

The Valley Historical Society



PO Box 1045 • Sinclairville, New York 14782 Chartered by New York State 1984 ~ For The Year 2023 ~

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The Valley Historical Society, which has the same boundaries as the Cassadaga Valley School System, is supported by its towns of Charlotte, Gerry, Stockton, the Villages of Sinclairville and Cassadaga. The historical society was chartered in 1984 by the New York State Board of Regents.

Meetings are 7 pm on the 1st Tuesday of the month, and are often held in the Museum in Sinclairville, New York.

The Museum is open from 2 - 5 pm on Sundays from May through September, and other times by appointment.

New members and visitors are always welcome!

The Valley Historical Society Officers for 2023

President-

Larry Barmore

Vice President-

Betty Jean Ridout

Treasurer-

John Sipos

Secretary-

Evelyn Thorndike

Curator-

Trustees -

Diane Shaw Charles Sylvester

Tyler Worden

Archie Colton

Victor Richardson

June Woollett

Alternate Trustee-

Linda Parmenter

Graphics-

Susan W. Sipos



Visit our Annual Quilt Show on Saturday, August 5th, 10 am- 4 pm Sunday, August 6th, 1 pm- 4 pm -No Admission Charge-

Coordinators: Betty Jean Ridout and Lois Anderson

Take Part in the 24th Annual History Fair: Museum Tours, Grand Parade, Contests, Farmers' Market, Craft Show, Car Show, Pie Contest, Food Stands, Dinners, Dance, Fireworks.

-Saturday, September 9th, 7 am - 9 pm -All Are Welcome-



The Valley Historical Society Calendar of Events for 2023

- Tuesday, April 4th, 7 pm: *Maple Sugaring Party* in the Sinclairville Firehall.

 Bring a dish and spoon to stir your maple syrup to make maple cream.

 Dues are payable then. Refreshments are provided.
- Tuesday, May 2nd, 7 pm at the Museum.

 Program: Todd Langworthy, Town of Pomfret History.

 Refreshments will be served.
- Tuesday, June 6th, 7 pm at the Museum.

 Program: Gail Black, local author.

 Refreshments will be served.
- WEDNESDAY, July 5th, 7 pm: *Patriotic Program* at the Museum. Refreshments will be served.
- Tuesday, August 1st at 6 pm: Annual Family Picnic- at Sinclairville Ball Park-Bring a Dish Food to Share and your own table service and beverage; Program: "Treasure Trove"
- Saturday, August 5th, 10 am 4 pm and Sunday, August 6th, 1 pm 4 pm-Annual Quilt Show at the Museum- No charge for admission.

 Coordinators: Betty Jean Ridout and Lois Anderson.
- Tuesday, September 5th, 7 pm at the Museum. Finalize plans for the annual History Fair. Refreshments will be served.
- Saturday, September 9th, 7 am 9 pm: 24th Annual History Fair of events, parade and activities. All are welcome.
- Tuesday, October 3rd, 7 pm at the Sinclairville Fire Hall.
 Program: *Tina Scott, Harmony Historical Society*Refreshments will be served.
- Tuesday, November 7th, 7 pm: at the Sinclairville Library.

 Program: Lori Brockelback, Cider Mill and property.

 Refreshments will be served.

Tuesday, December 5th, 6 pm at the Sinclairville Firehall dining room.

Annual Christmas Gathering. Bring a dish of food to share and your own table service and beverage. Program and election of officers for 2024.









The Valley Historical Society was founded in 1977 to preserve the history of the Cassadaga Valley area. The museum is located in the village of Sinclairville, which houses artifacts dating back to Indian occupation 10,000 years ago to the settlers of over 200 years ago and recent happenings.

During the period 1809-10, settlers came to the area, over the hill, down Chautauqua Lake from Lake Erie and up the Alleghany tributaries. Wherever there was water power, saw mills were constructed, followed by other pioneer industries.

In 1845 the Museum building in Sinclairville was built as a store for Mr. Mitchell. It has been used as a post office, Catholic Church, the library and lodge rooms.

Exhibits in the Museum reflect early settler life and industries, featuring butter, cheese and maple syrup making. Quilts and clothing, a spinning wheel, swift, loom, farm machinery and tools are on display.

Mr. Mitchell's cider business (later known as Colburn's Cider) is reflected in our big wheel and cider barrels.

The Museum also houses many records from area churches, schools, stores and farms.



