



Spindle City Historic Society

Volume 15 Issue 3

Fall 2012

HISTORIAN'S NOTEBOOK

DID YOU KNOW

Sketches of Cohoes History

- The Mohawk Indians were the first Cohoes settlers, living in stockade villages along the river. They cultivated grains, and hunted and fished for their food, but making war was among the chief pursuits of Mohawk men. The Mohawks were known as the "Tribe of the Flint," since stone was the principal material used in their implements and weapons. Their garments were made of animal skins and furs, and for currency they used strings of shells called wampum, with white shells signifying peace, and purple for mourning and war. The Mohawks migrated from Canada and settled along the shores of the Mohawk River, thus the origin of their name. They were a branch of an Adirondack tribe and received their knowledge of warmaking and husbandry from this group, but were driven from the Adirondacks to the shores of the Mohawk River when the groups disputed. The correct name for the Mohawks was Agmegac, or Gagemegue, meaning "She Bear." The Algonquins called them Mahaquas, which the French translated into Moquis or Mohocks. Following the Revolutionary War, the tribe returned to Canada.
- Cohoes finds mention in European history as early as 1642, when Rev. Johannes Megapolensis wrote to his friends about a river out of the Mahakas country with "a falls whose height equals that of my church." In 1656 Adrian Von Der Donck visited the river called the Magnas Kill which had a waterfall the Indians named Cahoos. He wrote that the Indians came as far as the Falls, where they landed and carried their bark canoes to a place below the Falls to continue their journey on the river.
- In 1647, the "Cahoos" of the Iroquois was a place name meaning "Beyond the Falls." The roar of the mighty cataract could be heard for miles, so great was the volume of water over the waterfall.
- The land comprising the present city of Cohoes came into the possession of the Dutch shortly after the discovery of the Hudson River by Henry Hudson in 1609. The Dutch West India Company was incorporated in 1621 for the purpose of opening up the newly discovered land and in engaging in the fur trade. In 1629, the Dutch West India Company opened up the lands to anyone who agreed to establish a colony of fifty adults there within four years. In 1630, Killian Van Rensselaer was one of the first to ask for a grant and charter. This was the start of the patroon system, and by 1637 Van Rensselaer had increased his domain to an area twenty miles long and forty-eight miles wide, known as the Manor of Rensselaerwyck, including the land that is now Cohoes. The patroon had authority in all civil and military affairs, and furnished the settlers with stock, seeds, and implements; the settlers' land rent was
(continued on p.2)

....that on April 27, 1897, Cohoes participants at the Grant Day Celebration and Dedication of Grant's Tomb in New York City were Charles S. Prest, E.H.Foster and Allen Van Olinda?

.... that on August 20, 1894, Eva Tanguay, the "youngest star on the American stage," severed her connection with the Joshua Simpkins Co. and came to Cohoes to rest before going on the road for herself?

....that on February 1, 1897, two hundred men from the Page Rolling Mills received a cut in wages due to a lack of orders and a backlog of \$100,000 worth of stock.?

.... that on September 14, 1894, Eva Tanguay opened the theatrical season at the City Theater with a successful performance of *Reddy the Way*? Her career started when she was seven years old and improved as she matured. She received two bouquets and a gold pin from "those who love you," which she promised to wear for every stage performance thereafter.

.... that on February 19, 1897, following a meeting of Cohoes' leading citizens, an entertainment was proposed as a fund raiser to relieve the want and suffering in the city? While many mills did not open at all, some workers who could return to work were given a 10% reduction in wages.

....that on October 23, 1897, James J. Corbett, the well-known pugilist, appeared at the Opera House?

.... that on November 6, 1897, state engineers surveyed the river and channels for establishing a new canal to replace the old Erie Canal running through the city? Ultimately, a route was chosen through Waterford instead of Cohoes for the Barge Canal, completed in the early 20th century.

....that on May 30, 1899, Sousa's famous Band performed a magnificent concert at the Cohoes Theater?

....that on June 9, 1899, Pawnee Bill's Wild West Show opened on the old show grounds on Adams Island (Van Schaick Island) with daily street parades?

....that on March 15, 1898, a fire damaged the Victor Mills Co., the largest knit goods mill in the city, putting 900 people out of work and causing a city-wide financial disaster?

.... that on March 10, 1897, the entertainment provided by local talent for the benefit of the city's poor was a huge success?

.... that on September 10, 1898, the new Victor Mills plant was completed, and was said to be the largest in the world devoted to the manufacture of knit goods?

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The Spindle City Historic Society welcomes new members
Darrell Dessingue and Julia Fogarty.

Historian's Notebook (continued from p.1):

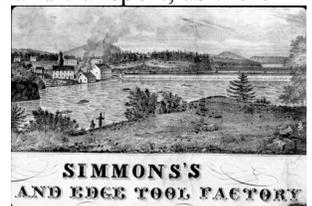
paid in corn, fowl, skins, or money. The patroon also reserved the right to trade with the Indians. In 1664, when the Dutch surrendered to the English, the colonists secured personal rights and a new charter was granted to the patroon, relieving him of his civil powers and confirming the relations between landlord and tenant. This feudal system was abolished in 1787.

- Territory that is now Cohoes was also part of the land belonging to Illetie Van Slyck Van Olinde. This land extended from the Falls (near present-day Manor Avenue) west to the Boght, a Dutch term for “bend,” referring to the bend in the Mohawk River, and was given to Illetie Van Slyck Van Olinde by the Mohawks in 1667. The islands at the mouth of the Mohawk were under the ownership of Captain Goosen Gerritse Van Schaick, and were occupied by Guert Hendrickse Van Schoonhoven, Harmon Lieverse and Roeloff Gerritse Van Der Werken following Van Schaick’s death in 1676. At the north line of the manor were the colonist families Haemstreet, Onderkirk, Lansing, Fonda and Clute. In the deed of lands north of Manor Avenue from Daniel Van Olinde to Warren Clute was an agreement to build one or more saw mills and a grist mill. By 1740, the Lansing family owned a saw mill near the future location of Cohoes Company dam; and later they had a grist mill, which was later transferred to business partners Gerrett Clute and Rutger Lansing.
- In 1560, plans for the Confederation of the Five Iroquois nations were created at the Cohoes Falls. Due to the efforts of the Peacemaker, Deganiwida, and Hiawatha, the Confederacy was formed five years later. In 1776, Benjamin Franklin, serving in the Continental Congress, visited the Cohoes Falls and met with the Haudenosuane (Iroquois). Upon learning of their confederacy and their governing “Great Law of Peace” he was inspired to incorporate these concepts into the drafting of the Constitution of the United States.



- In 1777, during the Revolutionary War, General Philip Schuyler established headquarters in the Van Schaick Mansion, which was built circa 1735 by Anthony Van Schaick, son of Goosen Gerritse Van Schaick. It was situated on a section of the Halfmoon Patent, originally granted to Goosen Gerritse and Philip Pieterse Schuyler in 1664. The Battle of Saratoga was planned there in 1777, and in 1782 General George Washington visited the mansion. For a very short period it was the Capitol of New York State.

- The first church north of Albany, and the only church in the area until 1820, was the Reformed Dutch Church, established in 1784. Services at the church were held in the Dutch language.
- In 1811 the Cohoes Manufacturing Company purchased sixty acres of land extending from below the Falls south to a point below the site of St. John’s Episcopal Church (now the Cohoes Library) and between Mohawk St. and the Mohawk River. A wing dam was built to supply water power, and a screw factory established on the lower sprout of the Mohawk used this waterpower due to the ingenious innovation of self-taught artisan Williman Penniman. After the factory burned in 1829 and the corporation failed, the property was transferred to the Cohoes Company, established in 1826 to sell water power from the Cohoes Falls to local industries. The Cohoes Company was the forerunner of modern utility companies, and key to establishing large-scale manufacturing in Cohoes.
- By 1823 the section of the Erie Canal passing through Cohoes was completed. The original canal was 40 feet wide and 4 feet deep, with 19 locks in Cohoes to circumvent the Falls. The Canal provided easier travel and transport, as there were few good roads at that time.
- In 1831, the Cohoes Company built its first dam across the Mohawk River above the Falls. In 1832 Egbert Egberts and Timothy Bailey started the first knitting mill run by water power, and in that year the first Cohoes Post Office was established. By 1834 the Simmons Axe and Edge Tool Factory produced axes that would become world renowned for their quality. Prosperity for Cohoes was further enhanced by the establishment of the Harmony Manufacturing Company in 1836; the Harmony Company would eventually become the largest employer in Cohoes.



- To satisfy the high demand for faster transport, construction of the enlarged Erie Canal was begun in 1836. The canal was increased to 70 ft. wide and 7 ft. deep with double locks to permit boat travel in both directions at one time. With the use of the canal and growing industries, the Cohoes population grew to 8,800 by 1860, the year that the first Cataract House was built near the Falls. The population of Cohoes had been 150 in 1830.

- During the excavation of Harmony Mill #3 in 1866, the bones of a mastodon were found embedded in potholes below the Falls. The Mastodon is now at the New York State Museum in Albany, and a replica can be found in the Cohoes Library.
- On May 19, 1869 Cohoes became a city.



The snippets of history presented here are but a start to the story of Cohoes, with more yet to come in upcoming issues.

- June Cherniak

Truman G. Younglove

Truman Giles Younglove was born on October 31, 1815 in Edinburg, Saratoga County. In his youth, his family moved to Onondaga County, where he attended school and assisted his father in his tanning and shoemaking business.

Younglove studied at the Galway Academy, and taught at district schools in Fabius and Galway. He studied law in 1846 with Daniel Cady (father of women's rights advocate Elizabeth Cady Stanton) and Teunis Van Vechten in Albany. After completion of his studies, he was admitted to the bar in 1847, and began to practice law. Soon after starting work in law, he became involved in business enterprises at Cohoes. He moved to Cohoes in May 1850, and resided there until 1861, when he moved to Crescent, Saratoga County, where he had a residence on Church Hill Road.



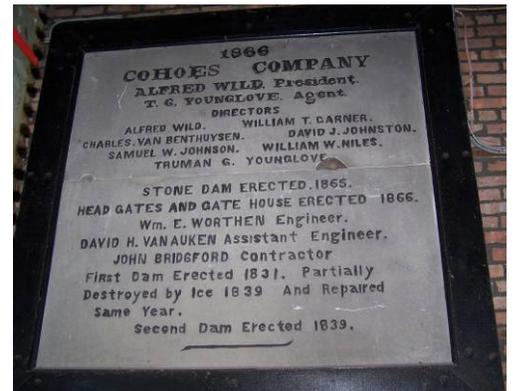
The upper gatehouse shortly after its construction.

In Cohoes, Younglove became Secretary and Agent of the Cohoes Company, the corporation that controlled the waterpower of Cohoes for industrial use. The company leased waterpower and real estate to various manufacturing establishments in Cohoes. He also served for many years as a director of the company. The dam and gatehouse of the company, along with portions of the company's extensive system of power canals, were constructed under his supervision. Younglove's skillful and efficient management of the waterpower resources of the Cohoes Company helped to make Cohoes one of the most important manufacturing communities in the country. For several years, he also managed the company's large foundry and machine shop, both of which were built under his supervision.

Younglove supervised the construction of Harmony Mill #3, among the largest and most advanced cotton mills of its day. Along with a business partner, he also ran a company that was a leader in the industry of the manufacture of straw board. Younglove was a Trustee and Secretary of the Mohawk River Mills corporation (a company engaged in manufacturing knit goods), and for a time was responsible for management of this business. He then became Trustee and President of the Clifton Company, another manufacturer of knit goods, and served as a trustee of the Cohoes Gas Light Company. He was Trustee, Secretary and Treasurer of the Cohoes Savings Institution, serving from the time of the bank's incorporation by the Legislature in 1851. He was also a director of the National Bank of Cohoes, beginning with the institution's organization in 1859 and serving until his death. Younglove was a director in the Albany City Insurance Company, and a director in the Troy and Cohoes Railroad Company. He was Water Commissioner of the Cohoes Water Works, and Treasurer of the Water Fund for six years, and during that time had the principal responsibility for management of the construction of the waterworks. He also served as Superintendent of the Sunday School in Cohoes for several years.

Younglove began service in public office in 1836, when he was elected Inspector of Common Schools in Fabius. In 1845, he was elected Justice of the Peace in the town of Galway. In Cohoes, he was elected Trustee of the village, and held the position of President of the Board of Education for five years. In 1864, he was the Republican candidate to be a member of the New York State Assembly from the First District of Saratoga County, but was defeated. In 1865, he ran for the Assembly again, and won election. In the State Assembly, he was Chairman of the Committee on Trade and Manufactures. In 1866, he was re-elected, and served on the Railroad Committee and chaired the Insurance Committee. He was re-elected again in 1867, and was placed on the Committee on Internal Affairs of Towns and Counties. He was a delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1868, and served as Speaker of the New York State Assembly in 1869.

Truman Younglove died on September 17, 1882, and is buried in Albany Rural Cemetery. Younglove's legacy in Cohoes remains today in industrial structures built by the Cohoes Company and Harmony Company, and in the street that bears his name.



Plaque inside the upper gatehouse on the Mohawk River, listing the officers of the Cohoes Company.



Off the Top...

Although I went back to my seventh grade classroom on Tuesday for various meetings and training, today was the

first day back with the most important of the group, my students. As I looked at them, a group moving from the elementary buildings to the middle school, I wondered how education has changed over the many years of its existence, let alone the years which I have been involved (and no, I'm not telling). As I sat to write the Presidents Message tonight, I also wondered how it has evolved in Cohoes. So here it is, according to Masten's 1877 History of Cohoes:

"Among the matters of public importance during 1850 was a movement to change the school arrangements of the village, which were then under control of the town authorities. The village was divided into three districts, in each of which scholars of all ages and degrees of advancement were taught in the same building, and by the same teachers. The change proposed was to constitute the village one school district, which was to be divided into five wards. From each of these, two trustees whose term of office was two years, were to be elected, under whose supervision the schools were to be properly graded, and by whom their affairs were to be managed. At a meeting held February 5th, to take action upon the matter, 'A committee was appointed to draft a bill in conformity with the plan, and to circulate petitions for the passage of the same by the legislature. The committee nominated was: H. B. Silliman and J. M. Brown, from District No. 5; Wm. Manning and Henry Van Auken from District No. 15; John McGill and Henry Howarth, from District No. 19. On motion, John Van Santvoord, Henry D. Fuller and Patrick Judge were added to the committee.' The original plan met with some opposition; at a meeting held the next week, a remonstrance was presented by Mr. Gary, signed by one hundred persons in District No. 15, against the passage of such a law. It was subsequently modified in some particulars, however, and the bill passed the legislature April 10th."

It evolved further in 1876, but I'll have to save that information for the next newsletter. Get involved in the continuing history of education of Cohoes; join us at a meeting or activity in the role of educator or student of Cohoes history. We welcome both!

Paul D. Dunleavy
President

Profile of a member of SCHS – Paul D. Dunleavy

In this issue, we profile SCHS President Paul Dunleavy, who has been a member of SCHS since the late 1990s and has led the organization for over a decade. He has done significant historical research in bringing to light the remarkable story of dancer and vaudeville star Adelaide Dickey, "La Petite Adelaide."



What is your occupation and background?

I have been involved in education since kindergarten. I have not had a year yet that has not been spent in school. I have been teaching seventh grade life science for the past 25 years in Troy (oops, I gave away the President's Message).

How did you learn about and become involved in SCHS?

In 1990, I purchased a Victorian house in Cohoes and was looking for information about it. The historic society was going to be at the Kiwanis festival, so I spoke to several of the members and was invited to a meeting. The rest is history.

What are your hobbies and other interests?

Research of the house led to the discovery of the daughter of the original owners, who was a vaudeville dancer. Researching La Petite Adelaide has become a passion. As often as possible I steal away to the Adirondacks and enjoy the lake, going to flea markets and refinishing furniture.

What aspects of Cohoes history most interest you?

It has to be the vaudeville dancer, La Petite Adelaide. She danced in several places in Cohoes, before and after she met with national and international acclaim.

What SCHS activities and events do you enjoy the most?

I especially enjoy the variety of presentations sponsored by our organization, and appreciate both those done by our members and by guest speakers.

Please include any other information about yourself you would like to share.

Over the years, I have tried to document as much of my family history as I could. Since generations are not sitting around the dinner table anymore passing on the family stories, the new generations are losing a lot of the history. In some respects I feel the same about Cohoes. We have to preserve and share the family story.

Planning Meeting and Van Schaick Mansion Tour

On Wednesday, July 25, SCHS members gathered with members of the Gen. Peter Gansevoort chapter of the DAR at their headquarters at the Van Schaick Mansion. The evening began with a tour of the 1735 mansion, followed by a potluck dinner and discussion of ideas for programs and events for the two groups to collaborate on in the future. SCHS and DAR had a successful and enjoyable collaboration on events for the Hudson-Fulton Quadricentennial, and we look forward to working together again.

SCHS Annual Raffle

The item for this year's SCHS annual raffle is a mosaic stepping stone depicting a mastodon, created by artist



Winefred Martin, The 10" wide, 1 1/2" thick hexagonal concrete stepping stone with inlaid glass would be a fine decorative accent for a garden or patio. The raffle drawing will take place at the annual Christmas tree lighting in Cohoes on the Saturday after Thanksgiving. Raffle tickets will be mailed to SCHS members in September; additional tickets (at a cost of cost of \$1 per ticket or 6 for \$5) can be purchased at SCHS meetings and events or by calling 518-237-5618 or e-mailing us at cherniak@nycap.rr.com.

Matthew Gariepy Receives Spindle City Historic Society's Future Historian Award

The Spindle City Historic Society's Future Historian Award was presented to Matthew Gariepy at Cohoes High School's graduation awards evening on June 21. The award was given for the best essay by a Cohoes High School senior on the topic "Why is it Important to Educate People about the History of Cohoes?" Matthew graduated with high honors, and while at Cohoes High he played the trombone in the concert band, jazz band, marching band, and brass choir, and sang in the school chorus. He achieved the rank of Eagle Scout last year, has placed highly in regional oratorical contests, and performed in school drama productions and community theatre. He began his first semester at SUNY Oneonta in August.

Brandon Hare and Lexi Zerrillo Receive DAR Awards from Gen. Peter Gansevoort Chapter

Brandon Hare has received the prestigious Daughters of the American Revolution Founders Medal, the Mary Desha Medal for Youth, for his efforts in restoration and preservation of the historic Van Schaick cemetery on the grounds of the Van



Brandon Hare and Mayor John McDonald.

Schaick Mansion. His work in the cemetery, undertaken as an Eagle Scout project, included repairs to the cemetery walkway, trimming vines and brush, and organizing the names and placement of graves. The Mary Desha Medal honors youth for exemplary service through participation and/or

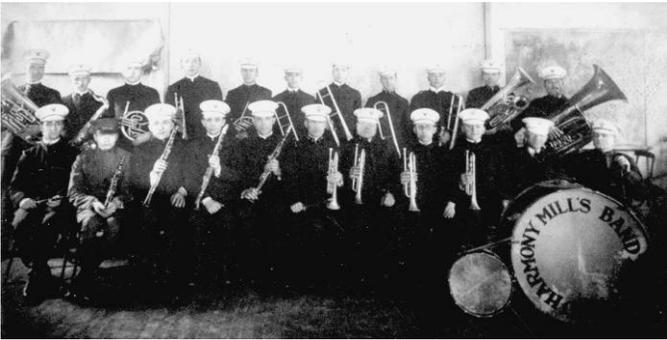
leadership in such activities as conservation, sports, scouting, church or community, and state or national service organizations. He was nominated for the award by the General Peter Gansevoort Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). The award ceremony took place on Flag Day, June 14, at the Van Schaick Mansion, with the award presented to Brandon by Johanna Shogan, Regent of the General Peter Gansevoort Chapter, NSDAR.

On the same evening, Lexi Zerrillo received the DAR Good Citizen Award from the General Peter Gansevoort Chapter. Lexi served as NYS President of the Children of the American Revolution in 2010-2011. In her year as president, her project was to raise funds to place a N.Y.S.S.C.A.R. granite and bronze memorial marker along the Memorial Pathway at the Gerald B. H. Solomon National Cemetery in Schuylerville, and to support the New York State Battle Flag Preservation Project at the New York State Military Heritage Institute in Saratoga Springs. The museum owns the largest collection of state battle flags in the country and the largest collection of Civil War flags in the world, and maintains an exhibit of its flag collection in the state capitol building in Albany.



Lexi Zerrillo and Johanna Shogan.

Bands and Drum Corps of Cohoes



In the “good old days,” nearly every town had a band (or more than one) that played at all community events, and Cohoes was no exception. Most of these groups used brass instruments, and some of the bands of Cohoes in the late 19th and early 20th centuries were Tillie’s Band, the Harmony Mills Band, and the Cohoes Band. Various ethnic groups and fraternal organizations, including the Polish National Alliance (PNA), also formed bands.

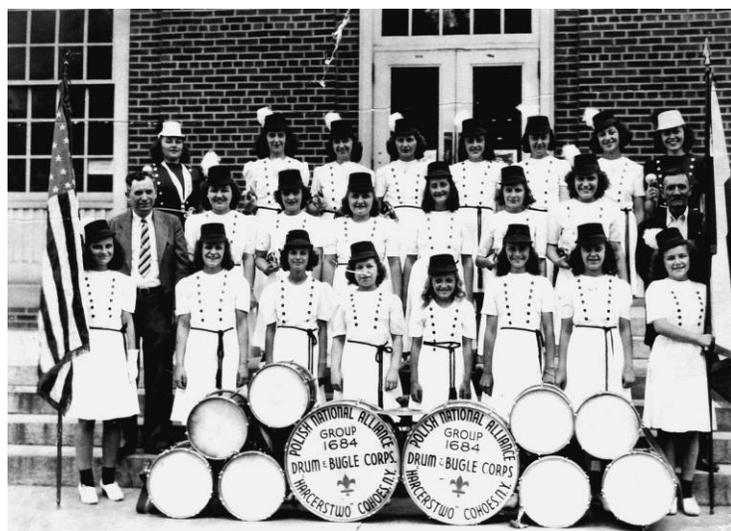
After WWI, youth drum and bugle corps began forming around the state. In the 1930s Cohoes had an outstanding group called The Boy Rangers Drum and Bugle Corps, which were the junior corps of the E.T. Ruane American Legion Post. Among the members of the Boy Rangers was Monica Amyot (later Bourgeois); girls were a rarity in these groups.

With the onset of WWII, many of those involved in the bands went off to war and several of the area’s groups disbanded. After the war, a group of WWII veterans and former Albany area junior drum corps members united to form the Empire State Grenadiers and affiliated with the E.T. Ruane American Legion Post in Cohoes. The group performed to great acclaim for several years, and eventually the Grenadiers left Cohoes and the E.T. Ruane American Legion Post to affiliate with the Rensselaer County American Legion.

In the fall of 1958, The Empire State Grenadiers merged with the Berkshire Marauders to form the Interstatesmen, sponsored by the Berkshire County, Massachusetts, and Rensselaer County, New York Councils of the American Legion. Their distinctive red and black uniforms were a combination the colors previously worn by the two groups. The Interstatesmen competed in the Northeast drum corps Circuit from 1959 to 1967.



The Boy Rangers Drum and Bugle Corps in front of the Cohoes Post Office in the late 1930s. Monica Amyot is in the front row on the right.



The Polish National Alliance (PNA) Drum and Bugle Corps in 1939, also in front of the Cohoes Post Office.

The merger of the groups was initiated by drill master Vinnie Ratford. The original director of the Interstatesmen was Walter Wood, followed by Lionel “Canal” Deschamps and then Al Richards. The group, with soloist Ron Ghetti, once performed in Carnegie Hall in “An Evening with The Corps.” They were the first senior drum corps to perform there.

In 1960 the Interstatesmen won both the Massachusetts American Legion and Connecticut American Legion State Open Class Championships. They achieved five consecutive first places in competition in July and August of 1960. The group performed under the capable hands of Hugo Evarelli, Drill Instructor, Dominic Del Ray, Horn Instructor and Bob Peterson directing the Drums. Support was provided by Attorney Robert Manuel, Chairman and Walter Wood, Business Manager.

Among the well-known performers in the group were Ron Ghetti, a soprano saxophone soloist, a lyric player with “a sound so sweet to hear it made you cry,” Artie Nelson, a snare drummer who, in the early

1960s, began to teach the Junior Corps in the area; he demanded a high level of focus from his students, resulting in "big payoffs" in performances. His part writing was ahead of its time, and he taught several of the corps in both upstate New York and Massachusetts from 1960s to the mid 1970s. He and Ron Ghetti both helped to develop the next generation of drum corps members in the Albany-Pittsfield area. Artie, through his relationship with a Swiss drummer, was one of the first American percussionists to use Swiss Rudiments in American drum corps, and his knowledge made him a Chief Percussion Judge in charge of training new percussion judges in the All-American Association. Another notable member was Mr. Zabek, who graduated from Keveny Memorial Academy in Cohoes in 1964. He served in the Vietnam War, where he received a Purple Heart; following his return from the war he was active with the Interstatesmen in Troy and Pittsfield. He was founding member of the Avant Garde Drum and Bugle Corps, a junior corps in Saratoga County.

The "I"men, as the Interstatesmen became known, were the first corps to utilize Whaley Royce manufactured "mellophone" bugles, an introduction that spurred their use by many other bands. In 1964 they joined other senior groups to form the "Drum Corps Associates," to promote self-governance of drum corps activities. They were also members of the Alumni Drum and Bugle Corps. Four Interstatesmen have been inducted into The World Drum Corps Hall Of Fame: Richard "Butch" Anderson, Dominic DelRay, Alan Smyth, Walter Wood, as well as junior corps member Jeff Perkins.

The Interstatesmen disbanded in 1967, but their years of outstanding performances and those of their predecessors will always be remembered.



A 1953 photo of the Empire State Grenadiers on parade in Cohoes.

Spindle City Historic Society Membership Application

www.spindlecity.net

President - Paul Dunleavy

First Vice President - Daniele Cherniak

Second Vice President - Tor Shekerjian

Secretary - Linda C. Christopher

Treasurer - June Cherniak

Individual Membership \$10.00

Institutional Membership \$25.00

Senior Citizen Membership \$ 5.00

Contributing Membership \$35.00

Student Membership \$ 5.00

Sustaining Membership \$50.00

Family Membership \$15.00

We have great things planned in our home in the Cohoes Visitor's Center! Please help if you can with an additional donation to support our upcoming programs: \$5.00 \$10.00 other

gift membership

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

TELEPHONE _____ E-mail _____

Mail completed form with membership fee, payable to Spindle City Historic Society, to: June Cherniak, Treasurer, 415 Vliet Boulevard, Cohoes, NY 12047

Electronic Option for Delivery of the SCHS Newsletter

The Spindle City Historic Society now offers its members electronic delivery of the newsletter. This assures faster receipt of your newsletter. To sign up for electronic delivery, please send your e-mail request to: cherniak@nycap.rr.com and provide the e-mail address for receipt of your newsletter. Otherwise, you will continue to receive the newsletter through regular mail.

e-mail Notifications of SCHS News and Events

If you would like to receive timely e-mail notices of upcoming Spindle City Historic Society events and other news, please e-mail us at cherniak@nycap.rr.com.

Wanted: Your Stories for the SCHS Newsletter

If you have a story about people, places, or events in Cohoes history, the Spindle City Historic Society wants to hear from you. The Society is seeking articles for upcoming issues of its quarterly newsletter. The newsletter staff welcomes written articles, recollections of the past, and information that can be used in newsletter articles or in the newsletter's "Did You Know" section. Contributors will be acknowledged. Please contact us by calling 518-237-5618 or by e-mailing us at cherniak@nycap.rr.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, September 22 – "You Don't Know Jack" – A presentation by historic re-enactor Clifford Mealy on the history of slavery and the Underground Railroad in the region. 1 p.m., Watervliet Historical Society Museum, corner of 1st Avenue and 15th Street, Watervliet. Event co-sponsored by the Watervliet Historical Society.

Wednesday, September 26 – Spindle City Historic Society meeting. 7 p.m., Cohoes Visitor's Center.

Sunday, October 14 – Tour of the Green Island Hydroelectric Plant. A tour of the power plant built in 1921 for Henry Ford's Green Island factory. Meet at 2 p.m. at the Tibbits Avenue entrance of the Green Island Hydroelectric Plant.

Wednesday, October 31 – Spindle City Historic Society meeting. 7 p.m., Cohoes Visitor's Center.

Wednesday, November 28 – Spindle City Historic Society meeting. 7 p.m., Cohoes Visitor's Center.

Photo credits this issue – Walter Cherniak, Dennis Rivage, Tor Shekerjian, the Bourgeois family

☞ SCHS Newsletter Staff ☛

Daniele Cherniak ~ June Cherniak ~ Linda Christopher ~ Dennis Rivage
Editorial Assistance: Tor Shekerjian ~ Columnist: Paul Dunleavy

Spindle City Historic Society

P.O. Box 375

Cohoes, New York 12047