



A RANSOM NOTE

Clarence Historical Society Newsletter

FALL 2018

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

Meetings begin at 7:00 pm at the Clarence History Museum.

Wilson Greatbatch

One of our more famous residents –

Greatbatch was a common name in England where his forefathers lived. An only child, he was named after President Woodrow *Wilson*, and became an electrical engineer who described himself as a “humble tinkerer”. Wilson was interested in everything around him while growing up in Buffalo. In 1945 he was a student at Buffalo State College until Uncle Sam called him into active duty and he found himself in the US Navy. He became interested in radio and was a mathematician. While in college he met and married Eleanor Fay Wright. Together the Greatbatch's became a great team. They raised five children and were active in their community. They gardened and every fall had a cider party. The cider being made from their own apples. The children delivered the Buffalo paper in their neighborhood and he sang in his church choir, taught Sunday School and was a Gideon Bible Society . He played piano by ear, rode a bike and was seen wearing a serape and sombrero at some of the summer concerts in the town park. He always wore bow ties which his wife made for him.

His fame came from his invention of the implantable heart pace maker. The invention was accidental due to an error in his calculations! Before this time, pacemakers were large bulky external units. The first pacemaker was implanted in an animal in April 1958. It was successful and the rest of the story is history and today many people enjoy a full life having one within their own body. Greatbatch also developed the lithium battery which powers the pace maker making it corrosion free and long lasting. As technology advanced, the pace maker and battery became smaller and smaller in size. You may see a large early pace maker and the Greatbatch home workshop on display in our museum.

Mr. Greatbatch's hobbies included gardening, cloning plants, ecology, and ways to improve life for mankind. On his 72nd birthday he outfitted a canoe with solar panels and traveled over 130 miles in the Finger Lakes, keeping a log of the trip which is also in the Historical Museum. He learned languages easily and gave business presentations in French, German and Russian and encouraged young people in education. He received numerous awards and held over 300 patents. **His signature theme was “Don’t fear failure. Don’t crave success; the reward is in the doing”.**

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Wilson & Eleanor Greatbatch

Wilson Greatbatch Workshop
located in the Clarence History Museum



SOLAR POWERED CANOE
IN THE FINGER LAKES



Pacemakers on work bench

October 2018 PROGRAM

Tuesday, October 9, 2018 – 7pm

DAYS THAT SHOOK AMERICA

Major News Events Since 1900

Presented by Greg Kinal

Greg is a well liked Speaker and History Teacher in the Pembroke School System

Refreshments Served

Town Park Clubhouse 10405 Main Street

Doors Open at 6:30 pm

November 2018 PROGRAM

Tuesday, November 13, 2018 – 7pm

'CIRCUIT RIDERS'

Don't know who Circuit Riders were and what they did? Come and learn about our early Circuit Riders and their importance in our History

Refreshments Served

Town Park Clubhouse 10405 Main Street

Doors Open at 6:30 pm

Free and Open to the Public

Pat's Files



The Outhouse at District School #3 1909—on Lapp Road between Goodrich and Transit Road

“Recess”

SUGGESTIONS TO TEACHERS.

The Commissioners hope the following suggestions will be strictly heeded by all the Teachers in their districts :

1. Have a legal contract and a certificate of qualification before commencing school.
2. Always have your school-room clean and in proper order during school hours; be there at least twenty minutes before 9 o'clock A. M., and make it a rule to *strictly* keep your hours, from 9 to 12, and 1 to 4.
3. Teach your pupils that the moment the bell has rung they are to enter the house, and always to enter and leave the room in an orderly and quiet manner.
4. Singing should be introduced as a daily recreation. If engaged in with spirit and good feeling it will add much to the interest of the school.
5. Have daily exercises, of from 10 to 15 minutes, in extempore composition writing, in which every pupil of a suitable age should be required to engage.
6. Endeavor to make the school-room as pleasant and attractive as possible, by flowers, pictures, evergreens, &c.
7. Allow no eating, chewing gum, or passing water during school time.
8. Never appear angry in governing; have no set of laws with penalties; encourage your pupils in everything laudable; never call them dull, nor use any language to degrade them; talk but little and adhere strictly to what you say; keep your pupils occupied and they will be easily governed.

9. Have a written order of exercises posted up in your school-room, and follow it to the letter.

10. Give short lessons and require them to be thoroughly learned.

11. All, except the advanced pupils, should read their spelling lessons in the class before spelling. Be particular to teach the sounds of the letters, the marks and inflections, and in spelling have each syllable separately pronounced. Where practicable have the word pronounced by the pupil before reading it, and occasionally have the exercise entirely written.

12. In primary reading, endeavor to have the pupils learn the words by sight rather than by spelling them out.

13. Do not advance your class too rapidly through the reading book. One exercise, and often a single paragraph, is sufficient for an entire class drill. Teach reading by example at every recitation, and practice thoroughly the spelling exercise.

14. The common faults in reading are: reading too fast, speaking too low, indistinct articulation, and neglecting pauses. Guard against these faults at every exercise. Teach the names and uses of all marks of punctuation.

15. Have occasional exercises by the whole school or class on the sounds of the vowels, the multiplication table, maps, &c.

16. In geography each pupil should practice map drawing.

17. In grammar never fail to analyze and parse until each part of speech, class and modification is understood by the pupil.

18. The blackboard should be used in illustrating rules of arithmetic, teaching letters in part, and in very many instances where it now is neglected. Teachers should avail themselves of its use to a much greater extent than many now do.

19. In all things have order and thoroughness.

Circa late 1800's

President's Comments - Doug Larkin

MUSEUM RESTORATION PROJECT

I am pleased to announce that the much needed and much waited for History Museum Building Improvement Project is set to begin. This will entail among other things, a new roof, window replacement, and painting the outside clapboard and trim. I would like to thank Shawn Cowe from Foit - Albert Architects, Tim Lavocat - Town of Clarence Engineer, Jim Burkhard - Parks Crew Chief, the Clarence Town Board and look forward to working with Picone Construction, who was the successful bidder.

Picone Construction is currently setting up the project schedule and as of this writing, planning on starting in September 2018. Estimated time from start to completion is 10 - 12 weeks. The Trustees have decided to close the Clarence History Museum for the remainder of 2018. While the museum will be closed to the public, volunteers will continue working on 2019 exhibits.

Please watch our website and Facebook page for updates and photos as construction progresses. Also watch the Clarence Bee for information on the project and completion.

We ask for your patience and indulgence during this time.

Julia Ward Howe sold her "Battle Hymn of the Republic" To the Atlantic Monthly in 1862 for five dollars.

Trustees' Update—NEW WEBSITE

The Trustees made the decision to update our website and the new website is now online! Please come check us out at www.clarencehistory.org.

We have a fresh look with new options. Membership can now be taken care of on the website as well as society financial donations! A new online Book Store is opening for our visitors' convenience and we are implementing a Virtual Exhibit using the Past Perfect Software program in the museum. We will be showcasing different artifact collections to be viewed online. The first exhibit is the Glezen Fillmore exhibit.

The entire online shopping and viewing experience is safe for everyone to

Elaine's Favorites

THE MOST SUCCESSFUL PRESIDENT

Judged by his ability to keep his promises James K. Polk was the most successful President in history. During the 1844 election, candidate Polk made 5 major promises; to acquire California from Mexico to settle the Oregon dispute, to lower the tariff, to establish a sub- treasury and to retire from office after 4 years. When Polk left office, his campaign promises had all been fulfilled.

PRESIDENTIAL ADVICE FOR APPOINTMENTS

In 1845 President James Polk selected James Buchanan as his Secretary of state. When former President Andrew Jackson heard of the appointment he was incensed. " But General," complained Polk, "you yourself appointed him minister to Russia in your 1ST term. " Yes I did " replied Old Hickory." It was as far as I could send him out of my sight and where he could do the least harm! I would have sent him to the North Pole if we had kept a minister there."

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS TENEMENT

When John Quincy Adams was an old man he replied to questions on his health with humor. To an old friend he remarked. " I inhabit a weak, frail, decayed tenement; battered by the winds and broke in upon by the storms, and, from all I can learn the landlord does not intend to make repairs".

James A. Garfield was the only man in U.S. History who was a congressman, a senator-elect and a president-elect at the same time.



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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please complete and return the application to:
The Historical Society of the Town of Clarence, Inc.
10465 Main Street
PO Box 86
Clarence, NY 14031
www.clarencehistory.org
museum@clarencehistory.org

Membership Options

- \$15.00 Individual \$25.00 Couple \$30.00 Family
 \$150.00 Individual Life Member \$50.00 Business

Note: Under Internal Revenue guidelines, the estimated value of benefits received in exchange for your membership payment is not substantial. Therefore, the full amount of your payment is a deductible contribution.

Please make Check Payable: Historical Society of the Town of Clarence

DATE: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

BEST CONTACT PHONE NUMBER _____ EMAIL _____

Would you like to receive notifications by email? Yes _____ No _____

HOW CAN I HELP?

- Staff Museum When Open/Assist with Tours
 Work on Exhibits and Artifacts/Catalog
 Office Help

PLEASE LIST ANY HOBBIES AND INTERESTS THAT MAY BENEFIT TO HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Office Remarks: date rec'd _____ payment _____ check# _____

Membership Year: _____ Posted Date _____ by _____



**HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF THE TOWN OF CLARENCE**
Founded in 1954

10465 Main Street
P.O. Box 86
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Phone: (716) 759-8575

www.clarencehistory.org

Facebook Page: Historical Society of the
Town of Clarence

Email: museum@clarencehistory.org

Town of Clarence

~ 1808—2018 ~

Marking 210 Years of Change and Growth

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

From Elaine's Recipe File

People have been asking for an old recipe. This is from my aunt who lived to be 102.
Very seasonal; Enjoy!

Corn Pudding

1tbsp. flour
2tbsp. melted butter
1tsp. salt
3 slightly beaten eggs
2 cups milk
2 cups fresh corn

Mix flour into the melted butter in the saucepan.
add: salt and mix in the eggs and milk. Stir together and add the corn.
Pour mixture into a medium greased casserole.
Bake 1 1/2 hours at 350 degrees
Makes 8 servings