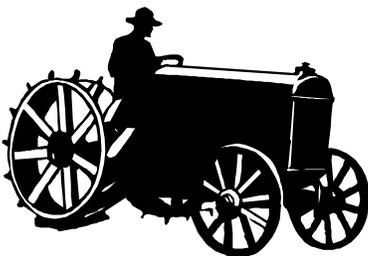


# Backbone Ridge History Group News



**Picture of the Quarter—  
Can you guess where this  
was?**



Button found at Dunham excavation site—Can you see the train? Did it belong to a railroad worker?

... ..because history does matter.

## History Seminar Held in Hector Huge Success!

The Backbone Ridge History Group sponsored a history seminar on Saturday, February 17, entitled “Preserving Local History”. The seminar was held at the historic Hector Presbyterian Church, and about thirty attendees filled the room. Guest speaker Carol Kammen, senior lecturer at Cornell University, author of several books on local history, and Tompkins County Historian gave a delightful presentation. She talked to the attendees about what the Backbone Ridge History Group planned to do, and presented ideas that she had about what the group could accomplish. It was a very inspiring lecture, and she really energized everyone in the room. She advised members to form focus groups, based on different personal interests such as schools, churches, or businesses.

Following her discussion, Tanya Warren, curator at the Waterloo Memorial Day Museum, presented information on how to care for old family photographs and papers. She showed us the latest archival techniques, and examples of how items can deteriorate over time.

John Potter, Schuyler County Historical Society, and Allan Buddle, of the Interlaken Historical Society, spoke about local collection policies. Christine Ridarsky, doctoral candidate at the University of Rochester, also spoke to the group about the work that has been done over the past 7 years with SUNY Brockport, excavating eleven homestead sites on the backbone ridge.

The Backbone Ridge History Group is a collaboration that’s very unique in that it includes



Guest Speaker Carol Kammen sharing information on collecting local history.

academia and students from SUNY Brockport, University of Rochester, University of Buffalo, three historical societies that encompass both Seneca and Schuyler counties: Lodi, Schuyler, and Interlaken, the Historian’s Office in Seneca County, members of Friends of the Forest, and various members of the public.

For more information, please contact Kari Lusk, Finger Lakes National Forest at 607-546-4470.

## Backbone Ridge Group Submits Grant Application

The Backbone Ridge History Group submitted a grant application to the Documentary Heritage Program via the Interlaken Historical Society. The grant is requesting funding for hiring an archival consultant, developing the meth-

odology to use in the survey process, develop a survey instrument, hold a public forum, develop a list of people to be surveyed, and recruit and train a number of survey workers, test the survey methodology, and plan for Phase II

of the project work. Thank-you, Christine Ridarsky, for completing all the paperwork for this grant submission!



This quarterly publication is brought to you courtesy of the Backbone Ridge History Group. Editor Kari Lusk can be reached at the Finger Lakes National Forest, 5218 SR 414, Hector, NY 14841, (607) 546-4470. For more information, please contact the Schuyler County Historical Society, John Potter, (607)-535-9741.