

Spafford Area Historical Society NEWSLETTER

Volume 16, No. 4 (Issue 158)

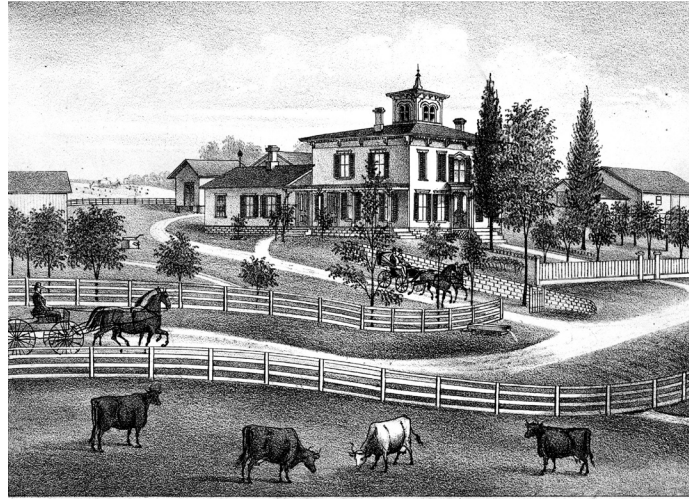
April 2008

The Stanton Family Glimpses of the Past

Captain George Knapp Collins, in his "History of Spafford" states that Spafford is one of the most picturesque places in Onondaga county. I agree and often contemplate the beauty of our lake areas while driving around Spafford. Anyone traveling down Stanton Hill with its arching trees framing the hillside will attest to its beauty and diversity during the changing of the seasons.

When passing the little family cemetery known as Stanton Yard at Becker Road, I often used to wonder about those buried in this small family cemetery. Who were the Stantons, where did they come from, why and when did they come to Spafford. These last few weeks (well maybe months) I have attempted to answer some of these questions.

Benjamin Stanton was born in Pownal Vermont in 1780 of Quaker parentage. He lost his first wife, Sally, while still in Vermont shortly after their first child was born. Benjamin then married Amy Perkins in January of 1806. In February of that same year he purchased fifty acres of woodland on Lot 13 in Spafford (then Sempronius). He was 26 years old at the time. During that year he came to Spafford as one of its early settlers and built a log cabin on his land. He then returned to Pownal and brought back his new bride to begin homesteading. The next year they had their first child and quickly, in succession, eight more children. One can only imagine how crowded they must have been in that log cabin as Benjamin's mother had also come to live with them after her husband had died in Pownal. The second to youngest child was Samuel H. Stanton who was born in 1821 and who in 1876 purchased more of the surrounding land to total 300 acres. On the site of his old log cabin (a short ways north of the cemetery) he built a beautiful home with a view encompassing the whole of Otisco Lake. He and his wife, Sarah Patterson, lived out their lives in that home on what is now Becker Road. Some of Samuel's sisters stayed and married in Spafford but many of the brothers left and set up homesteads further to the west.



RESIDENCE OF SAMUEL H. STANTON, SPAFFORD, ONONDAGA COUNTY, N. Y.

Samuel H. Stanton served three terms as schoolmaster when he was a mere 17 years old. It would be interesting to know if he was schoolmaster at one of the Spafford one-room schoolhouses, the Side Hill Schoolhouse No. 3 being the one that he and his brothers and sisters must have attended.

Of interest to those of us in Central New York is the fact that the husband of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Henry Brewster Stanton shares the same great

grandfather as our Benjamin. Elizabeth Cady Stanton was a feminist advocate and strong abolitionist during the turmoil of the 1860's. Also, Edwin McMasters Stanton, Secretary of War under Abraham Lincoln traces his ancestry back to the same early Stantons as Benjamin.

These early Stantons first settled in Connecticut and then moved on to Rhode Island before making their pilgrimage to Pownal Vermont. The soldiers of the Revolutionary War and War of 1812 sold their land warrants to land speculators who were located along the Hudson River and they in turn sold the land to settlers from the New England states of VT, MA, RI and CT. Families were large and fertile land was scarce and the westward push was on. As was customary in those days, when one family migrated to a new place they brought along many of their relatives. The following Spafford families: the Lewis, Knapps, Perkins, Nobles, Pattersons and Grouts were all in one way or another related to the Stantons. I am sure I have left out many other old family names that also belong to the Stanton clan.

Now when I travel down Stanton Hill and past the family cemetery I no longer have to wonder about the Stantons. I hope you have enjoyed learning about them also.

Sources: W.W. Clayton's History of Onondaga County, 1878; George Knapp, Collins History - Town of Spafford and Genealogy Notes - Town of Spafford, plus internet sources. Internet sources may only be as accurate as the person entering the information so I have attempted to cross check the information as best as possible.

Marge Myers

PRESIDENT'S JOURNAL

"A call for matching funds"

Two of our members have recently given generously and have asked that their funding be used as Matching Fund incentives. One fund is for the Vertical Lift, the other is for the much needed Insulation of the Borodino Hall.

It is very important that we have a **Vertical Lift** for those that cannot maneuver the stairways to the Auditorium. This lift must be able to accommodate all types of wheelchairs while fitting in with our Historic Building status. Our Architect is already at work on this problem. If you would like to contribute to this fund please make your check out to SAHS, mark for "LIFT" and your donation will be DOUBLED.

Due to the lack of insulation in the building, our fuel costs this year were unreasonably high although we were able to maintain a constant temperature of 50° throughout the winter to protect the building. If you wish to contribute to this Matching Fund, please make your check payable to SAHS, mark for "INSULATION" and your donation will be DOUBLED.

We appreciate your response to these Matching Funds programs and will keep you informed of our progress. If you just want to make a donation for the general fund, we would appreciate that gift also.

We rely on the support of our members, friends, events, programs and grants to keep our organization functional. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

Please send your donations to:
SAHS P. O. Box 250 Marietta N.Y. 13110-0250

We are planning some "cleanup/fixup work days" at Borodino Hall which will be a fun time for all who participate. We have clean up work, painting and organizing to do. Lunch will be served: - Soup and homemade bread, beverage and dessert. For our schedule, call Liz Rogalia (685-7122) if you would like to participate. There will be a sign-in sheet so that we can log the volunteer hours which we will use for authentication in our future grant applications.

COME AND ENJOY THE CHANCE TO WORK TOGETHER, TO GET TO KNOW ONE ANOTHER.

The popular SAHS Calendar which was designed by Johanna Frittelli is being reprinted starting with "April 08 thru March 09." If you would like one, please call me at 636-8300 or pick one up at our next Wednesday night program. The price is still a bargain at \$18 and you can get them at Vernaks Country Store

Something to think about: "The Town of Spafford was at one time a thriving community." In 1843 Spafford had 5 stores, 1 fulling mill, 2 tanneries, 2 grist mills, 8 saw mills, 10 schools with 700 scholars and a population of 1873. ...How times change...

Lauri Clark

Borodino Creamery ca. 1900 Rose Hill Road - Route #174



Photograph: Courtesy of Laurel Springstead from SAHS Archives

The Borodino Creamery Company was incorporated in February 16, 1898 with \$3,000 capital. The first Board of Trustees were Marcus Paterson, Hiram Colton, Francis Ide, Frank Harvey, Orren Hayford and Edgar Bockes. I believe there was a creamery near Spafford Corners with skimming stations at Stanton Hill, Cold Brook and Otisco Valley Road.

Spafford Creamery specialized in making sweet butter and Borodino Creamery made, almost exclusively, salt butter. Up to 540 lbs. of butter could be made at a churning. The Creamery closed in the 1920's. The building burned on October 23, 1968. It was owned by the Town of Spafford at that time.

The Borodino Creamery was located on Rose Hill Road in Borodino where our Town Highway Garage Stands today

E. Rogalia

Memories and Stories

“Growin Up”

by Eddie Lukens

It is more than a little apprehension that I open the book and relate to you the sad first chapter of my life. When very young I remember coming home and telling father a kid up the street said that when he was born a stork brought him. I asked Dad if a stork brought me. “He said, no it was a raven.” That was a premonition - from then on I seemed to be living under a black bird or a black cloud.

Early on a baby carriage came into being when father garnered one - possibly from the city dump. One wheel was missing but he found one although it was bigger than the other. Being lopsided it threatened to throw me out and brought on something similar to sea sickness. Perhaps there was a sinister motive for the carriage because one day they wheeled me down town and parked it in a tow-way zone. I think my father wanted to toughen me up for what lay ahead.

My parents were church goers and wanted my older brother to receive a foundation in religion, and I tagged along. They had to stick me somewhere so I ended up in a Sunday school class while brother was getting indoctrinated. In one class, being curious, I asked the teacher where I came from. The teacher replied “Dust.” I then asked “Where am I going?” Again the teacher said “Dust.”

The next day while looking for a stray shoe under my bed I was appalled by what lay there. I hollered to mother, “Come upstairs quick, somebody’s under my bed either coming or going.”

We lived on a side street where there wasn’t much traffic. One day I asked mother if I could play out front in the street. She said that would be all right. As I started for the door my father added “Don’t play there go up to the corner and play in the main thoroughfare” I also tried playing hide and seek with the neighborhood kids but that was short lived. They wouldn’t look for me...

To reiterate, I figured my father wanted to toughen me up for what lay ahead and one was the “Great Depression.” It encompassed one and all; certainly a most dreadful catastrophe. Mental competence and physical reactions were tested continually. When I went out father would tell me to Jay walk. Another time ice formed on a pond not far from home. I asked if he thought it would be thick enough to skate on now. He said “Go test it,”

Christmas time went from bad to worse for a time. One Christmas Eve after going to bed I heard a loud noise outside. Father came in and shouted, “Santa Claus just committed suicide,” so presents did not come my way. Next Christmas I contemplated what transpired the year before so I peered out the window and caught my father shooting in the air. I guess he thought I was lame-brained enough not to recollect what happened the year before. I received a few handkerchifs and a pair of socks that Christmas.

I don’t know where the information came from but I was told when I was born the doctor took one look at me and slapped my mother. I don’t like to think I was that ugly but of the few pictures taken of me only the negatives were placed in the albums.

One proud day I told my mother my teacher gave me an A. Incredulous, she asked, “what subject was that in” I replied, “Recess”. That was no mistake. I was really good in recess.

One day after a rock fight I came in with a tear in my eye holding my head. Mother questioned. “Why didn’t you come home and tell me instead of throwing them back.” I said “what good would it do to tell you?” You couldn’t hit the side of a barn.”

Maybe now you get an inkling as to my strange behavior when you come in contact with me.

Edwin W. Lukens, a long time SAHS member, is a retired schoolteacher in Onondaga County schools, has lived most of his life in Syracuse and writes for personal enjoyment.

March 12, 2008 Program

Richard Applebaum, P.E. talked to us at our March 12 meeting about the Forgotten Art of Building a Stone Wall to Last Forever, the problems involved with the repair & restoration of "Historic Masonry" and why older buildings should not be repaired in the same manner as you would a modern building. Rich is a Structural Engineer with Klepper, Hahn & Hyatt who presented a slide show of what they have done to preserve various historic treasures including Colgate University and now at the Onondaga County Court House in concert with Crawford & Stearns, Restoration Architects. His presentation was well attended and is now available on **dvd** for a donation of \$20.

Philip B. Clark

GIRO OF OTISCO LAKE

****The Race Up The Causeway****

Saturday, June 28, 2008 - 10:00 AM

Come to our Seventh Annual - Giro of Otisco Lake. SIGN-IN: 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM

START & FINISH: "Side Hill Schoolhouse" 3511 Stanton Road at Willowdale, Skaneateles NY 13152

COURSE: Start at the Schoolhouse - North on Willowdale Rd. - North on 174 (to Otisco Lake dam) - South on Otisco Valley Rd. - West on Sawmill Rd. - North on West Valley Rd. (to Otisco Lake Causeway) - West on Churchill Hill Road - West on Stanton Road to the Schoolhouse.

NOTE: The course length is about 17 miles, the final 0.6 mile is a 10%-plus uphill grade. (39 x 27 gearing or triple crank is advised.)

ENTRY BLANK/RELEASE FORM: The "2008 USA Cycling Standard Release Form" will be issued at the Schoolhouse using information provided to **BikeReg.com** during Online Registration.

AGE GROUPS:

13 - 19, 20 - 34,
35 - 44, 45 - 54,
55 plus.

Trophies will be awarded to 1st place Women's and 1st place Men's finish. A smaller Trophy will also be given to winning Women & Men in each age group. (One trophy per winner) A commemorative T-Shirt will be awarded to the first 50 entrants.

(Please indicate size on your application.) Extra T-Shirts may be purchased for \$10 ea., if available.



FEES:

Online Registration Only Via



\$25.00

(Until 6/26/08 at 6:00 PM EDT)

.....

Day of race 8:30AM-9:45AM

\$35.00

Spafford Area Historical Society

P. O. Box 250

Marietta, NY 13110

Phone 315/636-8300

Lauri Clark <pbclark@syr.edu>

DIRECTIONS: From Route US 20 - Skaneateles: NY 41 South, 10 Miles - East on Stanton Road. From I-81, Exit 12 (Homer): NY 41 North, past Scott & Spafford, East on Stanton Road.

NOTE: Parking at the Schoolhouse is *extremely limited*; car-pooling is strongly recommended.

This event has been organized as a fund-raiser to benefit the Spafford Area Historical Society to aid in the operation and maintenance of the Side Hill School-No. 3 and the Borodino (Grange) Hall. SAHS is a completely Volunteer Organization so your participation is greatly appreciated.

June 21, 2008 Bus Field Trip for \$89

Anne McElroy, Joyce Barnett and Sandra Weigel have put together a rather unique field trip to visit the Sonnenberg Mansion and Gardens in Canandaigua and Rose Hill Mansion in Geneva, a National Historic Landmark complete with a garden-themed lunch at Sonnenberg and an "Antique Crawl" along the way. The visit to Sonnenberg coincides with "peak garden bloom" and Rose Week at Sonnenberg. All of this by deluxe air conditioned motor coach for your traveling comfort and all for \$89 complete including all admissions and lunch.

Our next newsletter will have all of the details on this Bus Field Trip including where to sign up and when we are leaving from where... so keep your eyes and ears tuned in... This is a fund raiser for SAHS.

April 9, 2008 Program @ 7:30 PM

Anne McElroy has convinced the delightful local newspaper columnist Isabel Wolseley Torrey to visit with us and tell us all about the "things that have happened in her life" which she must consider "historical"... We are most interested in her suggestions on how to cope in the computer age with a mind that is still in the typewriter era. (That shoe sure fits...) She even threatens to give out a test at the end of the session to see who has been listening and who remembers what... You really don't want to miss this one.

...at the Spafford Town Hall *Philip B. Clark*

**Report from Vic Sayko
Chairman of Restoration Committee**

Vic Sayko, Lauri Clark & Phil Clark met with Carl Stearns, Architect, to plan the next approach to the restoration of Borodino Hall. Mr. Stearns expressed concern over the present hardware used for panic release of the front doors. Although antique in nature, Mr. Stearns suggested more modern panic release hardware to blend in with our historic front door. He will be preparing a proposal to be reviewed by the Board next month.

We have received written approval of the work on the firewall in the boiler room which was performed by Mr. Humiston on March 18. We appreciate your donations to get us this far in our restoration. We have long way to go. Keep it up!!! Thank you.

Vic Sayko

SAHS Officers and Trustees for 2008

(Lauri) E. C. Clark, President (2008) 315-636-8300 pbclark@syr.edu	Mary Lou Osborne, 2 year Trustee -And Grange Representative (2009) 315-673-3816
Anne McElroy, Vice President (2009) 315-673-2558 anne.mcelroy@adelphia.net	Phyllis Clark, 1-year Trustee (2008) 315-685-5017
Cheryl Maier, Treasurer (2011) 315-636-9504 wmaier1@peoplepc.com	Suanne Hopkins, 1-year Trustee (2008) 315-673-3953
Ted Lavery, Recording Secretary (2010) 315-673-4735 lavtrav@aol.com	Frank Moran, 1-year Trustee (2008) 315-673-3916
Joyce Barnett, Past President (2007) 315-685-0125 joyce@allthebarnetts.net	Marge Myers, 1-year Trustee (2008) 607-749-6739 myersdpm@juno.com
Elizabeth Rogalia, 3 year Trustee (2010) -And Board Chair 315-685-7122	Peter Payntar, 1-year Trustee (2008) 315-685-9077 capayntar@aol.com
Philip B. Clark, 3 year Trustee (2010) 315-636-8300 pbclark@syr.edu	Sal Strods, Jr., 1-year Trustee (2008) 315-685-0584 strodss@welchallyn.com
Victor Sayko, 3-year Trustee (2008) 315-673-4636 (work) thevsgroup@alltel.net	Sandra Weigel, 1-year Trustee (2008) 315-636-9511 sdweigel@dishmail.net
Mary Bean, 2 year Trustee (2009) 315-636-7169 marybeanmary@msn.com	

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO "SAHS"
Spafford Area Historical Society

Mark: DUES or DONATION
P. O. Box 250
Marietta, NY 13110-0250

-Individual.....\$ 10.00
-Senior (60 or more)..6.00
-Youth (18 or less)....6.00
-Family20.00
-Patron50.00
-Sustaining 100.00
-**Donation**.....\$ _____ ----->

- School Program
- Building Restoration
- Archival Records
- Summer Cultural
- General Fund

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / Renewal

Name

Address

City.....

State/Zip.....

Telephone

Please indicate if you prefer your donation be used to support a specific program. Thank you.

Membership Dues are payable by March 31, 2008

**-ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED-
Includes Town of Spafford Newsletter**

**Spafford Area Historical Society
P. O. Box 250
Marietta, NY 13110**

**BULK RATE
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**NEXT MEETING
April 9, 2008 @ 7:30 P.M.**

**Spafford Town Hall
1984 Rose Hill Road
Borodino, NY**

**NEXT MONTHLY MEETING
May 14, 2008 @ 7:30 P.M.**

**Spafford Town Hall
1984 Rose Hill Road
Borodino, NY**

Isabel Wolseley Torrey

"... Stories that must be told..."
"How I've coped in the computer age when
my mind is still in the typewriter era"

Celebrating Our Farm Heritage Gardens

Our speaker will talk about gardens of the late
1800's. Find out what they grew - flowers and
vegetables. Did they use gardening techniques
similar to those we use today? Come & find out !

Membership Dues are payable by March 31, 2008

This and back issues of the SAHS Newsletter can be found at:
<<http://borodinobullett.com/SAHS/newsletter.htm>>