

## MILITARY



*Pictured above Mayor Terry Caber and Ray Dunkel unveiling Farnham's Park and Playground Veteran's Memorial Marker.*

Article and Photo From *Town Crier* Dated November 15, 2006 :

On November 11, 2006, Veterans' Day, the Village of Farnham dedicated their new monument to the Veterans of Farnham which is located at the entrance to the Village's new playground and park.

"A few years ago, when the village was in the planning stages for our new park, I asked several residents to be on the planning committee. One of these members, Mr. Ray Dunkel, noted that the village had no area dedicated to honor the men and women of the Village of Farnham who had served in the military. As a Vietnam Era Veteran, I certainly understood and appreciated the importance of those who have contributed military service to our great nation. And so, Mr. Dunkel became the driving force behind this vision and the design of our memorial stone which we will unveil today, and which is only the beginning stage of a Veteran's Memorial Area for our park," noted Farnham Mayor Terry Caber at the dedication ceremony. "I thank Mr. Dunkel not only for his exemplary military service, but also for his vision to honor the men and women of the village of Farnham for their service as well.

During Farnham's 114 year history, there have been many men and women who have served during both times of war and times of peace. The Farnham Centennial Book mentions 6 individuals who lost their lives during World War II; they are: Edward Schrader, Michael Graci, Samuel Battaglia, Raymond Koch, Edward Stuerhing and Howard Nordblum.

Other Individuals who have served in the military include: Ray Dunkel, Paul Lapiana, Maggie White, Russell Battaglia, Charles Lapiana, Gayle Holmes, Albert Battaglia, Frank Militello, William Battaglia, Christian Militello Sr., Charles Wasmund, Ken Ditcher, Roy Wasmund, Nicholas Sprat, Bill Russell, William Graci, Bob Russell, Gary Schwartz, Richard Hoisington, Cliff Schwartz, David Pruett, Joseph Lapiana and Valentine Krtanjek; Iraq Veterans Kevin Fricano, Nicholas Orlando, Rob Browning, Tom VanWie and Peter Muscarella. We apologize if we have failed to mention anyone who has served."

# PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S FUNERAL TRAIN ROUTE ~ 150 YEARS

**On June 30th 2015,  
SIXTEEN SPECIAL POSTMARKS  
Commemorated this  
150 YEAR OLD HISTORICAL EVENT!!**

CELEBRATING YOUR LOCAL HISTORY!

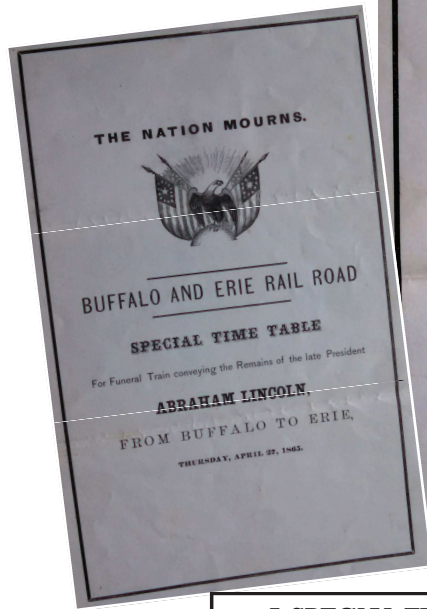
**A Total of 4,997 Pictorial Cancels were issued!**

Thank you to all who participated, especially designers Christian J. LoGrasso and Rosalee "Tish" Hill, as well as all the Postmasters at the 16 different Post Offices.

**Lincoln Funeral Train  
Pictorial Postmarks  
Highlighted the 150th  
Anniversary**

Brant Historian Patty Friend and the Brant-Farnham Historical Society initiated an event with the US Post Office based on Lincoln's Funeral Train and its journey from Buffalo to Ripley, NY.

Twelve Pictorial Cancellations were designed for all stops listed on the Buffalo and Erie Rail Road Time Table (right), from Buffalo to Ripley, as well as four extra Post Offices along the route - Athol Springs, Lakeview, Derby and Sheridan. Christian J. LoGrasso, native of Angola, NY, designed 15 of the 16 "stops". Rosalee "Tish" Hill, life-long resident of Brant, designed the pictorial Postmark for Farnham, NY.



BUFFALO TO ERIE.			
	Pilot Engine.	Funeral Train.	Remarks.
Leave BUFFALO.....	10.00 P. M.	10.10 P. M.	
" HAMBURGH.....	10.30	10.40	
" NORTH EVANS.....	10.45	10.55	
" ANGOLA.....	11.03	11.13	
" FARNHAM.....	11.18	11.28	
" IRVING.....	11.25	11.35	
" SILVER CREEK.....	11.35	11.45	Wood and Water.
" DUNKIRK.....	12.00	12.10 A. M., 28th.	
" BROCTON.....	12.20	12.30	
" PORTLAND.....	12.25	12.35	
" WESTFIELD.....	12.50	1.00	Wood and Water.
" RIPLEY CROSSING.....	1.05	1.15	
" RIPLEY.....	1.14	1.24	
" STATE LINE.....	1.22	1.32	
" NORTH EAST.....	1.35	1.47	
" MOREHEADS.....	1.47	1.57	
" HARBOR CREEK.....	1.55	2.03	
" WESLEYVILLE.....	2.04	2.14	
Arrive ERIE.....	2.20 A. M.	2.30 A. M.	

This Pilot Engine and Funeral Train will have EXCLUSIVE RIGHT TO THE TRACK over all other Trains upon the line.

**A. T. WILLIAMS,**  
Ass't Sup't.

**J. LEWIS GRANT,**  
Gen'l Sup't.

**Railroad Time Table for President Abraham Lincoln's Funeral Train provided by Vince Martonis, Hanover Historian**

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO DAVID TEMPESTOSO,  
Postmaster of Angola, Brant and Farnham for his constant  
support of our Historical Postmark Projects!**

Vince Martonis, Hanover Historian, was diligent in contacting the USPS, requesting a special authorization letter. We were able to distribute this letter to school districts along Lincoln's Funeral Train Route. Children from the Dunkirk, NY Schools (Kimberlee Texter, School #4 Principal) visited the Dunkirk Post office, and children from the John T. Waugh School (Paula Eastman, Principal) in Angola visited the Angola Post Office to collect their Pictorial Cancels. Approximately 120 children in all visited! Kimberly Buchanan (Westfield Postmaster) plotted the origins of all requests received on a map. She had requests from Spain, Germany, Nederland and all over the U.S.A. from California to Oregon, and Florida to Maine. David Tempestoso, Postmaster of Angola, said he has never seen such a line of people at the post office as there was on June 30th! And Wally Samick of the Farnham Post Office said he is having a blast processing the cancels!

**150th Anniversary Lincoln Funeral Train Route Pictorial Postmark Cancels** officially ended October 28, 2015. The Fall 2015 issue of *WNY Heritage Magazine* included a Letter to the Editor from The Town of Brant Historian. The final Pictorial Postmark totals for each location as provided by Cynthia Weigel of United States Postal Service Pictorial Postmark Office in Kansas City, Mo. are as follows:

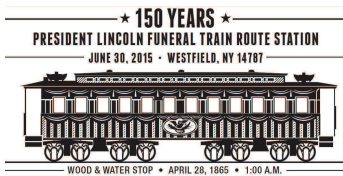
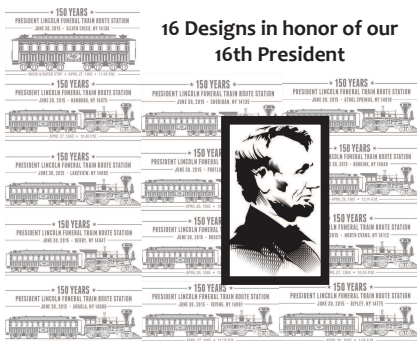
<u>NY Post Office</u>	<u>Zip code</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>NY Post Office</u>	<u>Zip code</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>NY Post Office</u>	<u>Zip code</u>	<u>Total</u>
Buffalo	14240	400	Angola	14006	402	Brocton	14716	251
Hamburg	14075	85	<b>Farnham</b>	<b>14061</b>	<b>533*</b>	Portland	14769	152
Athol Springs	14010	305	Irving	14081	253	Westfield	14787	<b>642</b>
North Evans	14112	334	Silver Creek	14136	255	Ripley	14775	<u>257</u>
Lakeview	14085	261	Sheridan	14136	263	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>4,997</b>
Derby	14047	341	Dunkirk	14048	263			

# PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S FUNERAL TRAIN ROUTE ~ 150 YEARS



The Buffalo and Erie County Public Library, along with the Buffalo Post Office, hosted a Temporary Postal Station at the Library. The June 30th, 2015 event featured the Buffalo, NY 150th Anniversary of Lincoln's Funeral Train Route postmark and special Lincoln envelope, both designed by Christian J. LoGrasso, to recognize Lincoln's last journey through our state. The Library may have some of the cancelled envelopes for sale - check the Library's website for more information. It was a news worthy event of which Christian received much deserved recognition for his time and talent.

## 16 Designs in honor of our 16th President



Westfield, NY Lincoln cancel had most requests at 642!

"The Funeral Train traveled slowly towards the countryside and into the southern portion of Erie County, passing through Hamburg, North Evans, Lakeview, 18 Mile Creek, Derby, Evans Center, Angola, **F A R N H A M**, and Irving. The Buffalo and Erie Railroad was now in charge of the trip to Erie Pennsylvania." ... All employees of the railroad company had received :

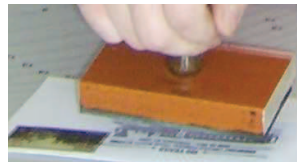
### "Buffalo, April 24 '65 To all operators: B. & E. R.R.:"

On Thursday next, the day on which the funeral train of our late President moves over this road, you will be on hand promptly and in your offices at all hours of the day and night until after the train has passed your station, not leaving your offices without permission from headquarters. Any neglect of duty however great or small will be followed by immediate dismissal."

[Buffaloah.com/h/fagant/linc.html](http://Buffaloah.com/h/fagant/linc.html)



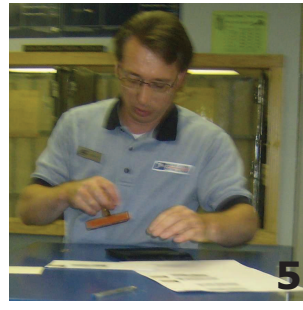
Farnham NY Post Office  
Post Officer-in-Charge Wally Samick  
Farnham issued 533 Lincoln cancels!



## THANK YOU for your support of our Local History Project!

### Lincoln Cancels at the various Post Offices:

1. Student from DUNKIRK, NY School #4 showing off her newly cancelled Lincoln Post Card.
2. Sandy Snyder, DERBY Postmaster, (also Postmaster of North Evans and Athol Springs) told us that Belgium was the farthest location that requested the Lincoln Cancel.
3. Ronald Clifford, Officer in Charge/PSE at NORTH EVANS
4. Sheena Comstock (PMR) at PORTLAND, NY. She told us that there were 96 requests for the Lincoln Pictorial Cancel that arrived two weeks prior to the 6/30/2015 cancel date, including two from Hawaii and 30 from Texas. On June 30th, there were 15 walk in's with 49 envelopes requesting the Lincoln cancel.
5. WESTFIELD, NY: Scott had stacks of mail for the Lincoln cancel -150 FIRST DAY requests!
6. Shannon Kantz, Postmaster at RIPLEY, NY proudly holding our Lincoln poster.

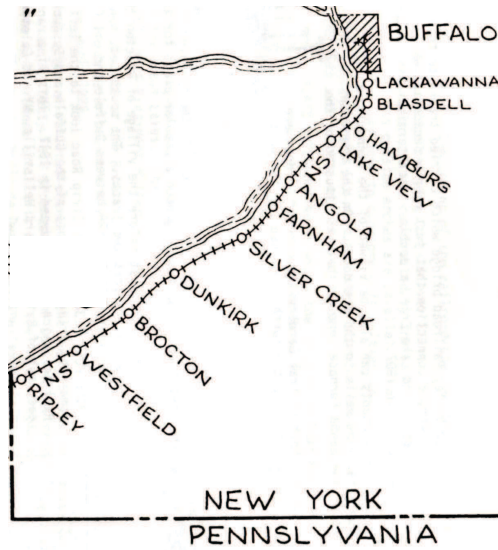


PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S FUNERAL TRAIN ROUTE ~ 150 YEARS



R.R. Station, Lake View, NY

A few of the  
Railroad Stations along  
President Lincoln's Funeral Train Route:  
Lake View, Angola, Farnham,  
Irving, and Silver Creek.



R.R. Station, Silver Creek, NY



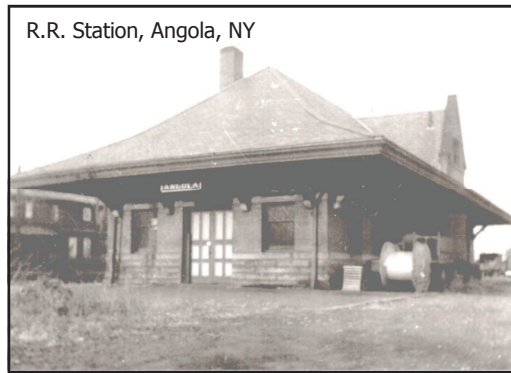
LS & MS R.R. Station, Farnham, NY



R.R. Station, Irving, NY



N.Y.C. R.R. Station, Farnham, NY 1920



R.R. Station, Angola, NY



Penn. R.R. Station, Farnham, NY 1924



R.R. Station, Irving, NY

# DONATIONS to the Brant-Farnham Historical Society

## As recorded in the Monthly BRANT-FARNHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY REPORT submitted to the Town & Village Boards

### JUNE 2015

- Ron and Ida Pfeffer: Donation of "Bowman" ashtray advertisement.
- Geri Gugino: Donation of (2) 1966 Strawberry Festival Books.
- Bill Trask: Donation of items once belonging to Rose Dispenca Trask - Strawberry Festival related items.
- Rosie Wiley: Donation of 1929 wedding photo of her Aunt Carmela Quagliana who married Santo Ingraio. (email)
- Jean [nee Borngraber] Brunelli: Donation of Drum Corp Photos from 1989.
- Ray Dunkel: Donation of red binder containing copies of his Vietnam photos as well as (3) books regarding Vietnam stories.
- Bill and Patty Friend: Donation of (3) Vietnam banners for display at Brantfest and the historical room, advertising expenses from Pennysaver Advertisements as well as various items needed for the Brantfest display (table coverings, poster boards, tape and etc.) 150th Anniversary Lincoln Buttons (QTY 25) for 6/30/16 postmark event were donated as well.
- ON LOAN from Ray Dunkel: Numerous Vietnam photos for our display. Items were returned.
- ON LOAN from Veronica Mackey: Numerous Vietnam photos and medals, American Flag, telegrams and letters regarding her brother David I. Briggs, Vietnam Veteran Killed in Action in November 1968. Items were returned.

### JULY 2015

- Geri Gugino: Donation of (4) aerial photos, not confirmed as to what location they represent (possibly Silver Creek).
- Jo Battaglia: Donation of *Buffalo News* articles; Abe Lincoln Funeral issue April 19, 2015, and Gettysburg issue July 1, 2013.
- Family of George Johengen: Donation of trophies and plaques pertaining to George Johengen and his accomplishments.

### AUGUST 2015

- Anita and Larry Lowell: Donation of 3/27/1939 *Buffalo Evening News* paper.
- Jo Battaglia: Donation of (2) photos. Ed Steuhring alone and Ed Steuhring with his



Edward Steuhring and Mom, Martha Steuhring at Niagara Falls, NY  
Winter of 1930

mother at Niagara Falls. Ed Steuring was lost at sea. He was a WWI Merchant Marine.

- Family of Peter Gugino: Donation of (2) Newspaper clippings. 12/25/2009 regarding the Polish National Church opening on Christmas Eve. 2003 *Town Crier* newspaper article regarding opening of the Brant Store under the name "A Little Bit of Everything".
- John Chiavetta: Donated an aerial photo, but he does not know what farm or area it represents.
- ON LOAN from Marie MacDowell: (3) genealogy books. Returned to her at the August meeting.

### SEPTEMBER 2015

- Unknown Person: Donation of Farnham School Dist. #5 wooden chair. Left in historical room.

### OCTOBER—NOVEMBER 2015

- Donna and Tim Marien: Donation of 1980 letters of the Brant & Evans Chamber of Commerce (found in their home on Railroad Avenue, Farnham).
- Maggie and Rich Borosky: Donation of small booklet titled: "Ordinances for Village of Farnham, NY as adopted August 22, 1955."

### DECEMBER 2015

- Debbie Wasmund: Donation of photocopy of 1960 Pizzolanti Menu.
- Bill and Patty Friend: Donation of \$106.56 payment to Angola Pennysaver for two weeks of advertising during November requesting Town of Brant and Village of Farnham "Firehall Visit with Santa" photos. No response was received for photos as of 12/7/2015.

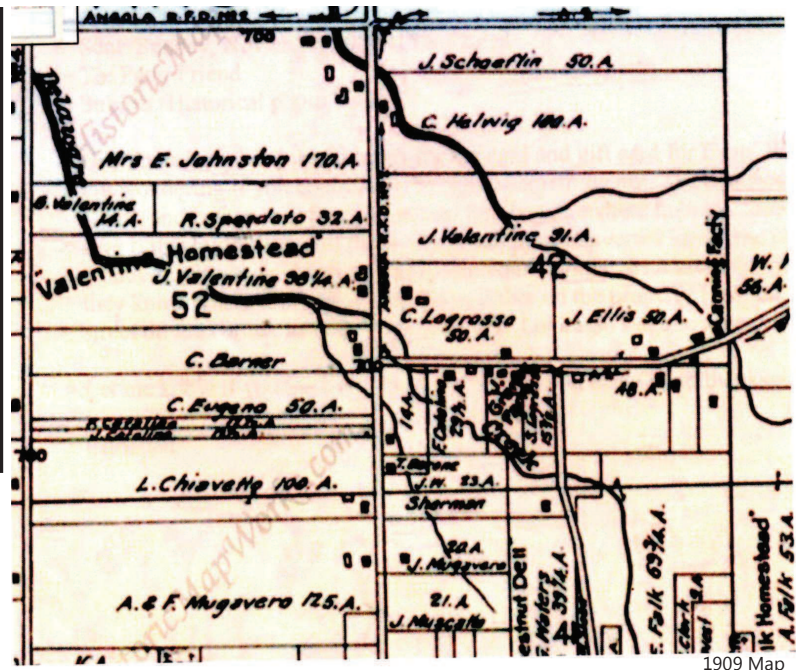
# DONATIONS to the Brant-Farnham Historical Society



Frank and Orazio LoGrasso Families who once lived in Brant. We believe this photo is of the home on Ellis Rd.  
Photo donated via email from Christian J. LoGrasso.

### 1901 Brant Assessment Book

LoGrasso, Oratio	Lot 42 MP
50 Acres	
Value per acre	\$36.00/acre
Full value of Real Property Taxed	\$1800.00
LoGrasso, Frank	Lot 42 EM
15+7/8 Acres	
Value per acre	\$47.25/acre
Full value of Real Property Taxed	\$750.00
LoGrasso, Frank	Lot 42 SP
20 Acres	
Value per acre	\$25.00/acre
Full value of Real Property Taxed	\$500.00



1909 Map

- Christian LoGrasso, Lydall, CT: Donation of photo of the Frank and Orazio LoGrasso Families on what we believe to be Ellis Road. [Via email.] Christian wrote: "Regarding the photo, there is one person I can definitely identify and two that I have a good sense of who they are. The oldest woman who is seated on the left is Angela LoGrasso, wife of Orazio LoGrasso, who was the oldest LoGrasso female to live in Brant/Angola. She's the one that is buried in the cemetery in Buffalo. That would be my Grandfather Horace's Grandmother."

The one on the bike I believe is my Great Grandfather, Fred LoGrasso, who ultimately owned the Macaroni factory "[in Angola]. I believe the woman next to the oldest woman is his wife at the time, Saverina (Sarah) LoGrasso. I think this photo was taken between 1916 and 1926. I am not sure of the others in the photo, it is possible they are neighbors or helpers of some kind."

## DONATIONS to the Brant-Farnham Historical Society

- Jeanne Treat: Donation of a box of approx. (25) or more B&W photos, reprinted from glass negatives of Lynn E. Walters. A large number of the photos are of Camp Hughes, Farnham. Earlier this year, Jeanne had donated about (200) photos to the Historical Society, some were included in the June 2015 Historical Journal and were also on display at Brantfest. Jeanne Treat is a local author, living in Clarence, NY. [Via US Mail.]



Dora Knapp Hoffman  
The album quilt was made for Dora as a wedding gift. Photo donated by Diane Keating via email.

- Diane Keating, Northborough, Ma: Donation of (4) photos: Dora Knapp Hoffman, Sally Ann Newell Jameson, and (2) photos of Album Quilt, which was hand sewn by women of the Brant ME Church in 1890. [Via email.] List of names include Weatherbee, Clark, Calkins, Evans and many more. The quilt was a wedding gift for Dora Knapp Hoffman who was married in August 1891 in Brant.

### JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2016

- ON LOAN from Jeff & Ann Prince: Miller's Beach photos. Scanned and returned originals to family. Jeff Prince's Grandmother was Ruthe Walters from Milestrip and Hammond Rds. Brant, NY. She married Henry Miller and together ran Miller's Beach property. We received a very nice note from Jeff complimenting our June 2015 Historical "Journal".
- ON LOAN from Becky (Willis) Cronin: Strawberry Festival and family photos. Scanned and returned originals to family. Becky lived in Brant as a toddler, and was on a 1963 Strawberry Festival float. Her family lived in a cottage next to

Fayette Wood Products. (Up on hill - previous owners: Fininzio and Schwartzwelder.) Becky believes the Basher Family was her family's landlord.

- Sonny Catalano: Donation of (3) photos pertaining to Catalano Family Farm and Strawberries.



June 20, 1965 Brothers: Joe (37 yrs.) and Sonny Catalano (35 yrs.)

1965; Joe and Sonny Catalano and strawberries in field. 1965: Sonny Catalano, Mr. Miller from Meet the Millers, and Charley Minor. 1957 Sept: Sonny

Catalano and Leonardo Bonilla with one of the Catalano Trucks. Sonny also donated a "Parish of Our Lady" Informational Bulletin.

- Vince Martonis, Hanover Historian: Donation of one of our 150th Lincoln Funeral Train Posters, stamped with THE COMPLETE Collection of ALL Lincoln Pictorial Postmarks from each of the 16 Post Offices. Vince provided all the postage stamps! Vince was instrumental in helping with this Pictorial Cancel project. He provided advice and support throughout. What a wonderful keepsake of this event!

### MARCH 2016

- Village of Farnham: Donation of 1812 cannonball was at Farnham Mayor's office. The cannonball was originally found in Farnham when the work on the water mains was performed quite a few years back. Given to Mayor Terry Caber.

1963 Strawberry Festival Parade "Boy Der Good" Float - Becky (Willis) Cronin is little girl in the rocking chair (1st three photos)



Strawberry Festival photos from Becky (Willis) Cronin



## DONATIONS to the Brant-Farnham Historical Society

Mayor Julie Gibbons gave to Lenny Pero (Supervisor). It is now located in the historical room in the display case.

### APRIL 2016

- Evans Historical Society: Donation of MAP - War Dept. Army Corps of Engineers 1942 Farnham Quadrangle MAP (Grid zone "B")
- Pamela Perello: Donation of (3) 1957 Strawberry Festival Parade photos.

### MAY 2016

- ON LOAN from Ray Dunkel: Farnham Veterans Memorial information. Newspaper clippings from *The Sun* and *The Town Crier*, dated 2006. Not yet returned.
- Jo Battaglia: Donation of (3) political notepads; Ellen Bowman, Leah Mirusso, Ernie Niedermeier. Also "The Kennedy Center" Playbill.
- ON LOAN from Donna Borngaber- Photos of various Brant Policemen, including her husband Clark. Scanned and returned.
- Alan Nolan: Donation of (4) Evans/Brant Chamber Awards and Recognition Dinner. Lenny Pero

was honored as Citizen-of-the-Year, and Rural Transit as Non-Profit-of-the-Year.

- Ron Pfeffer: Donation of Farnham Cub Scout Troup 398 photos that are displayed on poster boards. Glass plate negatives of Farnham as taken by Lee Walker, and DVD of same. (3) folders of invoices from Brant and Farnham Business' dating from 1920's -1960's.
- ON LOAN from Sandy Fininzio: (13) baseball related photos of Brant team (1968 + 1998). Returned to Sandy.
- Sandy Fininzio: Strawberry flag banner that once was in the Brant 1 School.
- Frank and Sue Polizzi: Donation of (20) photos of bridge on RT 5 near Evangola State Park being replaced by NYS.
- ON LOAN from Joyce Cureo: (2) scrap books of Farnham and Brant baseball history. Various Muscato, Cureo family photos for use in the newsletter as well as the 125th anniversary of Farnham. Originals not yet returned to Joyce.

### JUNE 2016

**Will be continued in our next Journal.**



Halley Rd. bridge, Brant, NY  
L-R Joe Muscato (Hwy Superintendent), Herman Ciminesi (Supervisor), Bob Russell, Richard Horwood

### 1938 Legal Width of Roads, Town of Brant donated by the Evans Historical Society

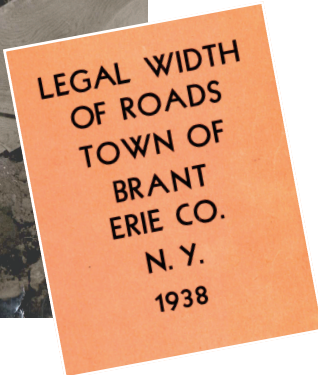
Town of Brant  
Erie County  
Halley Road T.H. 350  
Width - 4 Rods

Description as copied from Page 77, Road Record Book 1, Town of Eden, as follows:

"Traverse of a road beginning on the west line of Lot No. 1 in the 8th T. 9R, and running thence E on the division line between Henry Holaday and William Bennet 25 chains to a stake Thence S 57degrees E 8 chains to a stake. Thence S 71degrees E 11.50 chains to the line of Concord.

Width one chain  
Eden Oct. 8, 1819  
Stephen White, Surveyor

Benjamin Tubbs  
Levi Buntin  
Commissioners of Highways



# THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED TO THE BRANT-FARNHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY!