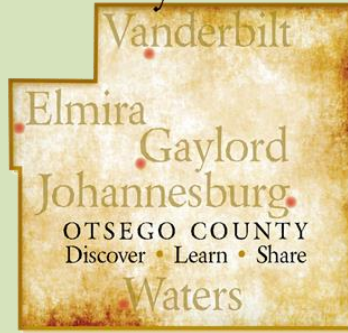


History Matters



Update # 2

January 13, 2018

If we don't, who will? is an important reminder that it's up to us to collect photos, interview residents, and do all of the other things necessary so that future generations will be able to enjoy our rich heritage. Otsego County has an interesting past. History Matters will ensure we can continue to **Discover ♦ Learn ♦ Share**

Special thanks to Jim Grisso for his Op-Ed this week in the Gaylord Herald Times "Recording local history is a privilege – and fun!"

We now have 3 people signed up for our History Matters team of detectives. 4 more are leaning toward joining and a couple others have expressed an interest. Let's continue recruiting a few more candidates. Orientation is set for March 10. The updated [syllabus](#) and other information can be found on our web site. [Link](#)

Discover - here are a few more things to explore in January

1. [WhatWasThere.com](#) is an on-line site that superimposes old photos onto Google Street View. The fade feature makes history come to life right before your eyes. There are 15 photos of Gaylord. You can add photos -- best of all, it's free!
2. Check out the historical photos that line the halls of the Otsego County Building (courthouse) in downtown Gaylord.
3. We are so fortunate to have the Herald Times digitized and in a searchable format on-line. How much local history can you discover with 110 years of newspapers at your fingertips? [Link](#)

Learn – there are so many interesting things to learn about our past...

1. Our first town was Otsego Lake Village – it was also the county seat. The original courthouse is still there. For all the details, read "Otsego Lake Village: Otsego County's First Community" by Gail (White) Elliott. Top notch research
2. ["Thinking Like A Historian"](#) outlines 5 key questions we should ask of the past. This is a fantastic learning tool.
3. History is much more than memorizing dates, but our [Timeline of Otsego County History](#) is a great overall reference.

Share

1. The great grandson of William Parmater (Dr. Nathan Parmater's older brother) visited the Museum to search his Otsego County roots. We found some information and went out to the Green Cemetery near Hallock in Elmira Township. Please share any information you have about this Civil War Veteran and Otsego County farmer.
2. Do you have any information on James Allen (1879-1933) who served as our County Clerk/ Register of Deeds and Mayor of Gaylord? Where was his home located?
3. Mary Keskiné noticed the photo to the right at the Museum. Turns out the little girl sitting on the steps is her mother, Olive! She is next to her father, Edwin Hodgins, who was the Vanderbilt postmaster in the 1930s. Any idea who the other people are? How many pictures do we have with no names or dates written on them? Let's be sure to always identify the people in our photos, because *If we don't, who will?*

