



Ladies Drum Corp marching Farnham Commercial Street (brick road) in front of the Farnham Post Office. Check out how 'in-step' they are!

Farnham Ladies Drum Corp waiting to march. Standing in front of old Lutheran Church home where the church's minis-

ters used to live. House was moved to Church Street and in 2016 Charlie Meli is the owner. Beverly Wasmund is Drum Major and

Rosella Morgano is the Majorette.

We wish to express our sincere thanks in participating in our Gala Day Grand Parade which was held Saturday, June 7, 1952. Congratulations on winning first prize for the Best Musical Firemen's Ladies Drum and Bugle Corps. Enclosed is the check for \$100.00.

... DUNKIRK ... <u>firemen's Gala day committee</u>



June 21, 1952

#### FARNHAM LADIES' DRUM CORPS

FARNHAM, NEW YORK

THELMA P. WASMUND PRESIDENT LAVINA W. KUHLMAN VICE-PRESIDENT

1/4/55

Verna Ditcher TREASURER

Esther Beuzenbu

Farnham Fire Dept. Farnham, N. Y.

Gentlemen:

Car Drum Corps will start to practice for the 1955 Summbr Season on Tuesday night, Jan. 11th. at 8 p.m.

The Officers of our Drum Corps has had a meeting and thought we had better tell our Firemen just how we stand for next Summer. Most of you fellows know in order to compeat we had to play Harmony and you also know that we had a very successful first year in Harmony - taking 16 prizes out of 20 Competitive Parades; 1 Trophy and \$325.00 in cash.

Farnham Fire Department Farnham Ladies Drum and Bugle Corps Farnham, New York

We wish to express our sincere thanks in participating in our Gala Day Grand Parade which was held Saturday, June 7, 1952. Congratulations on winning first prize for the Best Musical Firemen's Ladies Drum and Bugle Corps. Enclosed is the check for \$100.00.

Thanking you and the best of luck for the remainder of season. Hoping to see you at our next year's Gala Day the season. Celebration.

Yours truly, Dunkirk Firemen's Gala Day Committee



#### 1989 Sesquicentennial Parade **FARNHAM LADIES DRUM CORP MEMBERS**

1st Row: Gert Fose, Alice Marchuck, Verna [Borngraber] Ditcher 2nd Row: Esther Beuzenburg, Dorothy Lawrence, Christine

Carbeck, Lavina Kuhlman

3rd Row: Dorothy Nordblum, Lucy Nordblum

4th Row: Jeanette Mirusso, Jean [Borngraber Rubeck] Brunelli, 5th Row: Shirley Pfluger, Alice Galbraith, Marilyn Russell 6th Row: Janet [Ahlers] Bowman, Joyce [Borngraber] Cullen

7th Row: Beverly [Ahlers] Wasmund

Photo Donated by Joyce Cureo 2014

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### PHOTO ALBUM ~ FARNHAM LADIES DRUM CORP



# Farnham Ladies Drum Corps 1938-1955

By Beverly Wasmund

The Farnham Ladies Drum Corps was formed/started by Helen Watt. She gave piano lessons to many children in Farnham and the surrounding area and was the organist at Farnham's Holy Cross Lutheran Church. Most every village and town in the area had active fire departments and were proud to march in their uniforms at all the summer parades. Music was provided by drum corps and school hands. Helen decided that Farnham should form a corps and gathered together the interested women. I'm not sure all of these facts; just relying on my memory of things heard while growing up as my mom and all the members over the years were either friends or relatives from Farnham and Brant and the Seneca Nation. The learned to march, carry a drum, bells or a bugle, flag or banner.

Our Farnham Fire Department paid for everything—our uniforms, instruments and instructors and we gave them a corps they could be and were proud to march with.

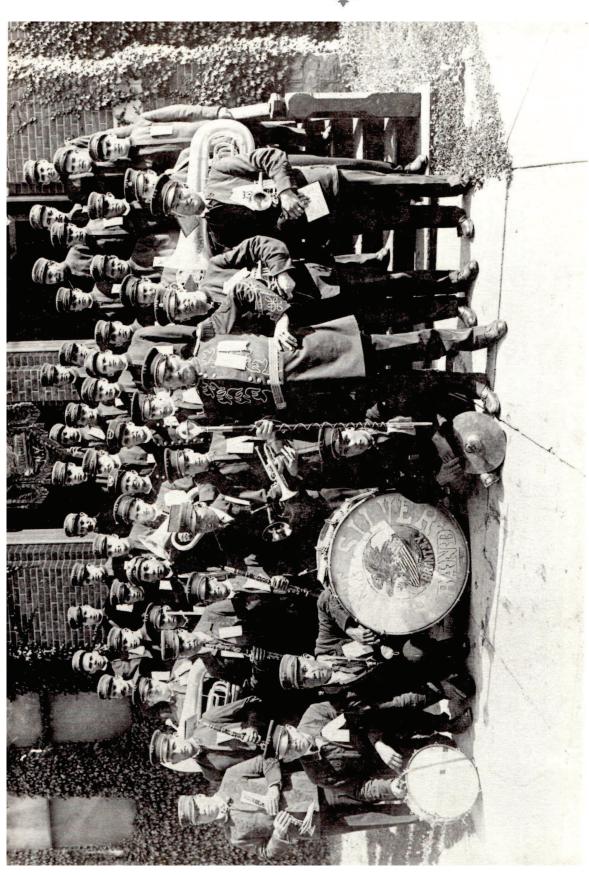
Their first uniforms were white dresses with navy bottom, next satin blouses made by the women and blue skirts, the last was a navy wool jacket and skirt, with white shirt and tie and always stockings and white shoes. The navy jacket, shirts and hats were purchased from Brownies Uniforms in Buffalo as were the drum major and twirlers uniforms.

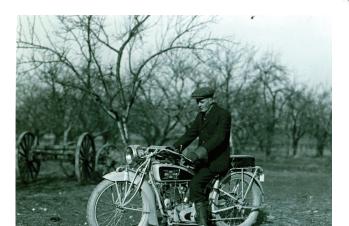


Our first instructor was the Farnham School Band instructor Mr. Kresge, next Walter Ruth from Hamburg and finally "Bitzy" Briggs from Dunkirk Hose Co. #1.

"Bitzy" brought three Dunkirk Hose members to help us with drums, bugles, marching, and etc. He was our instructor until we disbanded. Instructor Briggs trained us and we entered a number of "stand still" competitions which preceded M&M (marching and maneuvering) competitions. We practiced all year and marched all summer. In summer we sometimes marched Friday, Saturday and at times on a Wednesday. We kept busy and enjoyed every minute. I'm proud to say, most of the time we took 1st prize and even took 1st prize at the state parade in Salamanca. We won many trophies but over the years have no idea where there are at this writing.

We finally had to call it quits in 1955. We just couldn't get the youths to show any interest in joining. They wouldn't even consider trying it out to see if "maybe" they would like it. So we said it's time to call it quits, and so we did with high heads and a great track record. We'd done our best and were proud of what we'd accomplished while we were active.





From collection of Lynn Walters, photographer who once lived in Brant on Milestrip Rd. near corner of Hammond Rd. Photos are printed from Glass Plate Negatives and donated by Jeanne Treat.



Henry Miller with catch of the day at Miller's Beach!

Photo donated by Jeff and Ann Prince.

Henry Miller is Jeff's grand-father.



From collection of Lynn Walters, photographer who once lived in Brant on Milestrip Rd. near corner of Hammond Rd. Photos are printed from Glass Plate Negatives. The couple in this photo is Henry and Ruth (Walters) Miller. Lynn Walters and Ruth (Walters) Miller are siblings. Photo donated by Jeanne Treat



December 1st 1966

New 3000 gallon pumper tanker for Brant Fire Department



Railroad crossing at Angola, NY Note train (top right of photo) and the plank sidewalks.



Does anyone know where this photo was taken? Help if you can! Photographer was Lynn Walters, of Brant, NY. Photo donated by Jeanne Treat.

## **PHOTO ALBUM ~ VARIOUS**





1952 L to R: Geri Cureo, Joyce Cureo, Mary Cureo, Sam "Red" Cureo and John Kensy (cousin)

## Paulucci Family Photo

Seated from Left to right: Mildred Paulucci Shovlin, Lena Paulucci Abramo, Mary Paulucci, Rosalie Paulucci Mecca
Back row from Left to Right; Samuel, Frank, Lucian, Stanley, Phillip, Joseph and Nicholas Paulucci
Donated by Marie Paulucci Brittain.





This photo was found in our archives. Does anyone know whose family or home this is? Help! Thank you!

### **PHOTO ALBUM ~ VARIOUS**



September 3, 1927 Town check issued to Geo. Lehley out of the "Highway Fund"

Signed by M.J. Krull, Supervisor



Brant Center Fire Damaged Buildings May 14, 1964 Joseph Tripi, owner



Key Stone Cops at the Strawberry Festival Photo donated by Clark Borngraber



Farnham School, May 1953 We don't know who – do you? Photo donated by Clark Borngraber



## Louis and Josephine DeMarco's Grandchildren

Photo donated by Deb Wasmund (3/2015)

L-R: Row 1 Kneeling: Louie DeMarco, Sam Ralabate, Nunzio Chiavetta

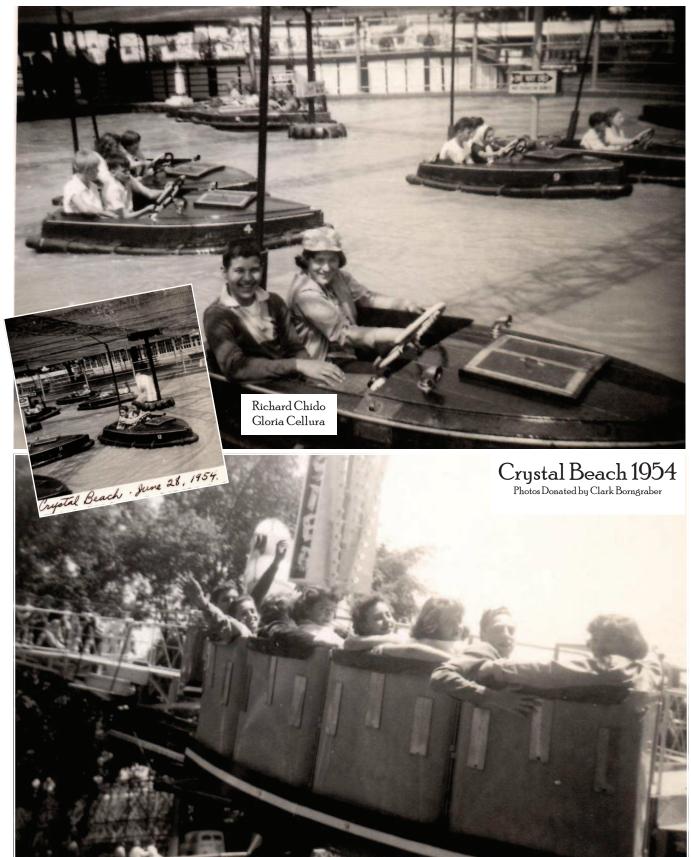
Row 2: Louann DeMarco, Arlene Chiavetta, Paulie DeMarco, Michael DeMarco, Danny Chiavetta Row 3: Linda Chiavetta, Paula DeMarco, Barbara Ralabate, Judy Chiavetta, Josephine DeMarco, Louis DeMarco, Gloria

DeMarco, Wendy DeMarco Barone, Debbie DeMarco Wasmund, Geri Chiavetta



## **PHOTO ALBUM ~ VARIOUS**







### **CORRESPONDENCE**



#### August 2015 From David Lynch dvlneweng@gmail.com

David is investigating a curio cabinet that he purchased in Fresno, California, where he lives. "The piece is 4 1/2 x 3ft curio with a small brass dedication plate on the top which reads: To Mr. & Mrs. Orton and Amy in appreciation of kindness to me "Darkie". I checked US Census records and found an Amy Anne Orton born 1845 in Brant, NY. I am trying to find out who Darkie and the Ortons were. Any information you can kindly provide would be appreciated. Thank you."

#### **December 18, 2015**

We were able to investigate through the help of Doug Shepard wshepard@netsync.net who wrote the following: "Amy Ann(e) Orton (1845-1931) was born in Brant NY to John Orton (1768-1846) and Phebe Orton (1768-1843). Amy Ann married Ellis Wilson (1849-1916). They apparently had only one child, Clayton E. Willson [sic] (1874-1945). A brief scan of the censuses shows the large family of African Americans, Wade Hamilton's living quite near to John Orton and to Amy and Ellis Wilson in 1870."

Historian note: We are still investigating and any help is much appreciated.

**Request from Susanne Siniard** in regards to her grandmother who was born and lived in Farnham, NY. Josephine Christopher (Andriacchio) born in 1908 in Farnham, NY. She is interested in finding out more about her grandmother and other relatives who lived in Farnham. <susanne.siniard@gmail.com>

My name is Ms. Robbie Thomas from North Bend, OR. I'm aware that you may not be the person to contact, so I will be very appreciative if you will be kind enough to forward this to the appropriate person (Historian, Veteran Groups).

For the past several years I have been developing a website that serves as a directory for US War Memorials, Monuments, and Markers. Last month I began the research and documentation for New York state. Once I've used my primary sources for documentation, I then contact the cities, towns, veteran groups, etc., to help confirm the accuracy of the information I currently have.

I do not have any of your towns listed on the site. Because I want to be as thorough as possible, I am contacting you to determine if there are Memorials or Monuments in your area. I would love to include them on this list.

Take the Challenge - Visit <a href="http://www.americanmemorialsdirectory.com/">http://www.americanmemorialsdirectory.com/</a>. I am challenging every city, town, and county/parish to post pictures and information about local Memorials and Monuments on their websites.

Historian note: Georgianne Bowman had forwarded Robbie's request to us, and WE DID TAKE THE CHAL-LENGE! You can find information on the Brant and Farnham Veterans Memorials on the website above. ----- Original Message

Subject: 10th NY Cavalry and 64th NY Infantry
From: "Kyle Stetz" < kmstetz@gmail.com >
Date: Thu, May 26, 2016 9:30 am

To: historian@brantny.com

Ms. Friend,

A friend of mine alerted me to an advertisement in \*Civil War News\* about your request for information on the 10th NY Cavalry and 64th NY Infantry. These are two regiments that are near and dear to my heart. My one and only Civil War relative was in the 10th NY Cavalry--he enlisted in Allegany, Cattaraugus County, NY in late 1864. The 64th NY Infantry was known as the "Cattaraugus Regiment" although they drew from a couple of other counties including Allegany County and Tompkins. I grew up in Allegany, NY, so most of my Civil War research has focused on my relative's unit and other regiments recruited in the area.

What information are you specifically looking for on these regiments?

What information do you currently have on these regiments?

I'd be glad to help you in your research.

Best, Kyle M. Stetz Charlottesville, VA