



Elsie Hartmann

# A Light On The Past

The West Sparta Historical Society Newsletter

Volume 7 Issue 2

## THOUGHTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

- The purpose of the West Sparta Historical Society is to collect, preserve, interpret, and make accessible to the public the history of the town and the people of West Sparta

### Inside this issue:

Green family history	3
Palmer's Antique Tools Tour	5
OFD Schedule	7
OFD Performers	8
Civil War Technology	10
West Sparta History books	12

"Everyone is welcome and everyone gets in free ...." So starts my article on the line-up for Old-Fashioned Day. Free is good and free is possible because West Sparta has more guts and gumption than we sometimes assume. Besides the arts grant mentioned in the article, local sponsors, advanced volunteer fundraising and Town support is providing the major cost of the event. The Music Tent is sponsored by the Farming Families of West Sparta. Last year's sponsors included Bickle Farms, Good Earth Farm, Moffat and Sons Farm, Nate Powell Ent. LLC/LP Farms Dawn Powell, Stoner Hill Farm, a local gift in honor of Sparta Farms and support from Gail and Larry Valentino.

A public gathering tent with chairs and tables for visitors was made possible last year in part by generous donations from Greg Kysor of Fender Bender Mender, Glen Piper and Lori Pearson. Kathy and Sean Obrien of Obrien Septic have donated the use of portable rest rooms each year since 2008. We also enjoy landscaping on the grounds provided with assistance of John Sauerbier of McNair Nursery in 2012. And we are grateful that after Old-Fashioned Day proved itself in 2011 and 2012 the Town Council included a line item for Old-Fashioned Day in its 2013 budget. That is

not all; specific children's activities are assisted by the Town Youth Program; the Highway Department has helped, as have the Town Historian, the Town Clerk, not to mention the great encouragement and help getting things done provided by Supervisor Levey. The Town of West Sparta provides use of all its facilities for Old-Fashioned Day and improvements in facilities and grounds over the last several years have been extremely helpful for the event. It should also be remembered each year that the co-sponsors, Historical Society, Fire Department, and Methodist Church have each contributed significant time, volunteers and equipment to Old-Fashioned Day and all the activities leading up to the event.

I paraphrase: "It takes a whole town to put on Old-Fashioned Day" and I do it again "We are small but (together) we are fierce." Look for this year's event to be the best ever.

### Thank you Nancy

You'll find an article in this issue written by West Sparta Historical Society member Nancy Green Jones about her great grandfather Calvin Green of West Sparta. I have often wondered about the (continued on page 2)

# A Light On The Past

(continued from page 1)

Green's. It seems there were once seven Green farms on the same road and it was logically called Green Street, later Green Street Road and later Green Road. It is clear I live on Calvin Green's farm and perhaps in his house, plus newer additions.

I am grateful not only because I have had some of my curiosity satisfied, but because someone else has pitched in and done some of the work of researching West Sparta history. I'm sure that wasn't Nancy's intent. She wanted to learn about her family. But history gets preserved one family at a time. Put together it tells the story of a town. So thank you Nancy for throwing a little light on our Town in the course of your search. The rest of you let Nancy know if you have any tidbits of information to add to her story. She has included her email address for this purpose. Secondly, the rest of you get to digging and writing down what you find out about your West Sparta family or the West Sparta house you live in and share it with us so we can add more to the story of West Sparta.

**A Light on the Past is a publication of West Sparta Historical Society, a public charity chartered by the New York State Education Department and exempt from Federal income tax under section 501 (c) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code. West Sparta Historical Society is qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers, or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the IRS Code.**

**Principal Office: West Sparta Historical Society c/o Sarah Booher, 8253 Green Road, Dansville, NY 14437. Tel: 585 335 5094. Website: <http://townofwestsparta.org/content> (click on Historical Society). Email: [gefbooher@stny.rr.com](mailto:gefbooher@stny.rr.com). To obtain a copy of our annual report email or telephone your request to the office.**

## West Sparta Historical Society

**Founded December 2006**

**c/o Sarah L. Booher, 8253 Green Road, Dansville, NY 14437**

Telephone: 585 335 5094 email: [gefbooher@stny.rr.com](mailto:gefbooher@stny.rr.com)

<http://townofwestsparta.org/content>

\*\*\*\*\*

### **2013 Officers & Trustees**

**President Sarah Booher**

**Vice President Gregory Kysor**

**Secretary Marjorie Cansdale**

**Treasurer Linda Johnson**

**Trustees Fred Bundschuh, Elsie Hartmann, Deanna Mastin, Sue Noragong, Shirley Palmer, Howard Perry, Rick Pfaff**

**Newsletter Editor Sue Erdle**

\*\*\*\*\*

### **UPCOMING PROGRAMS:**

**July 27, 2013, Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. West Sparta Old-Fashioned Day** – See detailed schedule in this issue. West Sparta Town Hall, 8302 Kysorville-Byersville Road. Free and Open to the public. For more information email: [gefbooher@stny.rr.com](mailto:gefbooher@stny.rr.com) or phone 335 5094. Vendor spaces still available. Vendors contact Deanna Mastin email: [deestan@frontiernet.net](mailto:deestan@frontiernet.net) or call 585 335 8470.

**October 22, 2013, Tuesday, 7 p.m.**

Join West Sparta Historical Society for an interactive trip down memory lane with the songs of the 40's. Geoffrey Clough presents '**A Musical History of World War II**'. The program contains trivia, musical history and stories centered around a fun-filled sing-along. Mr. Clough is a musician, composer, entertainer, accompanist, and instructor with more than thirty years of experience in the music industry exploring almost every variety of music. He has an extensive repertoire of family-friendly songs and encourages music lovers of all ages to join in. Light refreshments served. Donations appreciated to further the work of West Sparta Historical Society.

**November 19, 2013, Tuesday 7 p.m.  
American Veterans Reminisce.**

A gathering of local area veterans of all engagements and ages to share their experiences. West Sparta Town Hall, 8302 Kysorville-Byersville Road. Free and Open to the public. Light refreshments served. Donations appreciated to further the work of West Sparta Historical Society. For more information contact Marjorie Cansdale 585 335 2334.

## CALVIN GREEN – LIFE IN WEST SPARTA IN THE 1800s

By Nancy Green Jones     [sarahobbs@aol.com](mailto:sarahobbs@aol.com)

My great-great grandfather was Calvin Green who lived in West Sparta, New York with his family during the mid to late 1800s. I can find no information on Calvin's parents or where he lived before moving to West Sparta. I'd like to share with you what I have been able to find out about him and his family in hopes that the information might add some history to this beautiful area as well as, hopefully, connect some of the Green families who still live in West Sparta.

### PART ONE

Calvin spent a great deal of his life raising a family and farming in West Sparta. Together with his wife, Mary Ann Andrews and their six children, they farmed over 250 acres in the area.

Calvin was born on March 4, 1812. The 1840 census shows that he was born in Rhode Island but subsequent census information says that he was born in Montgomery County, New York which is located on the northern banks of the Mohawk River approximately 60 miles northwest of New York City. From the census records it appears that he moved to the West Sparta area around 1835 and married Mary Ann Andrews about the same time. Mary Ann was born in 1818 in New Hampshire and died in West Sparta in 1857 at the age of 39.

Many of the acres owned by Calvin were purchased from the James Wadsworth family. According to a township map of 1872, Calvin owned land in West Sparta School District 4. One parcel was located on the eastern corner of Presbyterian Road and Pauline Road and another on Green Road, just south of Rock Spring Hill Road.

A quarter of Calvin's land was in woodland and

the remaining land was used for farming. Much of the land was planted in wheat, oats, rye, and Indian corn. He did own a few dairy cows and pigs, but also had a large herd of sheep from which he gathered about 200 pounds of wool each year. In 1880, the value of his land was \$14,000, the farm equipment was worth \$215, and livestock was worth \$1,240. Tax records state that his taxes on the farm ranged from \$5 to \$7.50 per year.

Calvin and Mary Ann had six children:

(1) William was the eldest and born in 1837 (in the 1850 census record he was listed as James W.). His wife's name was Mary and they had three children: Willie, Cora and Don. William owned approximately 100 acres south of Calvin's acreage on Green Road. Don also owned parcels of land in the same vicinity.

(2) Phebe Emeline was the second born in 1839 and later married Alonzo Edwards (who was the Green's farm laborer) in 1858. They had seven children: Charles, Jane, Jasper, Mary, Hattie, Lester, and Heman. After a few years, they moved to Wisconsin and eventually went to live in Colorado.

(3) Philetus W., the third child (and my great grandfather), was born in 1842. He married Katherine (Kitty) Rose in 1866 and they had five children: Mary, Kitty Rose, Charles, Clifford and Lloyd (my grandfather). Philetus farmed approximately 60 acres in the Byersville area before moving to Mt. Morris, where he and Kitty died. They are buried in the Mt. Morris Cemetery.

(4) Versilla M., the fourth child, was born in 1844.

## A Light On The Past

---

Continued from pg 3

(5) Lester B., the fifth child, was born in 1848 and married Ida. They had no children.

children: Ambrose, Catherine, Emily, Theodore, Alexander, and Egbert.

(6) Charlotte Ella, their last child, was born in 1856. She married William H. Hartman and had a son Herbert G.

There was also a Wilbur "Bert" Green and his wife Susan who lived in West Sparta.

Mary Ann's mother lived with the Greens in the 1850s and 1860s. Her name was Phebe Andrews and she was born in New Hampshire. She died in 1863 and is buried in the Green family plot in Kysorville Cemetery with her husband, Elder James Andrews.

I have, as yet, been unable to connect the Harlow, Abram and Bert Green families with Calvin and his family.

After his first wife Mary Ann Andrews died in 1857, Calvin married Lydia (Lyddie) Hartman Roberts in 1859. She was the daughter of Silas Roberts and Sarah Hartman. Lydia was born in 1818 and died in 1894 at the age of 76. They had no children together.



Calvin (who died in 1892 at the age of 80), his first wife Mary Ann Andrews Green, his second wife Lydia Hartman Roberts Green, Phebe Andrews and her husband Elder James Andrews are all buried in the Kysorville Cemetery.

Headstone in the Kysorville cemetery for Calvin Green, his first wife Mary, and his second wife Lydia.

Also on Green Road, parcels of land were deeded to Harlow Green and Abram (Abraham) Green. Harlow Green was born in 1842. The 1880 census says that he lived in West Sparta, married his wife Lois, and had a son Bradford.

---

### LOOKING FOR A NICE WALK?

According to the same census, there was an Abram (Abraham) Green who was born in 1811. He moved from Fishkill, N.Y. to West Sparta, lived with his wife Mary, and had six

West Sparta has four historic Town maintained cemeteries as well as the Oaklawn cemetery at the West Sparta Methodist Church, and the Stoner Farm cemetery. Take time to visit these cemeteries, admire the gravestones, and read the names of the people who lived here in the past.



## Palmer's Antique Tools Tours Event a Success

People from all over Livingston County who had "been meaning to get over to West Sparta to visit Palmer's Tool Museum" had the perfect opportunity and the perfect weather on Sunday, June 30, 2013 when West Sparta Historical Society sponsored an afternoon of guided tours.



Volunteers from West Sparta Historical Society (L to R) Fred Bundschuh, Deanna Mastin, Linda Johnson, David Palmer, and not shown Shirley Palmer and Sarah Booher were there to be hosts for the afternoon and Richard White displayed his vintage Model A Ford convertible with rumble seat to add to the historic ambiance of the afternoon. Twenty-two people of all ages took one of three tours guided by David Palmer through his multi-building private museum. Interestingly many towns were represented including Groveland, Dansville, Leicester, Livonia, Mt. Morris, Scottsville and four from West Sparta. Many thanks to David Palmer and his wife Shirley for opening their facility to the public for the afternoon and leading the tours. Also thank you Fred, Deanna, Linda and Sarah who helped make the day run smoothly. For more information on Palmer's Antique Tools refer to the extensive article in the April WEST SPARTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY newsletter. It can be viewed on the WEST SPARTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY website at <http://townofwestsparta.org/content> by clicking on "Historical Society" in the index and scrolling to the document list for the April 2013 newsletter.

## Save the Date

### Our Next Program

October 22, 2013, Tuesday, 7 p.m. Come and join West Sparta Historical Society for an interactive trip down memory lane with the songs of the 40's.

Geoffrey Clough presents 'A Musical History of World War II'. The program contains trivia, musical history and stories centered around a fun-filled sing-along. Mr. Clough is a musician, composer, entertainer, accompanist, and instructor with more than thirty years of experience in the music industry exploring almost every variety of music. He has an extensive repertoire of family-friendly songs and encourages music lovers of all ages to join in. West Sparta Town Hall, 8302 Ky-sorville-Byersville Road. Free and Open to the public. Light refreshments served. Donations appreciated to further the work of West Sparta Historical Society. For more information email: [gefbooher@stny.rr.com](mailto:gefbooher@stny.rr.com) or phone 335 5094.

---

#### MEMBERSHIP CORNER

Welcome New Member: Gerad Levey

Welcome back renewing members: Eleanor and Beatrice Smith

---

Its never too late to become a member of

#### WEST SPARTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Use the form on this page to join at the level that fits your budget. Your membership dollars help with our programs, research, and preservation projects.

Membership in WSHS makes a nice gift for a friend or family member with an interest in local history.

## Membership Application/ Renewal Form

Membership at any level entitles you to a subscription to West Sparta Historical Society's newsletter, "A Light on the Past" and other Society communications. Contributing Members give \$25.00 or more to support the work of West Sparta Historical Society. The names of all members are listed in the newsletter by level of support. Membership is for a calendar year.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Choose one membership level:

\_\_\_\_ Individual \$10.00

\_\_\_\_ Family \$15.00

\_\_\_\_ Supporter \$25

\_\_\_\_ Sustainer \$50

\_\_\_\_ Patron \$75

\_\_\_\_ Angel \$100

\_\_\_\_ Lifetime one-time gift of over \$499.

Please enclose this form and a check payable to West Sparta Historical Society and mail to West Sparta Historical Society, c/o Sarah Booher, 8253 Green Road, Dansville, NY 14437. For More Information call: 585 335 5094 or email: [gefbooher@stny.rr.com](mailto:gefbooher@stny.rr.com).

# A Light On The Past

Page 7

## Old Fashioned Day Schedule of Events

	FARMER TENT	TOWN HALL	VILLAGE GREEN	OTHER AREA	SPECIAL AREAS	CONTINUOUS
10:00 a.m.	FIFE & DRUM				Mustang Demo 1	Pony Rides & Petting Zoo 10 Til 3 pm
10:30 a.m.	F & D CONT.			Parade Line up	Plowing Demo Rick Neu	Wagon Ride All Day
11:00 a.m.		FORD BEST 1812 SOLDIER		Parade Around the Grounds		Booths All Day Ven- dors, Food, Raffles
11:30 a.m.		FORD BEST 1812			Threshing Demo TBA	Children's Fair All Day
12:00 p.m.	VETERANS CEREMONY				Fire Safety Dog Demo	
12:30 p.m.		CONNIE/ HENRY	TUG OF WAR			
1:00 p.m. .		CONNIE/ HENRY	TUG OF WAR		Plowing Demo Geo. Bancroft	
1:30 p.m.	WARSAW CHORD BUSTERS					
2:00 p.m.	CHORD- BUSTERS					
2:30 p.m.					Mustang Demo 2	
3:00 p.m.	GENESEO STRING BAND &					Pony Rides & Petting Zoo Ends
3:30 p.m.	JAMES KIM- BALL				Civil War Musket Firing Demo	
4:00 p.m.	END	END	END	END	END	END

## **WEST SPARTA ANNOUNCES PERFORMERS FOR OLD-FASHIONED DAY 2013**

Everyone is welcome and everyone gets in free for a line-up of first class performances at West Sparta's Old-Fashioned Day, Saturday, July 27, thanks in part to a \$950 grant from the Decentralization Program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Council on the Arts, administered locally by Genesee Valley Council on the Arts. West Sparta Sponsors, volunteer fund raising and the Town have provided for the rest of the cost of Old-Fashioned Day

**Western New York Field Musick's Excelsior Brigade Fife and Drum Corps** kicks off the day with a combination living history fife and drum corps representing field music from America's Ancient Fife and Drum traditions. The Excelsior's were the 70<sup>th</sup> through 74<sup>th</sup> New York State Volunteer Infantry regiments of the United States Civil War. They saw action in many battles and were well known for their brilliant performance, professionalism and patriotism. The thundering drums and shrill fifes harken back to a day when the nation was in crisis. At Old-Fashioned Day the Excelsior's will remind us of a day in our region's early history when our nation's sovereignty was challenged by the British in the War of 1812-1814. At Old-Fashioned Day Excelsior Brigade Fife and Drum Corps will be wearing an accurate reproduction of the early US Army regular infantry of the War of 1812 and playing music of the era to commemorate the anniversary of this conflict.

This will be followed by an historical impression of a **U.S. Soldier in the War of 1812**, presented by **Mr. Ford Best** of Mumfordsville, KY. Mr. Best presents a detailed educational history program on the war of 1812, its causes, its activity, its outcome, and its impact on Western NY where a good deal of the war was fought. Mr. Best has served on the Board of Directors of the Livingston County Historical Museum for many years. His passion is the War of 1812 and he has collected at great personal expense an almost complete kit of authentic 1812 Infantry items and uniforms which he uses in his program. Midway through the day we will hold a **Celebration of our local Veterans**. West Sparta or other local veterans from any service or any engagement are invited to attend and be recognized for their service to West Sparta and their country. The Civil War Military group will present the flag to start the ceremony. Interested veterans can contact Sue Erdle in advance for more information at 335 3473 or via email at [stonerhill@juno.com](mailto:stonerhill@juno.com).

The Old-Fashioned Day afternoon program offers a considerable change of pace when we are serenaded by the **Warsaw ChordBusters Barbershop Chorus**. The ChordBusters are members of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, being one of 34 Chapters in the Seneca Land District (which is one of the 16 Districts in the Society). The ChordBusters are the oldest chapter east of the Mississippi chartered in 1941. They are very much in demand and each year they have a full schedule of appearances.

Back by popular demand in the late afternoon, **James W. Kimball and the Genesee String Band**



## A Light On The Past

---

will perform under our tent as they did in 2011 drawing a good crowd. Using period instruments the String Band, consisting of SUNY Geneseo students and faculty, revive the music of our early history as a growing, agrarian society, living off the land, traveling slowly and making our own music and musical instruments. Professor Kimball has gained special knowledge of the music of our Genesee Region and intersperses the music with anecdotes about its place in people's lives and how the sounds were produced.

Also returning are performers **Connie Hamilton of Nunda and Henry Robins of Dansville** for an after lunch session in the Town Hall. This popular local duo provides their own guitar accompaniment as they present a program of early to mid- 20<sup>th</sup> Century Gospel and Folk Songs. Connie Hamilton of Nunda has often been heard as a soloist whose melodic voice is strong and polished. Henry Robins of Dansville is an accomplished song writer recently heard singing his own songs on the CDs "Immanent Grace" and "If the Creek Don't Rise". Connie and Henry generously provide entertainment for many area functions.

### **WEST SPARTA OLD-FASHIONED DAY**

**SATURDAY JULY 27, 2013**

**10 A.M. TO 4 P.M.**

**THE PARK AT WEST SPARTA TOWN HALL,**

8302 Kysorville-Byersville Road, Dansville, NY 14437.

A Day of Free Old-Fashioned Family Fun in one of Livingston County's most rural towns. Displays, demonstrations and activities for all ages. Live performances throughout the day. 19<sup>th</sup> C. historic reenactments including Civil War Military and Civilian encampments, War of 1812 music and educational programs, old fashioned clothes, farm equipment and vehicles, children's fair with fish pond, games and prizes, petting zoo, pony rides, and wagon rides, Mustang training demonstration, arts, crafts and food vendors, parade, tug of war competition, horse drawn plowing and old-fashioned wheat threshing demonstrations, 50/50 Raffle, display of West Sparta Historic photographs, and more. West Sparta Old-Fashioned Day is co-sponsored by the Town of West Sparta, West Sparta Historical Society, West Sparta Methodist Church and West Sparta Volunteer Fire Department.

For information or vendor applications visit the <http://townofwestsparta.org/content> select Old-Fashioned Day page or contact coordinator at 585 335 5094 or email [gefboohar@stny.rr.com](mailto:gefboohar@stny.rr.com).

## R. Keough Talks on Photography and Other Technologies of the Civil War - A Report by Sarah Booher

On January 27, 2013, at the Livingston Arts Center I attended a program given by Robert Keough, Professor Emeritus RIT in Computer Graphics, Commander of Sons of Union Veterans based in Albany, NY. Mr. Keough spoke about the technologies of the Civil War with emphasis on the impact of photography on our view of that war. He used Civil War photographs to illustrate each point.

The Civil War was the first American war to be photographed. Some photographs were taken during the Crimean War of 1855, a war over territory fought by the Russians and Turks against the English and French, but those images focused only the places and a few key figures. The photography of the Civil War had a tremendous impact as it captured every aspect of the war and focused for the first time on all the personalities of the war effort. For the first time we could see what war looked like and how it was conducted and all those involved including the common soldiers.

As the war began photographic processes were still new. Matthew Brady was the most prominent of the twenty-one listed Campaign photographers of the Civil War. He opened his photographic studio in NY in 1844 and in 1851 adopted the Wet Plate or Collodian Process developed by Frederick Scott Archer. In this process, after taking a photograph, the plate had to be developed and prints made immediately. The equipment and supplies were large, heavy and fragile. It took an enclosed wagon to carry and protect the materials which included glass plates and chemicals and equipment which in addition to a huge camera and lenses included a tent with a complete dark room.

Prior to the Civil War, war images were produced by sketching or painting and focused on important people

such as generals and politicians. With the advent of photography a scene could be frozen in a moments time and many more images could be made. Thus Civil War photographers captured most everything including scenes of the white troops on both sides, black regiments with white officers, camp shots (tent camps for summer log cabins for winter), artillery contingents, soldiers relaxing, surveyors with every piece of equipment displayed, (surveying and map making were very important as there were no maps of the South at the beginning of the war), the children of war such as a 12 year old "powder monkey", a young black drummer, a stylishly outfitted infantry that included many youth under 16 including some as young as 10. Even the photographers and their wagons got into the pictures.

The Places of War were photographed including the unfinished Capitol building, Libby Prison, the slave market and Marshall House (home of the first Union martyr of the war) in Alexandria, Virginia, Harper's Ferry where John Brown surrendered to Robert E. Lee, Jefferson Davis' home, Fort Sumter where the war begins and Appomattox where the war ends, Atlanta before its destruction and after its destruction in a three-panel panorama photograph and many more.

Even the dead and how they were handled was documented: there were photos of battlefields littered with corpses lying where they fell, at Cold Harbor ditches full of dead southern soldiers, the undertakers in the field were shown, and burials at the site of the battle as well as coffins of those shipped home by their families. For the first time, the folks at home were able to see and examine images of the war dead.

This was the first time in history the common soldier was memorialized in enduring images. Enter the tintype, a

one off negative imprint on dark metal plate that as the dark shown through the negative created a positive image. This was shellacked for preservation. Galleries followed the troops around and created these prepaid tintypes for 25 cents. The photo took time so usually soldiers were seated and braced. Soldiers from both the North and South and black and white chose how they wanted to be remembered. They wore their uniforms and were taken with their guns, musical instruments, friends, horses, children, even wearing odd hats. The Library of Congress website has thousands of these soldier and sailor tintypes. In fact Civil War images are in the public domain and are easily accessed online from: National Archives, Library of Congress, and Civil War Photography.Org.

Mr. Keough went on to talk about the development and importance of other technology during the Civil War including railroads, telegraphy, ballooning and even submarines and submersibles. Railroads were of course used to moved men and material. Officers if possible had telegraph lines strung right to their headquarters so information could be relayed quickly. Balloons were used to view the battlefield and report troop movements. A balloon was even launched off the deck of a ship during the War. Submarines and submersibles were designed for gaining certain advantages on lakes, rivers and the coast with differing degrees of success.

As with many recent conflicts, the innovations employed or perfected during wartime greatly impacted daily life after the war. After the Civil War was over we adopted and adapted photography and telegraphy as integral aspects of American life and we improved on battlefield and naval technologies to employ in future conflicts as well as in the further development of the nation.

### **Award for a Lifetime of Community Service and Good Citizenship given to Sue Erdle**

Congratulations to Susan Erdle, West Sparta Historical Society founding member and West Sparta's Town Planning Board Chairman. Sue was named West Sparta's Senior Citizen of the Year by the West Sparta Town Council and was honored on Saturday, May 18 at the Seniorama Event by Livingston County Office on Aging and Livingston County Board of Supervisors. Sue is certainly deserving for all she has done and is doing for the Town of West Sparta, the Historical Society, 140<sup>th</sup> NY Volunteer Infantry Civil War group, Genesee Country Museum & Village, Livingston County Council on the Arts and many other organizations.



L. to R. County Administrator-Ian Coyle, West Sparta Senior Citizen of 2013-Sue Erdle, West Sparta Supervisor-Gerard Levey



New technologies in photography allowed images like this photograph of Civil War soldiers in Zouave uniforms to become available to the public.

## AN ILLUSTRATED TIMELINE OF WEST SPARTA, NEW YORK

Buttermilk Falls,  
West Sparta, NY,

Updated  
West Sparta History  
2008

The family, by the way, lives in the village of By the Sea, but some members of the family work in the Chesapeake water, while others just move here from abroad. In 1931, the family that owned Appleville Road was sold to a man who lived in White Bridge.

**Make check out to West Sparta Historical Society. Mail check and form to: West Sparta Historical Society, c/o Sarah Booher, 8253 Green Road, Dansville, NY 14437. Allow two weeks for delivery. If you need rush delivery or wish to pick up your copy in person to save shipping costs please call 585 335 5094.**