

BRANT-FARNHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY REPORT

Prepared for Town of Brant Board Meeting 07/14/15 and Village of Farnham Board Meeting 07/21/15

The last *official* report submitted June 9, 2015 Last Historical Meeting was held June 17, 2015

The last verbal report to Brant Town Board was given 06/9/2015 (Patty)

This report reflects the time frame June 9/2015—July 13/2015 ; submitted so as to record all donations/activities of the historical society.

Attendance:

Jo Battaglia, Raymond H. Dunkel, Lori Dunkel, Beverly Wasmund, Sherman Falk, Patty Friend

Treasurer's Report:

Evans National Bank Statement dated 05/31/2015 Beginning Balance 7,331.38

Deposits:..Imo Jessie Ciminesi..... \$20.00

Expenses: Evenhouse Printing: Newsbook, \$656.25 +Lincoln postcards \$115, posters \$77.50, envelopes \$51 and Vietnam brochures \$41.50.....-941.25

Balance on Hand at 07/13/2015*.....\$6,410.05

*note: Sale of 5 books not included in above. \$125.00 yet to be deposited in July

OLD BUSINESS

- Home Town Hero Banners for Veterans—still on our To-Do List
- Update the Website for the Historical Society

Recent Accessions: [DONATIONS/LOANS] - Thank you most kindly for your donations!!

Donations in June: Donation from:

Herman Ciminesi: \$20.00 in memory of Jessie Ciminesi

Ron and Ida Pfeffer: "Bowman" Advertising ashtray

Geri Gugino: Two 1966 Strawberry Festival Books

Bill Trask (Rose Dispence Trask) Strawberry Festival related items, and various items regarding Russell Dispence. (Bill gave to Lenny Pero to give to the Historical Society)

Rosie Wiley: 1929 Wedding photo of her Aunt Carmela Quagliana married to Santo Ingrao in Farnham, NY.(email)

Jean [nee Borngreber] Brunelli: Farnham Drum Corp Photos from 1989. (Given to Jo Battaglia) Bev Wasmund wrote names of those in the photos, on the photo back for us.

Ray Dunkel: Donation of Vietnam Photos from Ray Dunkel as well as 3 books regarding Vietnam stories.

Bill and Patty Friend: (3) Vietnam Banners for display at Brantfest and then in the Historical Room, advertising expenses from Penny Saver Advertisements as well as various items needed for the Brantfest display (table coverings, poster boards, tape and etc). 150th Anniversary Lincoln Farnham Buttons (QTY25) for 6/30 postmark event were donated as well.

ON LOAN from Ray Dunkel: Numerous Vietnam photos for our Display. [x] Items returned to Ray.

ON LOAN from Veronica Mackey: Numerous Vietnam Photos, and medals, American Flag, telegrams and letters regarding her brother David I. Briggs, Vietnam Veteran Killed in Action Nov 1968. [x] Items returned to Veronica.

Donations in July: Donation from:

Geri Gugino: 4 Aerial photos, not confirmed as to what specific location yet. (Given to Patty Friend 7/13/15)

NEW BUSINESS

- * **June 20th at Brant Post Office. Postmark cancellation** theme "Honoring Vietnam Veterans". Designed by Tish Hill. A patriotic, local history remembrance of our Vietnam Veterans. The cancel can be found in the June 10th, 2015 Postal Bulletin : <http://about.usps.com/postal-bulletin/pb2015.htm>. Over 80 Cancels have been requested as of July 13th— from as far away as Oregon and California. **Only available until July 18th!**
- * **The Brant Post Office set up a temporary Post Office at the Brant Festival, June 20th**, where the Vietnam Cancel was offered. From 1-3 Mike Seavy was there to hand cancel items. Thank you to Mike and to David Tempestoso (Postmaster) for allowing this to happen!
- * **June 20th Brant Fest Display** highlighting our Vietnam Veterans (corresponded with our Pictorial Cancellation at the Post Office). Our Display spotlighted David I. Briggs, KIA (1968) during the Vietnam War. His sister Veronica Mackey graciously loaned us David's photos, various letters and medals for our display. We advertised a request for photos for our "Vietnam Era Veteran's Display" at BrantFest, encouraging anyone from our town to submit a framed photo for the 2-day display! Photos were submitted right at the Festival on Saturday and picked up on Sunday from the festival. Thank you to all who helped us honor our Veterans!

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- * **June 30th at Farnham Post Office. Postmark cancellation** theme; "President Lincoln's funeral Train Route 150 Yr. Anniversary." Designed by Tish Hill for the Historical Society. President Lincoln's Funeral Train traveled through Erie County's smallest Village of Farnham. On June 30th, many people stopped at the Farnham Post Office to receive this special cancellation—a piece of local history! There was a long line to get in. Beverly Wasmund and Jo Battaglia sat at the post office the entire time during post office hours 1-5! They gave away Lincoln 150th Anniversary buttons to the first 25 who asked for the Postmark! Lincoln Postcards and Farnham Envelopes were also available (free) and still are available while supplies last. The Farnham postmark cancel is one of 16 cancels initiated by the Brant Farnham Historical Society. Via request of our Historical Society, Christian LoGrasso (native of Angola NY and nephew of Patty Friend) designed the other 15 cancels for Post Offices from Buffalo to Ripley. There was a big event held at the Buffalo Public Library on June 30th to highlight the Buffalo NY Cancel. (which coincides with the Library's display on President Lincoln). The Brant-Farnham Historical Society was mentioned for their work at initiating and organizing this project. Christian LoGrasso was recognized for his design, which was used on a special commemorative envelope for the Buffalo Library. The Post Master General was at the event. This was a huge endeavor by our historical society. The cancels can be found in the June 25th, 2015 Postal Bulletin : <http://about.usps.com/postal-bulletin/pb2015.htm>. Requests from as far away as Belgium (the country!) and Hawaii have been received for the Lincoln Cancel!!! Over 178 requests received as of 7/10!
- * **We offered** our 175th Anniversary books for sale at BrantFest. Two were sold. (Three were sold later at the Town Hall).
- * **Our Newsletter** (more like a News-book; it has 44 pages) was ready for distribution at Brant Fest. Ray Dunkel made a motion and Bev Wasmund seconded to give it away rather than sell it. All were in favor. Copies available at the town hall.
- * **Advertisements were placed in the Angola Pennysaver** in regards to the Vietnam Display, Vietnam Postmark and Lincoln Postmark. (donated by Bill and Patty Friend)
- * **ADD MILITARY NAMES:** Vietnam: Russell Battaglia, Ronald Battaglia, Stanley Kusior, Ron Conklin, Jim Lomanto, Roy Wasmund, David Wasmund, Roger Lee Whiting.
- * **All in attendance at our monthly meeting**, chose what was to be included in the Brantfest display on 6/20/2015. Bev Wasmund called Joe Giambone who agreed to take the items to the Town Park for us. **(Thank you Joe and crew!)** Patty Friend was at the display on Friday eve. Jo Battaglia, Sherman Falk and Patty Friend spent Saturday at the display. Bev Wasmund, Lori Dunkel, Patty Friend were there on Sunday. Monday, Patty took the items back to the town hall after the Brantfest display (except for the banners which were still hanging and the one standing sign). (Patty went back to the park on Tuesday following the event to get those, but they were gone—hopefully they will be found in the historical room!)
- * **Allen Nolan** replaced the farm camp banner hanging in the hallway at the Town Hall with the revised banner regarding DeCarlo Farms. Thank you Allen! (Replacement banner donated by Bill and Patty Friend.)

CORRESPONDENCE

- ◆ Plenty of correspondence regarding the pictorial cancellations: Local Historical Societies and historians from Buffalo to Westfield. Local Post Office personnel (Angola, Brant) and the Buffalo Post Office communication persons and The Buffalo Public Library. Christian J. LoGrasso and Rosalee "Tish" Hill—pictorial cancellation designers. Local printer for Event promotion printing (Posters/ Postcards/ Buttons).
- ◆ Rosie Wiley—Farnham Photos
- ◆ Ross Wood; requesting photo of his homestead. Patty asked Charlie Arrigo who agreed to a "photo shoot" of his farm. The photos were taken and emailed to Ross Wood. Copies were given to Charlie Arrigo (Thank you!) and also a set of photos for the Historical Society.
- ◆ Office of Cultural Education/ request for Annual Report 2014.

REMINDER

The village of Farnham will be celebrating 125 years in 2017 - just 2 short years away! We need to begin planning now!
[] Question for village board meeting: is Farnham putting money in their budget for a celebration?

Quick Recap:

- * Next Meeting is 07/15/2015 at 7PM
- * Pictorial Cancellations still offered:
 - Vietnam (Postmark available only until 7/18/2015)
 - Lincoln Funeral Train 150th Anniversary Pictorial available until 10/28/2015 (90 day extension).
- * Historical Newsbook is currently available. (44 pages!) You can pick up a copy at the Brant town hall.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED by,

Patty Friend, Historian Brant NY -and in behalf of Bev Wasmund, Jo Battaglia, co-Historians of Farnham, NY