

# Schenectady County Historical Society Newsletter

Volume 37 - Number 11-12 July - August

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## CALENDAR

**Board of Trustees** 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 17, 2001

7:30 p.m. Tuesday, August 21, 2001

## Society Hours

Monday-Friday 1 to 5 PM Saturday 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM [ except Saturday before Labor Day ]

Group tours by appointment. The Newsletter is published six times a year. Deadlines are the second Monday of June, August, October, December, February, and April.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Nothing seems to be going right: the door bell's not working; the shower head is dripping; and the telephone line is hanging down within six feet of the ground. And what am I doing about all this? Why, changing all the clocks for daylight saving time. At least the computer changes its own time. But it's always off. So I end up having to change that time too.

I wrote myself a note to look up the "who, when, why" of daylight saving time, and in the way of many of my notes to myself, I lost it. Left it laying (no, that should be lying), on the kitchen table out at the Mabee Farm. Scott Haefner, our resident guardian of the Mabee Farm, found it and called. "Your note?" "Yup." "I've got some newspaper articles on the subject."

Scott is a history maven. Why else would anyone have a file on daylight saving time with clippings from 1918 newspapers? The actual clippings, not photocopies. Although the file was limited to these 1918 reports, they did reflect the wartime enthusiasm for the adoption of the time change:

"Millions of dollars saving of fuel because it would not be necessary to have lights on in places of employment.

"Plenty of daylight available after work to work in their vegetable gardens.

"Better national health due to more time for recreation.

"Increased productivity due to improved working conditions

How could anyone argue with this? But when the war was over, so was daylight saving time. In general farmers hated it because it disrupted normal working schedules.

The concept of daylight saving time was not an American inventions although the encyclopedia I looked at suggested that Benjamin Franklin promoted the idea when he quoted the proverb, "Early to bed, and early to rise . . ." But that really seems a stretch. An Englishman actively promoted the concept in 1907, but it took World War I to make it all happen. Germany adopted the plan in 1915, followed by England the next year, and the United States in 1918.

During World War II, from February 1942 to October 1945 our country adopted year-round daylight saving time. And when the war was over the federal government reverted to daylight saving during April through October, with the special provision which allowed states to opt out of the concept. This was later adjusted to allow states with more than one time zone to operate under either concept. Indiana is an example of this. Most of the state is Eastern Standard Time, but the counties which are suburbs of Chicago are in the Central Time zone. In the summer when Chicago has daylight saving, the suburban Indiana counties do too. My son lives in Columbus, IN, south of Indianapolis, so in winter he has the same time as we do. But in the summer --- let's see. If it's 12 o'clock here that's really, uh, 11 o'clock? Yeah, that's right -- "Spring forward, Fall back." And if it's noon here it's 11 in Chicago. So he's on the same time as Chicago in the summer. That makes sense.

It's interesting that all the wonderful energy saving concepts seem to not be emphasized anymore. The responsibility for day light saving time is now under the Department of Transportation. The perceived advantage is in reduced highway traffic accidents. The DOT predicts there will be 20 fewer traffic deaths per year because of the adoption of daylight saving time. That's 20 fewer out of about 40,000 per year. Percentagewise that is a whopping .05%. (The year-to-year variation in deaths is about 5,000.) I'll have to ask my daughter how they could come up with 20 fewer out of 40,000. She has a master's in statistics.

The door bell's working again. The phone lines are hanging higher. But the shower head still drips..

--Bill Dimpelfeld --

## **ANNUAL REPORT, APRIL 14, 2001**

Beryl Grant gave the Treasurer's report, showing the Society to be modestly healthy. John van Schaick gave the Mabee Farm report, pointing out the growth that is taking place. He reported the large grants and from the Schenectady Foundation, George Franchere, the Coggeshalls, and several anonymous gifts donors. The Farm will be open to the public on May 26. Stan Lee, co-chair of the project, has arranged with the State for a number of brochures advertising the Mabee Farm.

Elsie Maddaus presented a slate of officers and new trustees: President, Bill Dimpelfeld; Vice-president, Ed Reilly; Secretary, Ann Karl; Treasurer, Beryl Grant; Assistant treasurer Bob Sager, Matthew Thornton and Heather Ward. The slate was affirmed unanimously: new trustees, Ona Curran and Stanley Lee; renominated trustees, Bill Dimpelfeld, Bill Massoth, Irma Mastrean,

## **MUSEUM NEWS -Jo Mordecai, Coordinator of Exhibits**

### **Idella's Paper Napkins**

Miss. Idella Heacox, a Schenectadian, was born in 1897. She worked for Mohawk Trust Savings and Loan and never married but had many interests. She was interested in birds and was a member of the Bird Society of Schenectady. She collected coins, especially Indian head nickels, and she was talented in many crafts. Well known for her love of Bridge, she was a member of a Bridge club that met for many years. And she loved to eat out, and to travel. For 35 years Idella collected paper napkins from restaurants, cocktail lounges, and hotels all around America and some from foreign lands. When she died in 1965 her extensive collection was kept in boxes in one attic after another. Last year her niece Janet Breuer came to the Society to ask me what to do with the napkins. Would I like to have the collection?

After thinking what a strange thing to collect, I did take them -- with reservations. Now I am so glad I did. After browsing through the boxes I began to find Idella's paper napkins interesting: some are from hotels and restaurants that no longer exist; some of the napkins friends would bring back to her with a little inscription and the date.. One large thin paper napkin dates from 1896; another large napkin with a Christmas menu printed on it

dates from 1922. A simple one with a rose is dated 1906. There are the heavy crepe paper napkins of the 1920's for all the special holidays: birthdays, Christmas, Halloween, all with designs very different from those of today. Another simple but elegant napkin came from Harrods, London, where Idella must have stopped for afternoon tea.

From over 1,000 napkins I have chosen about 400 for a display. I think Idella would be pleased. Some visitors viewing the exhibit have said, "What a good idea, to have memories through the years of your travels, with paper napkins . . . and so cheap!"

The exhibit will be on view through June, a month when we all love to start our traveling.

### **Docent Needed**

This is the perfect position for the retired elementary teacher who would like to keep his or her hand in, once in a while, with younger children. It's more important that you have a rapport with youngsters than an encyclopedic knowledge of everything we have in the museum.

### **From Your House to Our House**

<u>Donor</u>	<u>Gift</u>
Virginia LaGoy	One seven oz. bottle -- Mynderse Beverages
Anastasia Berdy	One small handmade Russian place mat; One Russian calendar pen put out by GE; One small flashlight put out by The Gazette Papers

### **LIBRARY DOINGS** Virginia LaGoy, Librarian

#### **A Modest Want List:**

A chair mat in good condition (for rolling from desk to computer)

A printer in good working order

Telephone books from the 1970s (We have some gaps)

Yearbooks and student photo albums from Schenectady County schools (any grade)

Your pedigree chart for our files.

#### **Available for sale:**

Reproductions of old Schenectady postcards, singly or package of 20;

Notecards-scenes of Schenectady and Rexford, package of eight;

Book. Images of America series --Schenectady: Stop in and make a purchase!

### **MABEE FARM PROJECT**

It's hard to keep up with events at the Mabee Farm. The first step in restoration of the Brick house (Slave Quarters) is complete, the Nilsen Dutch barn floors, shake roof, and lightning rod system are done, the English

barn is restored and painted, fences have been moved, parking area and leach field borders have been demarcated with timbers from the Bradt-Mabee barn, and test digs by archaeologists have explored the future site of the picnic pavilion.

The work and cleanup day on Saturday, May 5th turned out twenty volunteers to rake, cut, clear and paint. The Harlow Garden Club from the Stockade planted lilacs and Kim Mabee headed a hamburger/hot-dog crew. The next day our faithful Seabees came to clear brush and paint.

On Saturday, May 26th, the farm opened on scheduled hours which are from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM each Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday until fall. Sundays are reserved for special events such as the Fourth Annual Forefathers' Day on Sunday June 17th.

Members of the Society's Mabee Farm Committee responsible for all these activities include Keith Cramer, Ev Rau, Mary Kuyendall, Kim Mabee, Andrea and Lily Becker, Scott Haefner, Bob Sager, Bill Dimpelfeld, Stan Lee, Frank O'Connor, Louise Basa, Ron Kingsley and the editor's husband. Thanks, folks, y'all done good!

**AD**

**Fourth Annual Forefathers' Day**

**Sunday, June 17th, 1:30 to 5:00 PM**

**Desserts and Diversions!**

**Nilsen Dutch Barn**

**Restored Slave Quarters**

**Repainted Inn**

**\$15 per person - \$25 per couple - \$35 per family      Fun and Frolic!**

**We're newly painted and planted and brushed up and can't wait to show you! We're the oldest continually lived-in house in the Mohawk Valley.**

**[MOTION PICTURE HISTORY NOTES](#) -John Duncan (Schenectady was ahead of Hollywood)**

**John Duncan is back with another of his Schenectady-Motion Picture revelations!**

**David L. Lewis, writing in the June 1971 issue of The Public Relations Journal, pays tribute to the pioneering work of Henry Ford, in setting up the "first corporate film department." According to Lewis, then professor of Business History at the University of Michigan, Ford was introduced to motion picture production in mid-1913, when a commercial organization filmed operations in the Ford Highland Park, Michigan plant.**

**Ford bought a motion picture camera in September 1913, and four months later discussed films with Judge Ben Lindsay and another man who had more than a casual interest and knowledge of the exciting new medium: Thomas A. Edison. According to the Lewis report, Ford, encouraged by Edison, in April of 1914, ordered Ambrose Jewett and his advertising department to start a moving picture department. By mid-summer, the new organization had produced its first film, entitled How Henry Ford Makes One Thousand Cars a Day, and as Professor Lewis tells it, "it remained the only department of its kind until 1916, when General Electric set up a similar operation." The tremendous pioneering impact of Ford's film work is beyond question whether measured by such innovations as newsreels, educational films, or the sheer size of the Ford film operation.**

All the same, the old game of "who did what first" is frequently fraught with claims which may stand only until another voice is heard. For example, the late John Schwem of Schenectady (the last of the old film makers, who retired shortly after I joined GE, in 1945), in his essay, "My 45 Years of Business Filmmaking" in March 1954 Business Screen Magazine, relates that General Electric commissioned a film to promote the sale of electrical appliances way back in 1909. Acknowledging that some of the first movies from Edison's laboratories were produced for advertising purposes in 1888, Mr. Schwem nonetheless suggests that the 1909 appliance film, made by Essanay Motion Picture Company of Chicago, and entitled "Every Husband's Opportunity", was a pioneering effort, if not the first industrial-sponsored film.

John Schwem also confirms that 1916 was the year when GE established a distinct motion picture organization some two years after Ford. Yet, as Schwem tells it, GE's still photograph section, as early as 1912, owned an old hand-crank Williamson movie camera, and Schwem and Ed Jones, who ran the old still photo operation, started experimenting with shots of "every animate object in the area, including each other."

In 1914, when the Ford film organization was established, GE motion pictures were gradually evolving from their still photography section. That same year, no less than three motion pictures were completed by the in-house GE organization. The first showed how GE Motors were made in the Lynn, Massachusetts plant; the second was entitled Si Smith's Conviction, a subtle title concealing the story of making Mazda lamps in the Harrison New Jersey plant; the third, somewhat more pretentious, was titled simply The Panama Canal.

Just as many Ford films espoused the cause of the great American motor car, through the eyes of the Model T, General Electric films frequently, and with equal subtlety, reported of the growing advances in the electrification of industry, home railroads, and agriculture. The Back to the Farm was a minor 1915 epic which pictured the joys of electric pumps, wringer washes, fans, and, yes, even electric automobiles. During that same year, the GE filmmakers produced Home Electrical, King of the Rails, and a documentary about their fast-growing Schenectady Works.

In 1917, the year after a separate motion picture operation was formed, the flow of GE films across the broad area of electrification was interrupted long enough to pay fitting film tribute to a man whose identification with General Electric and the motion picture is aptly described by the film title: The Benefactor. The part of Edison was played by an actor in this case, but small shreds of Edison of film still remain among the GE archives.

The full story of motion pictures at General Electric, complete with the joys and heartache, is too long to relate here, but even this capsule report would be incomplete, were we to overlook two further examples of pioneering. In the first case, it was a young engineer named Charles A. Hoxie who, as early as 1919, developed the first of a series of patented equipments leading to a system of sound-on-film motion pictures; and thanks in great part to Mr. Hoxie's "Palophotophone," General Electric produced limited sound motion pictures more than a year before Al Jolson's Jazz Singer greeted the American Public.

In the second example, the pioneering appears in the subject matter of the film. For than thirty years ago, before most of us were truly conscious of environmental concerns, General Electric sponsored a moving, informative film entitled Clean Waters, calling attention to the urgent need for adequate waste filtration controls, following this with Pipeline to the Clouds, which underscored the need for care of our natural water supplies.

If the old question of who pioneered most and firstmost is one which must always be ready for amendment, it is at least secure to say that Tom Edison really started something.

P.S. John D. included the following charming anecdote.

My older brother George once told me after a date with Gertrude Alexanderson that her father, E. F. W. Alexanderson, had shown him an interesting contraption in which he had rigged up a photo picture on a screen,

and when he cranked this thing by hand the photopicture actually moved; I gathered it was a crude example of television.

(Ed. Note: One should point out that filming rivalry did not affect the friendship between Edison and Ford, whose winter homes are nestled side-by-side on the banks of the Caloosahatchee River in Fort Myers, Florida, where your editor's little sister was a docent in the 1940s.)

## **CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT**

**Wanted!**

**Someone to do filing in the library. Our librarian can never catch up. Great opening for volunteer with unsatisfied clerical lust! Call librarian at 374-0263**

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**Wanted!**

**Someone to do data entry on one of our wonderful computers. You do not have to be a computer geek; you just need enthusiasm for the work of the society plus the ability to follow directions. Call librarian at 374-0263**

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**Wanted!**

**A real extrovert to organize boat and bus trips. There are wonderful places to go around here, but all the board members are maxed out and we need fresh blood, verve, muscle and know-how to plan trips. Call office at 374-0263**

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**Wanted!**

**A grant writer. We know the grants are out there; we just need that certain person with the time to ferret out where the grants are hidden so we can continue to enhance the work of the Society. Call President or office manager at 374-0263**

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**Wanted!**

**Docents. A docent is a tour guide. We're running out of docents and we want fresh troops. Come now: you know that you've always secretly wanted to show people around the Museum. Follow Jo or Sally or Wayne or Ann a time or two and you'll get the hang of it. Call Jo Mordecai at 374-926 for further information.**

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## **POSTCARD OF THE MOMENT**

**Behold our grand old Union Station which fell victim to delayed maintenance and was replaced by the modest building we have today. [ Web note: Go to BOOKS on main page and click on *postcard* to see all 20. ]**

## **Walkabout Goes Dutch for 2001 with exhibits, architecture and dance**

**+ A special tour of the Mabee Farm**

**+ Let's Go Dutch exhibits in the Vrooman Room**

**+ Dutch architecture walking tours by Wayne Harvey**

**+ Dutch dancing by the Horlepiep Dancers**

**Saturday, September 29 10 am - 5pm**

### **Walkabout Workabees**

#### **Houses:**

**Anne Bernat (S)**

**Michelle Simone (S), Donna Lagone (S)**

#### **Events of the Day**

**Lyn Gordon (S), Sue Miodzianowski (S)**

**Sylvia Briber (S/H), Anneke Bull (H)**

**Kim Mabee (H), Sue McLane (S/H)**

#### **Publicity**

**Dorothea Ginzel (S), Bronwen Murdock (S)**

**Krystyna Kusielewicz (S)**

**Mary Kuykendall-Weber (S/H)**

**Jo Mordecai (S/H)**

#### **Walkabout Leaflet**

**Sylvia Briber (S/H)**

#### **Ticket Design and Printing**

**Gloria Kishton**

#### **Mailing Labels & Data Base**

**Jennifer Wells (S)**

#### **At Large**

**Bill Dimpelfeld (H), Jeff Parry (S/H), Larry Rainey (H)**



If you would like to join the fun

call Anne Bernat, 3935770

or Sylvia Briber, 377-0469

## **THE ODYSSEY OF MOSES VINEY, PART TWO**

### **EXODUS ON THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD** by Neil Yetwin

We continue the saga of Moses Viney and marvel at the strength of his vision.

By nightfall the trio had covered 17 miles and had arrived at the village of Denton, which they entered and quickly left under cover of darkness. Bloodhounds had been put on the escapees' trail when their absence was noticed, but Moses had anticipated this and had spent months feeding Murphy's dogs and treating them kindly. He recalled, in old age, that when the dogs caught up with them, they rushed up to him and at his command ran back in the direction of the plantation. Continuing northward, they came upon the banks of the Choptank River, stole a canoe and, finding that it had no paddles, dismantled a fence and used the rails to row their way across.

On Monday they reached Smyrna, Delaware, the most important port between Wilmington and Lewes, from which hundreds of vessels carried grain, hides, lumber, peaches and other produce to northern markets. Moses and his two friends took a stagecoach to the steamboat landing, watching carefully for the slave catchers who frequented these points. As Frederick Douglass recalled in his own memoirs, "these human hounds were most vigilant and active." Once aboard the vessel they looked forward to their next destination, Philadelphia.

It was natural for the men to head for Philadelphia; besides being the first major port on the Delaware after Smyrna, it was the seat of American Quakerism, with a long history of tolerance toward African-Americans. As early as 1721 there were about 3600 African-Americans in the city, and over the next sixty years Quakers and independent philanthropists had established all-black schools. By the time the importation of blacks into Pennsylvania was halted in 1780, their number had risen to 6000 when the entire population of the state was just 11,000. Within ten years only 210 blacks in Philadelphia were still enslaved. The Pennsylvania Society for the Abolition of slavery helped freed slaves financially, so that within thirty years freed blacks owned 100 houses and lots in the city limits. The freedmen also established a Masonic Lodge, St. Thomas' Church (The first African Protestant Episcopal Church in America), the African Methodist Episcopal Church (which had 4000 members and its own publishing company), and were secure and vocal enough to petition Congress to stop the slave trade and reconsider the fugitive slave laws.

But Philadelphia had seen more than its share of racial tension. In 1819 three white women stoned a black woman to death, there existed an unspoken, unwritten tradition of driving blacks from Independence Square each July 4th as a way of denying them their right to celebrate a freedom that whites believed they hadn't earned. And on August 12, 1834, a mob of whites marched into the city's black section, beating up residents, burning homes, and wrecking the African Presbyterian Church. The destruction continued unabated for three days until the police were finally ordered to put a stop to it.

When Moses Viney and his friends arrived in Philadelphia they made their way to Reverend Alexander Weyman of the Mother Bethel AME Church, which served as a station on the Underground Railroad. Weyman gave the men food and shelter and the names of some New York abolitionists who could help them get to Canada. When the trio arrived in New York, their contacts informed them about a man in Troy who owned a Canadian line of canal boats and who could get them across the border.



Troy, New York, had already experienced some abolitionist activity. Black minister Henry Highland Garnet once served an integrated church there, and the city hosted a convention of blacks and prominent white abolitionists who called for the integration of white schools. Harriet Tubman once personally escorted a manacled fugitive slave named Charles Nalle from the office of Troy's police commissioner. Amidst a shower of police clubs and objects thrown by an angry mob, Tubman ferried Nalle across the Hudson to Albany and put him on a wagon to Schenectady, where he escaped west via the Erie Canal.

But Viney's group failed to locate their contact in Troy and decided to cross the Hudson and head for Schenectady. Moses found work as a farmhand for a Glenville physician named Fonda, who also found work for Moses' companions. Viney worked on Fonda's farm until 1842 when he was hired by Union College President Eliphalet Nott and moved into a small frame structure that once stood at the rear of Nott's house on the campus. Here he began a new life as President Nott's coachman and messenger for the next quarter of a century.

## **PROJECT**

Become a Patron of the Humanities! Be one with the Medicis! Here is a golden opportunity to support a once-in-a-lifetime mind boggling project. The most definitive history of Schenectady, surpassing the 19th Century efforts of Jonathan Pearson, is nearing completion. Much of the exhaustive research has been done using the primary sources in the Grems-Doolittle Library of the Schenectady County Historical Society. Replete with an authoritative narrative, maps and charts, this book promises to be the ultimate work on Schenectady for the foreseeable future.

## **BUT**

the final stages of completion take time and money. Grants have run low; much meticulous final work needs to be done -- and this costs money: money for transportation; money for duplication of documents, money for preparing the index; and money to get the manuscript camera-ready for printing

Here's where you come in.

For a Gift of \$1,000 you become a Patron of the Humanities. Your name will be included on a special page in the final volume, where you will be listed as a Patron. Checks should be made payable to the Colonial Schenectady Project (a 501 (c)(3) organization), 1127 Avon Road, Schenectady, NY 12308.

## **DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION AND AMPLIFICATION**

Shaker Heritage Society

1848 Shaker Meeting House, Albany Shaker Road, Albany NY 12211

(518 456-7890 ° Fax (518) 452-7348 ° shakerwv@crisny.org

May 2, 2001. . .

Mr. Bill Dimpelfeld. . .

Dear Mr. Dimpelfeld:

I always enjoy . . . reading the Newsletter. The current issue appeared to be particularly appealing because your column featured the Shakers. Alas, appeal turned to disappointment. . . [Y]our readers are told that ".. the church (sic) family buildings are used as the Albany County Nursing Home." Actually, the Shaker Heritage Society has been a registered 501 (c)(3) historical organization since 1977 and we have been increasingly

successful in carrying out our twofold mission: 1) To educate the public about the influence of the Shakers on this region; and 2) To protect, rehabilitate and use historic Shaker buildings in the Watervliet-Shaker Historic District. Last year, more than 30,000 visited this site. We lease several buildings from Albany County at the Ann Lee Nursing Home site.

Please allow me to offer some comments on your article.

1) In the third paragraph it would be correct to say that Mt. Lebanon was the first Shaker COMMUNITY and Watervliet (then known as Niskayuna) was the first Shaker SETTLEMENT. When Mother Ann Lee and her small band came [to] the Albany area in the winter of 1775-76 they were not organized. When Joseph Meacham became the leader in 1787 he formulated the Shaker doctrine and move the headquarters to New Lebanon which was closer to the area where many converts resided. Thus, New Lebanon (Mt. Lebanon) became the first Shaker COMMUNITY, and Watervliet became the second, both in 1787.

2) Mother Ann Lee died in 1784 (not 1794). It is worth noting that she is buried here. 3) It is correct that Mother Ann Lee and some of her followers spent time in jails, perhaps including a jail located in Albany County, but her most heralded incarceration was in the Poughkeepsie jail where she was held for five months until she was released at the behest of Gov. Clinton.

[W]e are open year-round. We have a gift shop, a small museum and some interesting buildings. In addition, we have workshops and craft fairs throughout the year. Learning Fair in May, now in its 18th year, is an educational program for 4th graders. Yesterday, three classes from Schenectady city schools were here. . .

Sincerely,

Henry G. Williams

Executive Director

**AD**

From Ted Corbett, 518 642 2436

The Historical Society's January speaker, Ted Corbett, has published two books: *The Making of American Resorts: Saratoga Springs, Ballston Spa, Lake George* (Rutgers University Press); and *A Clash of Cultures of the Warpath of Nations: The Colonial Wars in the Hudson-Champlain Valley* (Purple Mountain Press). His lecture centered on the second book, which includes material from the Society's library. Both books are or will be available at the Open Door Bookstore and other stores in the Capital District.

**MAY PROGRAM**

Larry Rainey has made an extensive study of the Shakers both locally and at Sabbath Lake in the State of Maine. He shared his experiences with us at the May meeting, illustrating them from his supply of slides. It was especially interesting to see that there are several Shakers left, still demonstrating that "'T'is a gift to be simple."

**PRE REVOLUTION PORTRAITS: THOMAS MCILWORTH**

Do you have an 18th century portrait by Thomas McIlworth or do you have a portrait of which you do not know the name of the artist or the name of the sitter (McIlworth never signed his portraits.) He painted portraits of John Duncan and Daniel Campbell of Schenectady, the Edgars of Albany, General Bradstreet, Catherine Van Rensselaer Schuyler of Albany, Rev. Samuel Johnson (first president of Kings College, now Columbia),

members of the Livingston Family as well as the Van Rensselaers and Van Cortlandts. Records indicate he painted others that remain to be found. Some of his paintings have lost their identity over the years and others are lost. Among the paintings that have been lost is one of Sir William Johnson.

Upon completion of the research, a catalog of the artist's work will be published. Pictured here is an example of his work. If any one has a clue as to the identity of the person in the portrait or thinks he may have a McIlworth portrait, please call or write Ona Curran. In early records he is also known as Mackleworth, Mickelworth, Mokeleworth and McElroth. His wife's family was related to the Underhills and Mosemans.

The artist was married to Anastatia Willet and had three children, one of whom was the godson of Sir William Johnson. Little is known about where he was born and where he died, but in ten years (1757 - 1767) he did leave a legacy of images that put faced on colonial New York PRE REVOLUTION history.

**Ona Curran**  
140 Creek Road  
Esperance NY 12066

518 875 6788    [ocurapp@aol.com](mailto:ocurapp@aol.com)

