

Lake George Historical Markers to be Refurbished

By Anthony F. Hall

Lake George public officials, the school district and two historical organizations, the Lake George Historical Association and the Lake George Battlefield Alliance, have joined together to refurbish the ubiquitous blue and yellow historical markers installed at various times throughout the village and town.

The collaborative effort was launched on April 26 - National Historical Marker Day, appropriately enough - with the unveiling of a newly repainted marker at the old Warren County Courthouse on Canada Street.

Built in the decades between 1845 and 1878, when Lake George was the county seat in fact as well as in name, the building was sold to the Town of Lake George in 1968 for \$30,000, five years after Warren County moved its offices and meeting rooms to the new municipal center in Queensbury.

Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller formally dedicated the restored building - which was preserved through the efforts of

local citizens - as an institute for art, science and history in 1971.

"This marker recalls a place of many dramas, a place where important things happened here, both as a courthouse signifying the county seat, as well as its many, multi-purpose uses in the years since it was decommissioned," said Councilwoman Marisa Muratori.

Alex Parrott, president of the Lake George Historical Association said that restoring the sign at the courthouse as well as those throughout Lake George "will help the public to better understand the significant events that occurred in the Lake George region."

"Collectively, the historical markers tell tourists the story of all that's happened here," said John DiNuzzo, president of the Lake George Battlefield Alliance.

Moreover, said DiNuzzo, the refurbished signs will not only remind visitors of significant events in Lake George's history, but convey to them that "the Lake George community cares



Mayor Ray Perry, John Coccozza-Hill, Town Buildings and Grounds Working Supervisor, Historical Association president Alex Parrot, Town Board member Marisa Muratori, High School principal Fran Coccozza.

about its history."

According to Don Rittner, executive director of the Warren County Historical Society, the existing markers may not only be deteriorating through time and weather, but may contain inaccurate information.

To remedy that defect, the refurbished signs will bear QR codes developed by the Warren County Planning Department that will direct visitors to websites with pages of updated information.

"At last count, Warren County

had 120 historical markers. That's a lot of history to update," said Rittner.

DiNuzzo encouraged members of the community to participate in the effort, helping to restore historical markers where and when necessary.