In November of 2001, Issue 4 of The Klock Family Newsletter, I told you about two Klock Families that live in New York City. I had been asked by family and friends if there were any Klock’s that lived in New York City and if they were alright following the 9-11 attacks on our country. I contacted Michele Klock who works at Carnegie Hall, and a Donald Klock. Michele and Don had heard of each other but had never met. I profiled Michele and promised to write a follow up with article on Don, but then somehow lost contact with him.

A month or so ago, Donald contacted me and so now I am going to write that follow-up article on the Klock’s of New York City.

Don and Diane Klock live in this Apartment Building on East 83rd Street in New York City.

They have lived in this Apartment Building for about 3 years now and just recently finished remodeling it. Don works for Colgate Palmolive, heading up the global Procurement and Logistics organization. “He travels the world buying and moving “stuff”, as Don would say. “Since 75% of Colgate’s Sales are outside the United States, it puts me on airplanes quite a bit.“ Don told me. He has been to Mexico, Brazil, France, Germany, the UK, Poland, Turkey, Italy, China, Thailand, Malaysia, India, Australia and more for his company.

He has been married for 30 years to Diane. They have two children,

Geoff graduated from New York University with a BS and MS in English Literature. He was recently accepted to Oxford, England to work on his Ph. D. in English Literature and will start this fall.

On August 11, 2003, Don and Diane celebrated thirty years of marriage. They celebrated their anniversary with a trip to Ireland. They started their trip in Dublin, the literary heart of Ireland. They saw the legendary Book of Kelts and practiced drinking

Continued Next Page
Guinness in many of the city’s 1000 pubs. After learning how to drive on the left side of the road, and a few near life and death experiences, according to Diane, they traveled to Newgrange, one of Europe’s most spectacular prehistoric tombs. “From there we drove to through the County Wicklow mountains to the Glendalough, a medieval monastery. Heading West toward Cork, we stayed in Park Hotel in Kenmare, a magnificent stone chateau and we traveled to the “rings”; the Ring of Kerry and the Ring of Beara, both with stunning ocean views, hilly landscapes. Don and Diane said in their newsletter. Don and his wife, Diana write a yearly newsletter about there Klock Family called “KlockTimes”. They publish it every year around Christmas time and send it to family and friends, like a Christmas Card. They have been publishing KlockTimes for the past 13 years. Don sent me a copy of his newsletter where I got the pictures and information for this article. “One of the highlights of the trip was driving over the Beara Pass, a road about as wide as a New York City sidewalk, only lot find a beautiful rainbow. ( Don didn’t find the pot of Gold ) We completed our stay at the Dromoland Castle in Newmarket-on-Fergus, an impressive 1686 hotel of turrets and towers, an appropriate end to a great trip.” according to his newsletter.

Check out the Klock Connections Web Page for the article on the other Klock Family that lives in New York City and her story about the 9-11 attack on America. November 2001, Issue # 4.

Clock’s of Clockville, New York

On the way to St. Johnsville for the summer we stopped in Clockville, New York. It is a very small community just south of Canastota. In the town square by the volunteer fire department is a small monument dedicated to Margaret Clock. A small store is across from the fire department and that is about the extent of Clockville. We visited the Canastota Library and looked up some old obituaries of Clocks that lived in the area. I already had all the Klock obituaries that was published.
Clock’s of Clockville Continued

in the Canastota Bee. We collected twelve obituaries on the Clock Families that lived in the area.

Clockville was founded by Conrad Klock who was the son of Hendrick Klock. We visited an old Clock cemetery that was on a old Clock Farm. The Clock farm is no longer in the hands of the Clock Family and is now a large horse ranch of about 300 acres. Below is one of the obits we found in the Canastota Library.

Obituary from Canastota Bee, December 14, 1877

Adam Clock, a respected citizen of Clockville, and father-in-law of Abraham Tuttle and Stephen Moot, Esqs., of that place, died at his residence on the 7th. last, aged about 75 years. Mr. Clock had passed nearly his entire life in that vicinity, the village of Clockville having derived his name from his father, one of the first settlers of that region. The deceased leaves a wife and several grown children. The Funeral took place from the residence on Sunday afternoon last.

I will be reprinting more of the Clock Obituaries in future issues of Klock Connections.

Johan Jost Herchheimer was one of many refugees from the German Palatinate who settled in the Mohawk Valley in 1725. He settled in German Flatts, which is south of the present village of Herkimer, in 1725. He was a industrious farmer who also engaged in trade and transport on the Mohawk River. He acquired over 5,000 acres of land south of the Mohawk. It was here that his son, Nicholas Herkimer established a farmstead. About 1764 he was able to replace his earlier home with the English Georgian style mansion that stands known today as Herkimer Home. Nicholas Herkimer became he wealthiest and most prominent resident of the Mohawk Valley. He gained military experience as a captain of the militia during the French and Indian War. At the outbreak of the Revolution he firmly embraced the American cause and was elected chairman of the Tryon County Committee of Safety was commissioned brigadier general, commander of the county’s militia.

In the summer of 1777 the British were planning a three-pronged attack on New York and the Mohawk Valley. In August of 1777 British troops were attacking Fort Stanwix. News of the attack reached General Herkimer and he was able to assemble 800 men, supported by 60 allied Oneida warriors. On August 4th the militia left Fort Dayton and the safety of their homes and hastened toward the besieged fort. News of General Herkimer’s advance reached the British. British and Troy troops under Sir John Johnston and Col. John Butler, and Indian forces led by Mohawk, Joseph Brant, set a trap in a swampy ravine west of the Indian village of Oriskany. On August 6. 1777 the British attacked. General Herkimer, wounded in the leg, on the onset of the attack, was able to keep command of his militia and used the cover of a tree to directed his men. They held their ground, despite fierce hand-to hand combat. The battle, lasting six-hours, and after heavy losses, General Herkimer was carried back to his home. Ten days later and after a unskilled amputation of his leg, General Herkimer died from his wound.

Continued Next Page
Herkimer Continued

He was immediately regarded as a hero and a martyr to the cause of American freedom. The Battle of Oriskany is known as one of the bloodiest battles of the Revolution. It is also considered a turning point in the War of Independence. The Oriskany Monument, was dedicated on August 6, 1884, to serve as a memorial to those who fought so bravely and died to secure the freedoms we enjoy today. The Oriskany Battlefield was designated a New York State historic site in 1927.

General Herkimer had no children so his home was passed to his brother, George. George’s son, John Herkimer sold it out of the family in 1814. It changed hand some six times and was in considerable disrepair. In 1913 it was acquired by the State of New York and restorations began.

Klock Park

From the Enterprise News-- Wednesday, November 17, 1937   St. Johnsville, NY

Another public gift by Mr. and Mrs. J.H. Reaney. This was given in three sections, the first consisting of 10 acres was given in 1920. The second addition, consisting of 90 acres adjoining, was given in 1927 and the last, a 20 acre plot, which completed the allotment and gained an entrance on the north road, was given in 1933-4.

This was occupied by the Federal government as a transient camp for three years, and on it’s abandonment, the building passed to the Village. It is a splendid structure, costing around $50,000 and can be used as a summer camp, pavilion, or by installing heat, may be used the year around. While in the possession of the government a great deal of construction work was accomplished. The grounds were cleared, fire places and picnic tables erected and pathways and roads constructed. For the first time in history Hills Falls have been made accessible for sight seers. An easy descent to the gorge has been constructed and this beautiful waterfall may now be visited without effort.

Forestations consists of rather a liberal supply of maple, some ash and basswood and the middle sections is of second growth native white pine. There is also some spruce, cedar and hemlock. Wild flowers grow in profusion, especially in the spring when the banks of the gorge are covered with May flowers, wood violets and liverwort.

The tract is almost entirely wooded. Three separate plantings of Scotch pine have been made by the Community Club.

A sharp ridge of native limestone bisects the park, this limestone being peculiar to his section and is highly prized for it’s crystal formations, known locally as Little Falls diamonds.

Below Hills Falls and running the length of the property is a wild and rugged ravine, carved out by Zimmerman Creek. He is the famous Big Six swimming hole which is liberally patronized by the youth of this section. Nearby is a boulder of heroic size, which is of especial interest to geologists.

The park was named in honor of Dr. Charles M. Klock (1854-1909), a highly regarded physician who practiced here for many years.

This recreation ground is also a game refuge and bird sanctuary.

It is open to the public the year around and already has become the mecca for family reunions, church picnics and other outdoor meetings.

The property is located about one mile north of the village and can be reached by automobiles over hard roads. Visitors are surprised to find such a delightful retreat, possessing so many natural advantages.

*

Klock Park was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Reaney who also donated the Margaret Reaney Memorial Library and the Community House in St. Johnsville. Continued Next Page
Klock Park Continued

The Community House is a beautiful building and is the pride of the community. One room was set aside for a memorial to Dr. Charles Klock. In a letter to the village St. Johnsville dated May 12th 1920 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph H. Reaney wrote, “This gift is made in recognition and appreciation of the pure, generous Christian character of Dr. Klock, and of his faithful devotion thought his entire professional life to the people of St. Johnsville, and especially to those in illness and distress. He always regarded his professional duties as sacred trusts committed to his care; his entrance into the sick room was the entrance of a ray of sunshine; he was as tender and affectionate as a mother in the care of little children. It need no park or public memorial to enshrine him in the memory of those of us who loved and knew him, but it is trusted that this gift may serve to perpetuate in the minds and hearts of those who will come after us, all that his life stood for, and be, as he was so long as God spared him to us, a perpetual source of health and strength to our citizens. The park shall be as broad in its scope as humanity, - for the use of all, without discrimination as to age, race, color, conditions or religion.”

Another room of the Community House was reserved for the St. Johnsville Chapter of the D.A.R. The village offices take up most the rest of the home.

Klock Park is a narrow strip of land that is almost a mile long. Klock Park is a very nice rustic park. There are several fire places, picnic tables and camp sites in the park. The village tried for a long time to maintain the park. Vandalism, people steeling tables, the cost, and other problems involved in maintaining this huge park, the village had to just gave up. The village rents the building at the entrance of the Klock Park to the Benefits Club but the park is still accessible to the public. Overnight camping is not allowed and the park is seldom used anymore.

I wanted to research Dr. Charles Klock but got sidetracked with Klock Park.

Dr. Charles Klock
1854-1909

Dr. Charles Klock was born in 1854, the son of Morris Klock and Emmeline Sillenbeck. Morris and Emmeline had two children, Charles Morris and George Sillenbeck Klock. His line goes like this; Charles, Morris, Cornelius, Jacob George, Johanguergh ( Old George ) and Hendrick Klock. George became a physician and practiced in St. Johnsville for many years. His brother George was admitted to the bar in 1880 and practiced in Rome, New York. He was partner in a law firm with James S. Sherman of Utica, N.Y. James S. Sherman later became Vice President of the United States.

Dr. Klock died in 1909 and is buried in West St. Johnsville Cemetery in the Klock Plot.

.................................................................

Note: I could not e-mail the July and August newsletter because we are camping out at the Royal Mountain Campsite and I do not have internet access. In September I will start e-mail the newsletter again.

Dave