NEW GLARUS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

The Board of Directors met on May 25 and elected officers for 2021 which are named in the column on the left. Members of the Board focused on preparing the museum for opening during the month of May, in particular recruiting individuals to serve as cashiers and guides for this season. Returning to the cashier desk are LouAnn Bodenmann and Gail Beal, with Gail volunteering to serve as the gift shop manager, a position she has held since the shop was first opened. Joining LouAnn and Gail are newcomers Ruth Elmer, Peggy Hammerly and Jane Pierce. Steve Gmur , along with Board members Larry Klassy and John Eglsaer will serve as tour guides. John's German language skills will be a great help in welcoming our Swiss visitors.

The Board recognizes the many hours of research and work performed by Board member Mary Dibble over the past two to develop and coordinate the work to install two new exhibits in the Hall of History. Writing grants to secure funding for these projects was also part of Mary's contribution. We encourage members to take advantage of their free admission benefit and visit the museum to see the professional displays that provide an abundance of information about the emigrant journey and early years related to the founding of New Glarus. The Hall of History will be showcased as part of the 175th+1 year anniversary later this summer.

BUSINESS ADVERTISING WARE

This advertising plate was recently offered to the Historical Society by a Middleton, WI resident. This individual saw and purchased the plate at a Goodwill store in the area and was interested in learning more about the its history. The imprint on the plate reads: "Compliments of M. Becker, New Glarus, WI." New Glarus history expert, Bob Elmer shared that Melvin Becker operated a mercantile business in New Glarus from 1912 to 1916. He sold the store and moved to Belleville where he then established the Becker Funeral Home. On the reverse side is the manufacturer's imprint " D. E. McNicol, Liverpool, OH." According to information from the Columbiana County Historical Society, the McNicol plant was established in 1862 in Liverpool, OH and had a series of owners over the years. In 1882, D.E. McNicol acquired his father's share of the company, buying out his father's partners over the next 10 years. Forty-two china marks are registered to the McNicol company which operated until the 1960s, making hotel, dining and business advertising ware such as the Becker plate. What New Glarus business advertising ware is in your collection?

GLARNER GENEALOGY - LOCALITIES

Callers to the New Glarus Historical Society often ask for information about family history. The COVID pandemic spiked an interest in genealogy. For others, the 175th anniversary of the founding of New Glarus piqued local interest about individual and family connections to the early settlers. To help you and others with family history research, here's an updated article from New Glarus genealogy expert, Bob Elmer. Bob first published this listing of Glarus localities in the Spring 2007 edition of Family History Notes. Thank you, Bob!

Localities within the 3 Villages (formerly 29 villages) of Canton Glarus

In order to trace family history in Canton Glarus, the village of origin (*Bürgerort* or *Heimatort*) is required. Historically, there were 29 small villages in the Canton. Some years ago a list was prepared by U. Petra Suess documenting the names of even smaller localities associated with these 29 villages. A family researcher may find a reference to the Blumer family from Thon, a Freitag family from Steinibach, or a Hefti family from Dornhaus. Using the list below, one finds that Thon is associated with the village of Schwanden, Steinibach associated with Elm, and Dornhaus associated with Diesba
In 2006, four Glarus village governments merged into neighboring villages -- Leuggelbach and Nidfurn joined Haslen, and Diesbach and Hätzingen joined Luchsingen. And only ten years ago, on January 1, 2021, the Canton's 25 small villages consolidated into just 3 new municipalities – Glarus Süd, Glarus and Glarus Nord. This consolidation formed larger municipalities which improved operational and cost efficiencies and increased the pool of citizens willing to volunteer for village positions.

By the way, the former 29 Canton Glarus village flags as well as the three new village flags (pictured below), can be seen at the Swiss Historical Village.

The previous list of 29 municipalities from Family History Notes, Spring 2007 has been updated and reorganized into the three villages formed in 2011.

Glarus Süd

Braunwald: Braunwald, Kleiner Gumen, Hösliberg, Rubschen
Diesbach: Diesbach, Diesbach-Betschwanden, Dornhaus, Ohrenplatte
Elm: Aeschen, Egg, Elm, Meissenboden, Müsli, Obmoos, Sandbühl, Schwändi, Schwendi, Steinibach, Sulzbach, Töniberg, Unteral, Vogelsang, Wald
Engi: Engi, Engi Hinterdorf, Engi Vorderdorf, Hinterdorf, Höfliegg, Kummerberg, Vorderdorf
Betschwanden: Betschwanden, Obmatt
Haslen: Bühl, Haslen, Leu, Mühlebächli, Sand, Zusingen
Hätzingen: Hätzingen
Leuggelbach: Leuggelbach
Linthal: Auen, Bergli, Ennetlinth, Frittern, Fruttberge, Linthal, Nussbühl, Obbord, Oberberg, Oberreiti, Reitimatt, Stachelberg, Tierfehd
Luchsingen: Adlenbach, Luchsingen, Luchsingen-Hätzingen
Matt: Brummbach, Matt, Stalden, Weissenberge, Wissenbergen
Mitlödi: Ennetlinth, Mitlödi, Schlatt
Nidfurn: Nidfurn, Nidfurn-Haslen
Rüti: Rüti, Sätliboden
Schwanden: Au, Kies, Mettmen, Schwanden, Thon
Schwändi bei Schwanden: Lassingen, Niederrüti, Schwändi bei Schwanden
Sool: Sool, Soolstrasse, Wart

Glarus

Ennenda: Ennenda, Ennetberge, Ennetbühls bei Ennenda, Großberg, Mühlefuhr, Sturmingen
Glarus: Bleiche, Hohlenstein, Käseren, Klöntal, Leimen, Rhodannenberg, Richisau, Schwammhöhe, Seerüti, Vorauen
Netstal: Langgütli, Netstal
Riedern: Riedern, Staldengarten

Glarus Nord

Bilten: Bilten, Oberbilten, Unterbilten, Rüti, Ussbühl, Elmen
Filzbach: Brittenberg, Filzbach, Habergschwänd, Vordemwald
Mollis: Beglingen, Biäsche, Fronalp, Kengel, Mollis, Mullern
Mühlehorn: Mühlehorn, Tiefenwinkel, Vortobel
Näfels: Aeschen, Näfels, Näfels-Mollis, Obersee
Niederurnen: Niederurnen, Nieder- & Oberurnen, Ziegelbrücke
Oberurnen: Elmenrüfithal, Näfels Berg, Oberurnen, Riet, Schwändital
Obstalden: Hütten, Mühlethal, Nidstalden, Obstalden, Voglingen, Wallenguflen

WHAT WAS THE THEME OF YOUR PROM?

This photo depicts attendees of the May 1940 high school Prom just after the new school gymnasium was built in New Glarus. According to a newspaper article, the gym was decorated in cherry blossoms, subdued lighting and davenports set the mood, and music was provided by Norm Kingsley and his Orchestra of Madison. Like today, the students enjoyed pre- and post-prom parties. Queen Lorraine McQuillan and King Frederick Thacker led the Grand March which was attended by many community members. The Queen's court included Junior Class members Evelyn Keppler, Ruth Marty, Bertha Burkhalter, Lou Ann Zwiefel, Olga Lienhardt and Doris Sherven, escorted by their dates. Do you recognize these or any other individuals in the photograph? Contact us if you can identify other attendees of this event!

MUSEUM DAYS AND HOURS OF OPERATION

We are happy that to resume museum operations for 2021 beginning Saturday, May 29th. The Museum will be open throughout Memorial Day weekend from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thereafter, hours will remain the same Tuesday through Sunday. For the first time in many years, the museum will be closed on Mondays, except Memorial Day and Labor Day. The Board will put up a sign suggesting that visitors wear a mask, but that masks are not required. The Board is additionally considering installing plexiglass around the cashier's station in the entrance building to the museum.

We thank The Bank of New Glarus for their support in publishing the New Glarus Historical Society newsletter.

The Bank of New Glarus
Powering Growth in Our Community

Contact Us

New Glarus Historical Society & Swiss Historical Village Museum
612 7th Avenue, P.O. Box 745
New Glarus, WI 53574
608-527-2317
www.swisshistoricalvillage.org
admin@swisshistoricalvillage.org

NEW GLARUS HISTORICAL SOCIETY & SWISS HISTORICAL VILLAGE MUSEUM
612 7th Avenue, P.O. Box 745
New Glarus, WI 53574

Recipient Name
Street Address
City, ST ZIP Code