2026 Edition

NEWSLETTER

COLTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY PO BOX 223
COLTON, NY 13625

https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61569941264107

Theme for the 2026 exhibit at the Colton NY museum is “Americana"

In 2003, CPCS art teacher Rich Hammill had his art class work on a patriotic project by having students interview and make charcoal drawings of local WWII veterans. Examples are on display.

New addition to the Colton Museum Americana Exhibit is a lighted DAR Patriots Tree. It is on loan by creators Scott and Mary Lalumiere.

In 1993, 45 Colton people worked on a quilt to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Town of Colton. (1843-1993). The quilt is on display at the Colton Museum this summer.
The quilt was organized and assembled by Rena Davis and Marilyn Coller. It was tied and backed by Betty Hammond.There is a framed key to who worked on each square on display.

Summary of annual meeting

Under Old Business, it was noted that Andrea Malik cleaned the memorial bricks by the gazebo last year, and will again this year. She is also willing to install any new bricks that are ordered. Nancy Klein made a motion to have the Historical Society begin taking new orders for memorial bricks, and Barb Decker seconded. All were in favor.

Discussion shifted to the successful job the cleaning committee did in cleaning the museum and getting the display ready for the summer. We are doing an Americana theme which includes displays of WWI, WWII, Revolutionary and Civil War.

The museum opened Saturday, 7/11 from 1-3pm. It was noted that the music series in Colton is still going on.
Election of Officers ensued. The slate of officers presented included Cyndy Hennessy President, Dennis Eickhoff Vice-President, Julie Johnson Secretary, and Mary Jane Watson Treasurer. The trustees whose term is up are David Crosby and Margaret Zappia.They are willing to run again.
Bill Frank is willing to become a trustee. Mary made a motion to accept the slate of officers as presented, and Bill Frank seconded the motion. Motion carried.
Nancy Klein and Joann Ferris have done a lovely job working on the garden just outside the museum, and are waiting for the town to install some sort of pavers for edging along its perimeter to protect it from mowing, etc.

Latest gifts to Colton Museum:

Four photo albums and a scrapbook, gift of Alan Austin.
Framed wall paper samples and other items from the walls of one of Colton's oldest houses (Lillian Cassel's).
One box of items found in the Cassel house. Gift of Joya Blondel and Dwight Tuinstra.

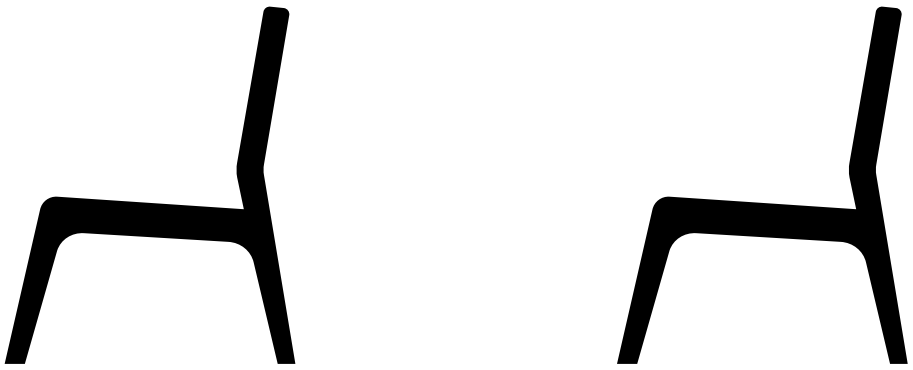
Also Gary Garlough has recently published a book about the Colton Meteor. Nancy Klein donated a copy to the museum, and Gary has signed it.

Way back then……

Hiram Pierce (April 13, 1804 – April 12, 1885) was a prominent 19th-century pioneer industrialist, mill owner, and landowner in the town of Colton, New York. He played a foundational role in establishing the early economy and manufacturing infrastructure of the region along the Raquette River. He built the second house to be built in Colton on the East side of the river. The first schoolhouse was located in his woodshed and taught by Ms. Pierce. While local histories and archival documents detail his extensive industrial layout along the rapids, they do not preserve a specific residential street address for Hiram Pierce's personal home. However, his life and daily operations were anchored to a very specific footprint within the village. Wikapedia

EW Roach was proprietor of the 'Island House' (now the Pub) situated in the south end of the island that the bridge rests on. Just west of the hotel, on the main shore, EJ Woodall kept millinery and dry goods. A few rods further west, on the corner, Joseph T Smith kept a meat and grocery store. Charles J Olmstead and Ed Potter ran a feed and grocery business on the east bank, just above the end of the bridge. Around 1881 several enterprising young men united and formed a corporation for the manufacturing of chairs. They built a large three story building later owned by the Raquette River Pulp Company. The chair factory only ran about a year when it went into liquidation.

From CE Sanford's interview with George W Munger
History of Colton, NY Preserved Through Tradition

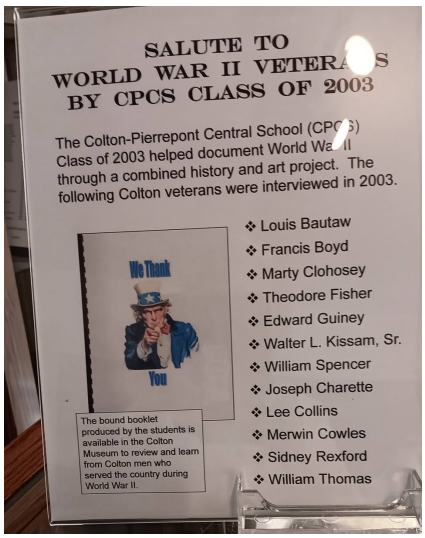


Memorials as of last newsletter

In memory/Honor of	Given by
Lyle & Marion LaLone	Betty Lalone Riggs and Bill
Donation	Paul Eversman
Donation	Barbara Decker
Donation	Bill Frank
Renee Ames	A friend
Duane (Skip) Rasmussen	Cyndy Hennessy
Frank Kearing, husband	Beverley Kearing
Peter Watson	Barbara Watson
Dr. ChungFat	Cynthia Hennessy
George Wright	A Friend
The Cornelius Connelly Family	Kay (Connelly) Hassett
Jane Fallon	Marie Fallon Smith
Gormand & Liz Ford; Bernice Thomas	Ron & Sharon Gotham
MaryJane Clohosey	A friend
Dick Sitterley	Judy Sitterley
Sarrah Collins	Ralph Collins
Colton Fire Dept.	Cora Walter
The French Hill Rd. McCarthy Family	Linda Shaver

Memorials con't

Joan & Mark Whyte	**Norman Whyte**
Steve Poste	**A Friend**
Arthur & Theresa Perkins	**Robert Connelly**
Bonnie L. Trott	**Harry Trott**
Donation	**Donald Potter**
Donation	**Margaret Zappia**
Orin & Tammy Thomas	**Bonnie Thomas**
David Smith, Brother	**Cynthia Smith Hennessy**
Donation	**Nancy Klein**
Al & Marion Fuhr of The Hollywood Inn	**Ed & Judy Fuhr**
Hazel Brewer Vebber	**Helen Scott Curtis**
The Norman Family	**Paul B & Carol Ann Norman**
Donation	**Richard & Sharon VanKuren**
Mary Fayette	**Marilyn Fayette**
Mary Rutley	**Colton Historical Society**
Deborah Orland	**Cyndy Hennessy**



I wish to support the Colton NY Historical Society and am donating $_____to help support our activities.

In memory or honor of:_____ (opt.)

Name_____

Address_____

Email_____

Mail to Colton Historical Society

PO Box 223

Colton, NY 13625