the best of me and I spent considerably more than 15 cents (even if adjusted for inflation) to acquire it. When the bill arrived, I was surprised to see that it was about the size of Monopoly money with printing only on the front. I wondered if I had just bought a 15-cent wooden nickel…made out of paper.

So why a 15-cent bill?

Turns out that before the National Bank Act of 1863 paper money was issued by banks, not the government, and when the Civil War broke out in 1861 people began hoarding coins for their metal content. Coins became difficult to find and people actually started using postage stamps as currency. This caused problems for the post office who needed to use those stamps for their intended purpose. In addition, stamps were designed to be used only once; so their durability was suspect. A metal case was designed to extend the life of the stamp, but when a case costs two cents to preserve a low value stamp, even I know that makes bad business sense.

The situation got so bad that some businesses began minting their own coins to encourage commerce. Many of these coins were careful to put the word “not” above one cent to avoid counterfeiting charges.

In 1862 the Federal government and the banks started issuing fractional currency to meet this need. This currency earned the nickname shinplasters, a term that came from the Revolutionary War where American soldiers would be paid in Continental currency. This currency was deemed worthless by a lot of merchants so soldiers used the bills to make paper mache casts to treat leg injuries or just to keep their legs warm.

The collection at The Creamery had no specific information on this bill. Laurie Winship did some preliminary research and then reached out to her husband Kihm. Kihm was kind enough to write back and said that the Mechanics Bank was founded in 1851 in Syracuse. Joel Thayer (of the Thayer Park Thayers) was a director and eventually served as treasurer and vice president of the bank. And then Kihm said the most interesting thing of all.

“I find no record of it every having a branch in Skaneateles; if it did, I suspect it operated out of Joel Thayer's vest pocket.”
BUSINESS DIRECTORY

ANTIQUES

WHITE & WHITE ANTIQUES
(315) 685-7733
18 East Genesee St, Skaneateles, NY 13152
Fine Antiques, Appraisals, Collections & Estate Dispersals
whiteandwhiteantiques.com

ARCHITECTS

ROBERT O. EGGLESTON, ARCHITECT
Residential, Light Commercial Zoning
1391 East Genesee Street Skaneateles, NY 13152
Bob@ROEggleston.com (315) 685-8144

JANICE M. MILLER, ARCHITECT
Residential & Light Commercial
4357 Jordan Road Skaneateles, NY 13152
jmillerarch@verizon.net (315) 685-0641

VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN, PLLC
35 Fennell St, Skaneateles, NY 13152
ckozub@vernacularpllc.com
www.vernacularpllc.com
A Full Service Architectural Design Firm
Christopher P. Kozub, RA, AIA, LEED AP
(315) 396-8001

ART RESTORATION

WEST LAKE CONSERVATORS
Preservation of Art and Historic Artifacts, Paintings, Paper, Frames, Murals, Textiles, and Photographs
www.westlakeconservators.com
P.O. Box 45 Skaneateles, NY 13152
(315) 685-8334

ATTORNEYS

MILFORD, LYNCH & SHANNON – J. RICHARD LYNCH
Over 70 years in the General Practice of Law with an emphasis on Estate Planning, Real Estate and Business Transactional Law.
2-4 Fennell St., Skaneateles, NY 13152-0047
jrl@jrlattorneys.com (315) 685-3416

AUTOMOTIVE

JOHNS BODY SHOP
Collision Repair & Auto Body
1380 East Genesee St
Skaneateles, NY 13152
(315) 685-5986

LAKEVIEW AUTO & MARINE
1853 West Lake Rd.
Skaneateles, NY 13152
(315) 685-8863

BAKERIES

THE PATISSERIE
The Patisserie features artisan breads, fine pastries, specialty cookies, and pies as well as traditional holiday baked goods.
For your special day, order a custom-designed wedding cake from The Patisserie.
4 Hannum St PO Box 529 Skaneateles, NY 13152
TheSherwoodInn.com/Patisserie 315-685-3405

COMMUNITY BANK, NA
Desiree Murphy, AVP
www.communitybankna.com
1 East Genesee Street Skaneateles, NY 13152
(315) 685-8324
BUSINESS DIRECTORY

CHIROPRACTORS

SKANEATELES CHIROPRACTIC OFFICE
Over a quarter century of service to our community.
David Petters, D.C.
1342 New Seneca Turnpike Skaneateles, NY 13152
(315) 685-0710

CLOTHING

CATE & SALLY
4 E. Genesee St
Skaneateles, NY 13152

CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

DAVID BEAN’S HANDYWORK, LLC
Residential/Commercial
Siding, Carpentry, Windows, Snowplowing, & Brush Hogging
3816 Highland Ave. PO Box 348
Skaneateles, NY 13152
Beanjt3@roadrunner.com (315) 391-0757

DAVID LEE & COMPANY
Fine Building & Restoration
1741 Pork St.
Skaneateles, NY 13152
(315) 685-8419
www.dleeco.com

KEVIN RICH CONSTRUCTION LLC
775 Crow Hill Rd
Skaneateles, NY 13152
(315) 685-0283

FINANCIAL PLANNING

AMERIPRISE FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.
Financial Planning ● Retirement ● Investments ● Insurance
D. William Winkelman, CFP® Financial Advisor
21 Fennell Street Suite 2, Skaneateles, NY 13152
ameripriseadvisors.com/dwight.w.winkelman
(315) 685-1959

FUNERAL HOMES

ROBERT D. GRAY FUNERAL HOME
49 Jordan St
Skaneateles, NY 13152
(315) 685-5224

GIFT SHOPS

GALLERY 54
Fine Art & Fine Crafts Created by Local Artists
54 E. Genesee St., Skaneateles, NY 13152
(315) 685-5470

MOTTVILLE CONSIGNMENT & EMPORIUM
873 Crow Hill Rd.
Mottville, NY 13119
(315) 685-1696

SKANEATELES ARTISANS, LLC
Gallery under the Old Stone Mill
3 Fennell St., Lover level
www.skaneatelesartisans.com
Art & Gifts
(315) 685-8580

DENTISTS

P. Gard Lorey, DDS & Sean P. Smith, DDS, PC
1579 Cherry Valley Turnpike
Skaneateles, NY 13152
www.smilesofskaneateles.com
(315) 685-5874

HOME CARE

PEREGRINE HOME CARE
Providing dedicated, compassionate care givers to
individuals needing assistance in their homes in Cayuga and Onondaga Counties
Call (315) 685-5170 to learn more!
www.peregrineseniordliving.com
BUSINESS DIRECTORY

PLEASE PATRONIZE THESE BUSINESSES

HOTELS/MOTELS

ARBOR HOUSE INN AND SUITES
The elegance of an old-fashioned inn and the modern amenities of hotel lodging. They offer 11 luxurious guest rooms which are just a walk around the corner from Skaneateles Lake, shops and restaurants.
41 Fennell St PO Box 529 Skaneateles, NY 13152
ArborHouseInn.com (315) 685-3405

GRAY HOUSE
47 Jordan St
Skaneateles, NY 13152
(315) 685-0283

HANNUM HOUSE
Home to former President of Skaneateles, Spencer Hannum, the Hannum House now offers five luxurious and private suites. The historic home has been impeccably restored, blending Old-World elegance with upscale modern amenities.
32 W Genesee St PO Box 529 Skaneateles, NY 13152
HannumHouse.com (315) 685-3405

PACKWOOD HOUSE
The Backwood House was built in 2003 and named after John Backwood, a highly successful carriage maker and early owner of the Sherwood Inn. The hotel's a perfect combination of contemporary design, modern convenience, and old-fashioned hospitality.
14 W Genesee St Skaneateles, NY 13152
PackwoodHouse.com (315) 685-3405

THE SHERWOOD INN, est. 1807
Since 1807 the Sherwood Inn has been offering food, beverage and lodging in the heart of the historic Village of Skaneateles, NY. Footsteps away from quaint shops and galleries along the north shore of Skaneateles Lake.
26 W Genesee St PO Box 529 Skaneateles, NY 13152
TheSherwoodInn.com (315) 685-3405

VILLAGE INN
Tasteful village lodging in the European tradition, the Village Inn offers suites with fireplaces, jet tubs, refrigerators and modern amenities. Enjoy serenity in the heart of historic Skaneateles.
25 Jordan St Skaneateles, NY 13152
VillageInn-skaneateles.com (315) 685-3405

INSURANCE

DELMONICO INSURANCE AGENCY
Auto, Home, Life, Marine, Business Insurance
www.DelmonicoInsurance.com
11 Fennell St Ste. 2 Skaneateles, NY 13152
(315) 685-8921

PHYSICAL THERAPISTS

REBOUND SPORTS AND ORTHOPEDIC PHYSICAL THERAPY, PC
37 South Street, Marcellus, NY 13108
(315) 673-1007
Hours: MW 7-7, TTH 8-8, F 7-6
www.reboundptsports.com

PLUMBING & HEATING

FINGER LAKES MECHANICAL
Plumbing • Heating • Water Filtration
Mike Foote, Owner
troutdiver@verizon.net
(315) 685-3297

REAL ESTATE

RealtyUSA, Romy Callahan
Serving the real estate needs of Skaneateles And the surrounding areas
28 E. Genesee St., Skaneateles, NY 13152
315-729-3820, rcallahan@realtyusa.com
RESTAURANTS/TAVERNS

FINGER LAKES ON TAP
A unique and relaxing environment to enjoy craft beer
35 Fennell St., Skaneateles, NY 13152
(315) 685-9600

LAKE HOUSE PUB
Lunch ● Dinner ● Drinks ● Live Entertainment
www.lakehousepub.com
6 West Genesee St. Skaneateles, NY 13152
(315) 554-8194

MARK'S PIZZERIA
“Quality & Service Since 1982”
1388 East Genesee St Skaneateles, NY 13152
(315) 685-2222
www.marksizzeria.com/menu

VALENTINE’S PIZZA & DELI
“Across From Gazebo”
18 W. Genesee St
Skaneateles, NY 13152
(315) 685-8804

BUSINESS DIRECTORY
PLEASE PATRONIZE THESE BUSINESSES

SHIPPING

THE UPS STORE
Providing shipping, copying, printing, packaging and other services
store5367@theupsstore.com
27 Fennell St. Suite B Skaneateles, NY 13152
(315) 685-0155

SKIN CARE PRODUCTS

BALSAM ROSE SOAP COMPANY
Spafford, NY
High quality natural skin care products that use the power of plants to nourish your skin every day
www.balsamrosesoap.com
Facebook.com/balsamrosesoap

TRAVEL

Kathy Crelot, Vacation Specialist, Cruises Inc.
Design your next cruise, resort or other travel needs
PO Box 32, Skaneateles, NY 13152
(315) 685-0121
www.cruisesinc.com/kcrelot

WELDING

LEO’S —804 West Genesee St Skaneateles NY 13152
In-shop & Portable Welding—Steel & Welding Supplies
Commercial Fabrication-Antique Repairs—Since 1968
(315) 685-5968 Roger L. Patrick

The Skaneateles Historical Society 28 Hannum St. Skaneateles, NY 13152  315-685-1360
www.skaneateleshistoricalsociety.org
skaneateleshistoricalsociety@verizon.net
Post card of the Specht House in 1910; now The Athenaeum, at 150 E. Genesee St. Note the great baby carriage at the bottom. The Specht grandchildren and their maid are shown. What a world it was then!