

# BRANT-FARNHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY REPORT

## Prepared for Town of Brant Board Meeting 11/10/15 and Village of Farnham Board Meeting 11/17/15

The last *official* report submitted October 13, 2015 Last Historical Meeting was held October 21, 2015

The last verbal report to Brant Town Board was given October 13, 2015 (Patty)

This report reflects the time frame October 13, 2015—November 10, 2015 ; submitted so as to record all donations/activities of the historical society.

### Attendance:

Janet Bowman, Beverly Wasmund, Sherman Falk, Josephine Battaglia, Patty Friend

### Treasurer's Report:

Evans National Bank Statement dated 09/30/2015 Beginning Balance .....	6,560.05
Deposits: .....	0
Expenses.....	-0
Balance on Hand at 10/31/2015.....	\$6,560.05*

\*In historian mailbox: received ck for \$25.00 for Sale of Book, To Be Deposited in November.

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

#### Donations in October-November: Donation from:

**Donna and Tim Marien:** Donation of 1980 letters of the Brant & Evans Chamber of Commerce. (found in their home on Railroad Avenue, Farnham)

**Maggie and Rich Borosky:** Donation of small booklet titled: "Ordinances for Village of Farnham, NY as adopted August 22, 1955"

### OLD BUSINESS

- \* Home Town Hero Banners for Veterans—still on our To-Do List
- \* Update the Website for the Historical Society—ongoing
- \* **1812 Cannon Ball at Farnham Mayor's office** . The cannon ball was original found in Farnham when the work on the water mains was performed quite a few years back. Lenny Pero Confirmed that he has this in his office. He will hand deliver to one of the historians for placement in the historical room.
- \* **Darlene Fox, PME at the Brant Post Office tells us that her family "Guzzetta"** once owned the building across from the PO and a home next door to the post office (Where the Herc family lives.) She wondered if we had any photos available or other information regarding her family.
- \* **ADD MILITARY NAMES on -going activity:** Peter Chiavetta verbally requested that we add to our Military listing: Carl Chiavetta (WWII , Served in Africa) .
- \* **Discussed 125th Anniversary ideas regarding Farnham.** On -going.
- \* **Dale Brose** is helping us investigate this request: **David Lynch** writes to us via email: The piece is a 4 1/2 x 3 ft curio with a small brass dedication plate on the top which reads" To Mr & Mrs Orton and Amy in appreciation of kindness to me "Darkie" I checked US census records and found an Amy Anne Orton born 1845 in Brant NY which caught my attn. due to the history of that area. I am trying to find out who Darkie and the Ortons were. Amazingly this piece made its way to an old warehouse in Fresno Ca where I purchased it from. Any info you can kindly provide would be appreciated. Thank you David Lynch. [dvlneweng@gmail.com](mailto:dvlneweng@gmail.com) or 408-580-4913 Patty Forwarded the information Dale found, to David. We haven't been able to tie the piece of furniture to our area yet! We are still investigating. Georgianne Bowman also supplied information on the Orton Family for us to send to David Lynch.
- \* **150th Anniversary Lincoln Funeral Train Route Pictorial Postmark Cancels officially ended October 28, 2015.** Final totals to be yet received from all 16 Post Offices from the Buffalo Office. Our Farnham Post office had a total of 442 cancels issued as of 10/16/2015, per Wally Samick (PMR at Farnham). Lake Shore Central Schools had over 120 Students visit the Angola Post Office for cancels during the last few days of availability. Patty Friend stopped at the JT Waugh school, Angola NY, to visit with Paula Eastman, Principal, and also dropped off postcards, envelopes and posters for the children. The Dunkirk Observer Oct 18, 2015 edition had an article regarding the Dunkirk Schools visit to the Dunkirk Post office. The Dunkirk Principal also emailed us photos of the children receiving their hand-back cancels. The Pictorial Postmark Office in Missouri issued a special letter, authorizing HAND BACK cancels for school children if they visit any of the 16 post offices on a field trip with their class. It was very unique for the post office to allow this and it would not have been possible without the help of Hanover Historian Vince Martonis. ["President Lincoln's funeral Train Route 150 Yr. Anniversary." Farnham was designed by Tish Hill for the Historical Society. President Lincoln's Funeral Train traveled through Erie County's smallest Village of Farnham. 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 is a Buffalo NY special commemorative envelope available through the Buffalo Library at this website. <https://buffalo-erie-county-public-library-online-store.mysshopify.com/products/limited-edition-commemorative-abraham-lincoln-stamp-cancelled-envelope> This project is 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 and Hawaii have been received for the Lincoln Cancel!!! According to the Post Office this has been a very successful and highly requested postmark project. ]

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- \* **Christina Abt**, Local Eden Author, would like to set up a presentation for her book :Crown Hill. We will try to do this very soon!
- \* **Rich Taczowski and Casimiro Rodriguez**, requesting help with Farm Camp/ and working with Hispanic Heritage Council on the “migrant era” of the Town of Brant. Last heard from Rich and Casimiro in October. We will try to re-connect.

## NEW BUSINESS

- \* **Veterans Listing:** We were made aware of a Veterans listing of those Veterans in the Brant and Farnham Cemeteries. George Cordia has this list according to the article in THE SUN. Marilyn Cordia to request a copy of this list for the Historical Society. We would like to compare with listing that Farnham Historians, Bev Wasmund and Jo Battaglia compiled for our 175th anniversary History Book.
- \* **We will begin collecting Dues for the 2016 Year**
- \* **We learned of a pkg of letters addressed to a long ago Brant Resident Ellis Colvin**, that Herman Ciminesi has in his home. We mentioned to his son David, in hopes that he will consider donating to the Historical Society.
- \* **Members and all interested are invited to submit articles for our upcoming December Newsletter.**
- \* **Members in attendance had a moment of silence** for Dorothy Renaldo, and Francis Totaro DeMarco.
- \* **THE NEWEST RESIDENT OF BRANT WAS BORN TODAY November 10th, 2015!** A baby boy, Owen Henry Friend was born to parents Sam and Amber Friend of Ellis Road. Congratulations!!

## MEETING NIGHT TIDBIT:

Bertha Notaro, Joe Guzzetta, Sherman Falk and Anthony Ellis were 4 students, in Brant I, 8th grade in 1940. They all graduated together - There were only 4, 8th grade students in the class!!

## CORRESPONDENCE

- ◆ **United States Postal Service Employees** regarding Lincoln Pictorial Postmarks
- ◆ **Paula Eastman, Principal of JT Waugh School, Angola NY** regarding Lincoln Pictorial Postmarks
- ◆ **Kim Texter, Principal of Dunkirk Schools;** She sent us photos of the Children’s visit to the Dunkirk Post Office.
- ◆ **Vince Martonis re:** Lincoln Cancels and Post office Authorization Letter.
- ◆ **Sherman Falk:** Submitted an article for the December Newsletter.
- ◆ **Diane Keating of Northborough, Ma:** She purchased an “Album Quilt” on Ebay, which dates back to 1890. List of “album quilt” names include all Town of Brant Names: Weatherbee, Clark, Calkins, Evans and many more. The quilt was a wedding gift for Dora Knapp Hoffman who was married in August 1891 in Brant. Diane will be purchasing a 175th Anniversary book and she is asking for any genealogy help in order to learn more about the people who made the quilt.
- ◆ **John Wissman, Florida** - saw our ad in the CIVIL WAR NEWS newspaper. Has some information on our Civil War Veterans from the NY 64th infantry. Contacted us via email. More information to come.

## REMINDER

The village of Farnham will be celebrating 125 years in 2017 - just 2 short years away! We need to begin planning now!

## Quick Recap:

- \* Next Meeting is 11/18/2015 at 7PM
- \* December Newsletter is in process.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED by,

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