

Board of Trustees

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Robert A. Geiger,
Clarence Town Board Liaison
Mark Woodward, Town Historian

Board Meetings are held the 1st Thursday of each month.

Meetings begin at 6:30 pm at the Clarence History Museum.

President's Comments

We at the museum are looking forward to a successful 2022 season! Our first day of open hours will be Sunday, March 27th, 2022. We will be open the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month from 1–3pm. We are adding two new exhibits, the J Michael Hens exhibit, with a thank you to the Hen's family for their donation of artifacts and a Clarence–Opoly exhibit, showcasing the three games through the years and business's that appear on each game. Thank you to the Clarence Chamber for loaning one of the boards to us so our exhibit would be complete! We will be repairing and refreshing the Watchman's Shanty with a new door and paint. We are hopeful the porch floor will be repaired on the Log Cabin as soon as the weather breaks so we can re–open the Log Cabin once again! We are also working on an outdoor signage project which will be the start of a self–guided tour of our grounds and into the park. Lastly, our Secretary, Joan Woodward, is lining up speakers for programs for this year. Dates and times to be announced!

As always, we thank you very much for your continued support!
Happy Spring!

A RANSOM NOTE In This Issue

Bob Geiger Award

Spring Puzzle

Membership Corner

New History Course at Clarence High School

Our Social Media star and official Mascot for the Historical Society of the Town of Clarence, Arthur! He is nuts about history!



The Historical Society Trustees, Members, and Volunteers are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Don Dinola, Elaine's husband. Cards can be sent to Elaine Dinola at:

286 Deyo Hill Road, Apt 2099E, Johnson City, NY 13790



Franklyn (Don) Dinola passed away peacefully at age 88, on March 4, 2022. He was predeceased by his parents, Matthew and Mary and sister, Phyllis (George) Lurenz. He is survived by his loving wife, Elaine of 68 years, sons Michael (Sandy) of Chapel Hill, NC, and Matthew (Lisa) of Waltham, MA, five grandchildren, six great grandchildren and his loving sister Jane Putrino of Endicott, NY. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews who loved him dearly.

Don proudly served in the US Marine Corp during the Korean War. He moved to Buffalo, NY in 1962 as owner and operator of Buffalo Thermo King. He then worked as superintendent of Mount Calvary Cemetery Group until his retirement at age 80. He belonged to numerous military service organizations including Clarence American Legion #838 and the Clarence Rotary Club where he was recognized as a Paul Harris Fellow for his charitable work supporting the community. He and Elaine recently relocated to Johnson City to be near family.

His sense of humor and gift of storytelling made him memorable to everyone he met. He was passionate about his work, golf, pets and all Buffalo sports teams-Go Bills!

A private service to celebrate his life and spirit will be held at a future date. In his honor, donations may be made to a military service organization of your choice.

Semper Fi!

**Congratulations to the Liaison for the Historical Society of the Town
of Clarence! Well deserved!**



Citizen of the Year

Robert A. Geiger

Robert Allyn Geiger was born and raised in Buffalo, New York, and attended Kensington H.S. In his early days he was active in Boy Scouting and eventually Sea Scouting Explorer Programs. He is a graduate of the University of Buffalo in Business Administration with a concentration in Traffic and Transportation. He was Manager of UB Freshman Football Team 1955-1956 and while in Air Force ROTC was co-founder of the Air Command Squadron. As a resident of Clarence for over 60 years, he and his wife Pat have raised 2 sons, Tom and Tim, and a daughter Sherry. They have 8 grandchildren, 5 of which became Eagle Scouts. They recently celebrated their 61st Wedding Anniversary and are parishioners of Nativity of BVM. He is a Veteran of the 98th regiment of the U. S. Army Reserves and served his active duty at Ft. Dix NJ. He is presently a Councilman in the Town of Clarence and formerly was co-owner of the Four Seasons Restaurants in Western New York consisting of six restaurants with over 350 employees.

Bob Geiger assisted the Clarence Chamber of Commerce in the area of Business Development and new memberships. In January of 2018, during their intense reorganization program, he was made President and Board Chair of the Clarence Chamber. He was on the Clarence Town Zoning Board of Appeals and Recreation Advisory Board prior to becoming a Councilman. In his present position he is Liaison to Clarence Senior Center, Clarence Historical Society and Animal Control along with several others. He is Past President of Clarence Rotary Club where he has been a member for 35 years, and Past President of Clarence Rotary Foundation. Bob was presented the Rotarian Paul Harris Award in 2006 and the Chamber Life Time Achiever Award in 2011. He was instrumental in obtaining the Clarence Nature Center site from the Town for educational purposes while President of Rotary in 1994. He also was a Charter Member of Clarence Toastmasters, Co-Founder of Academy of Finance at Clarence H.S. and has been a seven-year guest participant at Clarence H.S. in the New Generations Program. Bob was an Eagle Scout Advisor for Troops 664 and 250 and took part in many explorer adventures. He was and is extremely involved in the Taste of Clarence, Clarence Hollow Assn. and Clarence Farmers Market activities.

Prior to Clarence involvement, Bob worked for the Upson Company in Lockport N.Y. as Director of Purchasing, Transportation and Public Relations. While there he served as President of Kiwanis Club, President of the Lockport Area Chamber of Commerce, Secretary-Treasurer of the Transportation Club of Buffalo and President of the Niagara Frontier Traffic League. He was also Chairman of Niagara County Railroad Reorganization Committee and on the Economic Advisory Board of the City of Lockport N.Y. Although always living in Clarence during this time he enjoyed completing his objectives and making lifetime friendships in both Communities.

“April hath put a spirit of youth in everything.”

William Shakespeare

Blooming into Spring

R	R	M	I	T	E	H	E	G	A	R	D	E	N
T	E	I	N	S	I	C	I	S	U	M	U	U	G
S	N	A	N	H	E	U	U	A	S	G	E	S	L
R	L	M	R	I	G	G	R	E	E	N	I	R	U
O	B	U	H	R	I	C	P	E	S	I	C	I	F
O	I	B	B	T	B	S	I	S	U	X	T	A	E
D	K	D	A	H	L	U	C	E	N	A	I	N	C
T	I	E	U	R	X	R	N	H	S	L	D	G	A
U	N	C	D	M	B	C	I	F	H	E	B	C	E
O	G	M	L	S	D	E	C	E	I	R	B	P	P
A	U	I	T	I	N	E	C	G	N	H	I	K	E
S	R	E	W	O	L	F	N	U	E	B	S	S	E
Y	T	R	E	I	R	B	R	E	E	Z	Y	E	A
S	L	A	D	N	A	S	E	S	S	A	R	G	N

RELAXING
BARBECUE
HIKE
SUNSHINE
TSHIRT
MUSIC
GREEN
MUD
BREEZY
OUTDOORS
GARDEN
GRASS
PEACEFUL
FLOWERS
PICNIC
BIKING
SANDALS

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/172838/>

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

Its time to renew your membership to the Clarence Historical Society!

We have different tiers to choose from:

Individual—\$15

Couples—\$25

Family—\$30

Business—\$50

Individual Life Member—\$150

You can also notate if you would like to volunteer by helping during open hours, giving tours, working on exhibits, and office help! We can always use an extra pair of hands!

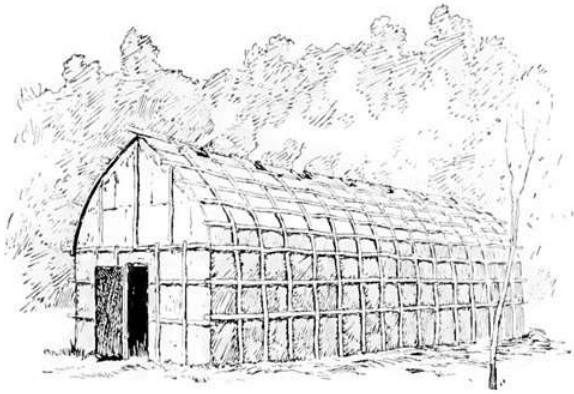
You can go to our website to renew your membership or we have membership forms in the Museum and we will be mailing after the first of the year!

We would like to recognize and thank Mr. Richard Haggerd from PA for signing up for an Individual Life Member and new member, Karen Sutton, from the Lancaster Historical Society! We greatly appreciate the continued support from our community!

**We
our
MEMBERS!**



Local History & Geography Course Clarence High School taught by Joseph McGreevy



How did Western New York play a defining role in our country's founding? What Native American Groups impacted the structure of our government?



Did the Underground Railroad travel through Clarence?
When was Buffalo burned to the ground and why? Why
was Fort Niagara the most important location in North
America in the 18th century? Why was the bridge below
called the Peace Bridge?



The History of Western New York will be a new course offered at Clarence High School. The course will collaborate with the Clarence Museum using documents and artifacts to learn about the importance of local history.



HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF THE TOWN OF CLARENCE
Founded in 1954

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Town of Clarence

Email: museum@clarencehistory.org

“To Preserve and share the History and Heritage of the Town of Clarence, respecting our past and striving into the future.”

Spring is nature’s way of saying, ‘Let’s Party!’

Robin Williams

