

NNHS NEWS LETTER

Northville Northampton Historical Society

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Editor
Gail M Cramer



MUSIC WRITTEN ABOUT SACANDAGA CIRCA 1900 - 1914

SACANDAGA

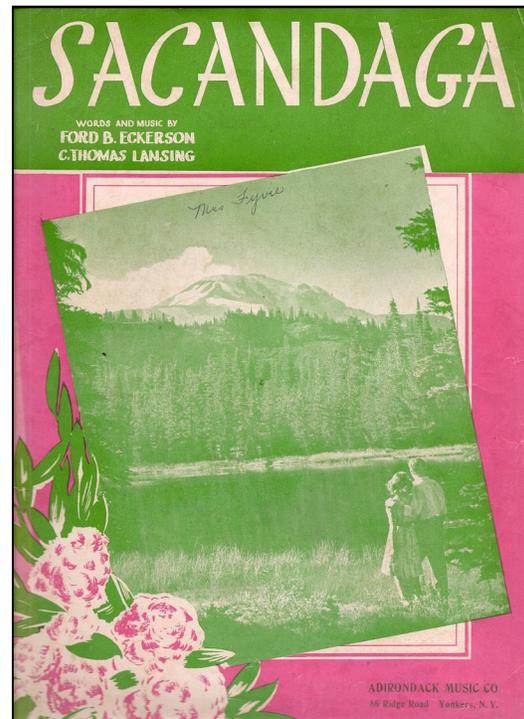
By Erkerson and Lansing

1st verse

If you're not feeling good, Like a termite without wood,
Then you'd find SACANDAGA just sublime.
So chase those blues away, and as Mae West would say,
"Come up, and see me sometime".

Chorus

The sun always shines, Thru the sweetly scented pines at SACANDAGA. The sky is always blue, Mother nature smiles at you, at SACANDAGA. Tiny little star, even Jupiter and Mars just shine for all they're worth. Mister moon always seems to save some special beams, Ev'ry night for this heav'n on earth. It's a secret my friend, But you'll find the rain-bow's end at SACANDAGA. I'm telling you the truth, There's a fountain of youth at SACANDAGA. If happy days are rare, and you're wrinkled with care—Then come to SACANDAGA, I implore. If you follow my advice, you'll be nearer paradise, then you have ever been before.



SACANDAGA TANGO
By ARTHUR R. ZITA



COMPOSER OF THE FAMOUS
"JANET WALTZES"
"SAGAMORE" MARCH
"BELLE OF MOBILE" TWO STEP
"DOWN IN DIXIE" TWO STEP
"LOTUS CLUB" MARCH
"COLONIAL DANCE"
"FANITA" WALTZES
ETC. ETC.
AS PLAYED BY
A. R. ZITA'S ORCHESTRA SACANDAGA, N.Y.

PROPERTY OF TOWN OF NORTHAMPTON HISTORICAL RECORDS

PUBLISHED BY UNION MUSIC CO. ALBANY, N.Y.

IN THE VALLEY WHERE THE SACANDAGA FLOWS

KEY of C

Song

By JOHN RANKIN GROVES

Price 30 Cents

PUBLISHED BY JOHN R. GROVES ALBANY, N.Y.

PROPERTY OF TOWN OF NORTHAMPTON HISTORICAL RECORDS

Written in 1914. Arthur R Zita was from Albany. He wrote many orchestra pieces in the late 1800's through early 1900's.

A TYPICAL SCENE BEFORE THE AUTOMOBILE AND TRUCKS

Very possible the picture was taken in Gifford's Valley



Those identified are: Ira Gifford, Russ King, Ernest Culver and George Conklin.
Can you identify any of the others?



Northville Folks we will not forget



FLAG PRESENTATION — Newly elected officers at the Northville branch of the Adirondack Squares and Sacandaga Steppers receive a flag from their instructor and caller Mrs. Dorothy Nyszczy. They will assist at the St. Joseph's festival demonstration in Broadalbin July 15. From left, front, are: Fran and Dorothy Krupicka,

president couple; Mrs. Evelyn Heath, Mrs. Nyszczy, Ray Heath, secretaries; second row, Mrs. Catherine Dado, sunshine committee; Robert and Mabel Van Arnam, vice presidents; Barbara and Charles Owens, treasurers. (Recorder photo by Oscar Westerling)

Another historical house to soon be demolished., to make room for the new and larger Stewart's Store.



ALBERT AND SUZANNE SMITH'S HOUSE
(aka the Smith Brother's home)

Albert moved to Northville with his parents, William A and Emily Smith in 1836 at the age of 3. Albert and Suzanne had 2 son's, William and George and a daughter, Hattie. Suzanne was from Wells, NY, daughter of Truman and Harriet Whitman Brown. The Brothers never married and inherited the family home.

Albert J Smith first held public office in 1858 as clerk of the Town of Northampton. In 1886, '87, '88, he was on the board and served as chairman. He was a trustee of the village for several terms and a member of the board of education. In 1896 he received the appointment as postmaster from Pres. Cleveland. (continued on page 4)

**PROGRESS?
NORTHVILLE, NY**
Article sent to the editor,
written 10/2014

“As I was contemplating driving to “the city” or “down the line”, my thoughts went back to when I could get anything I wanted right here in town”)

Once I could buy a new Plymouth at Rhodes' Garage (Esler's), a new Chevy on Reed Street, a new Ford on North Third Street (Van Arnam's).

I could decide to get my groceries at the Oneida Market, or Langr's, the old A & P, or Mosher's where I could also buy hay, grain, & feed. There was also Schuylers feed store and groceries on Reed Street, as well as Maurice Fountain's on the extension of Reed Street. Harry Lawton had a nice grocery store on Division and Third Street. Loren Crannell, as well as Gene Hodlin had stores. I must not forget Hollearn's Market which was a very active store. (now where Rite Aid is). If you wanted your groceries delivered, call Langr's, Mosher's or Hollearn's.

I could get new sneakers, shoes or boots at Sweet's Store (now Klueg's realty). Lykes Dept Store (Klippel's), supplied me with jackets, shirts and almost all kinds of clothing apparel and shoes. Ordering special for me if necessary, 2 or 3 day service.

Need Gas? Tennant's on Bridge Street, John Hotaling on Bridge Street, Skips Sinclair on Bridge St. Esso on Main Street, Texaco on North Main.

Burlingame's on South Main (Gulf), Tydol on Reed Street Extension and Schuylers on Reed Street plus a free windshield wash.

Need to take a trip? How about Wadsworth or Jim Demings Taxi Service? Or the F J and G bus with connections to Johnstown, Amsterdam and Schenectady.

An ice cream soda or full serves pharmacy and general store at Kested's Drugstore from 1897 to 1947. It was open until midnight 7 days a week or later in an emergency.

A school with men in suits and ladies in dresses. Churches that were quiet and dignified and singing “hymns”. Am I just getting real old? Northville had everything. No need to cross the bridge.

There were two dentists in town, Dr Schwilk, and Dr. Meter above the drugstore. No insurance so you had to pay two dollars for a filling or three for an extraction, which I did.

There were usually at least three physicians in town. Dr. Grant, Dr Durand and Dr Gritsavage, Dr. Zullo, etc. Hours were daily 1 to 3 or 6:30 to 8:30. No appointment needed, sit down and wait your turn. Price about 4 or 5 dollars but they usually dispensed your medicine so you didn't have to pay for a prescription. If you needed an ambulance, Yates and Corey would take you to NLH in their hearse for a small donation, if you had it.

*Written by a local resident
of over 80 years*

SKIFF FIELD

Skiff Field was located where the Conservation Department building is on South Main Street and corner of Skiff Road. The field was part of Skiff's Diary Farm

RODEO and GYMKHANA

SUNDAY, SEPT. 27, 1953
BEGINNING AT 2 P.M.

Skiff's Field, Northville, N. Y.
Sponsored by V. F. W. POST 7226 and AUXILIARY
In conjunction with THE HYDE PARK RIDING CLUB,

LIST of EVENTS and AWARDS

| No. | EVENT | Ribbons | Entry Fee | PRIZES | | |
|-----|------------------------|----------|-----------|--------|----------|--------|
| | | | | 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
| 1 | MODEL CLASS | 6 | \$1.00 | \$5.00 | \$3.00 | \$2.00 |
| 2 | PARADE CLASS | 3 | 1.00 | 5.00 | 3.00 | 2.00 |
| 3 | CHILDRENS HORSEMANSHIP | 6 | | | 6 PRIZES | |
| 4 | MUSICAL CHAIR | 3 | 1.00 | 5.00 | 3.00 | 2.00 |
| 5 | LADIES WESTERN | 2 | 1.00 | 5.00 | 3.00 | 2.00 |
| 6 | FIVE GAITED | 5 | 1.00 | 5.00 | 3.00 | 2.00 |
| 7 | JUNIOR WESTERN | 3 | 1.00 | 5.00 | 3.00 | 2.00 |
| 8 | ROAD HACK | 3 | 1.00 | 5.00 | 3.00 | 2.00 |
| 9 | CLOVERLEAF BARREL | 3 (open) | 1.00 | 5.00 | 3.00 | 2.00 |
| 10 | JUNIOR HORSEMANSHIP | 6 | 1.00 | 5.00 | 3.00 | 2.00 |
| 11 | BENDING RACE | 3 | 1.00 | 5.00 | 3.00 | 2.00 |
| 12 | THREE GAITED SHOW | 3 | 1.00 | 5.00 | 3.00 | 2.00 |
| 13 | THREE GAITED UNTRAINED | 3 | 1.00 | 5.00 | 3.00 | 2.00 |
| 14 | MENS WESTERN | 3 | 1.00 | 5.00 | 3.00 | 2.00 |
| 15 | FLAG RACE | 3 | 1.00 | 5.00 | 3.00 | 2.00 |
| 16 | PONY EXPRESS | 6 | 1.00 | 5.00 | 3.00 | 2.00 |

The decision of the Judges must be final.
The Sponsors and Club assume no responsibility in case of accident to or by an Exhibitor.
The Committee reserves the right to change the program.

CONCESSIONS and REFRESHMENTS

Skiff Field was used for many events including base ball games, circus's, and-horse pulling contests. Dave Jacquard recalls the fireworks being shot off out over the lake from there and also ground display fireworks. Sunday sports were not allowed on the school grounds so Skiff's field was used for practice on Sundays. Dave also remembers carnivals taking place there.

Below is a picture of a Baptist Church picnic at the Brown Farm (later Skiff's) The Brown's and Skiff's were related.



FYI

Additional information about the
Smith Family from

[History of Fulton County Embracing Early Discoveries; the Advance of Civilization; the Labors and Triumphs of Sir William Johnson; The Inception and Development of the Glove Industry; with Towns and Local Records; also Military Achievements of Fulton County Patriots" revised and edited by Washington Frothingham, Syracuse, NY, D. Mason & Co., Printers and Publishers, 1892](#)

Albert J. Smith

Smith, Albert J., a grocer of Northville, was born in Albany, July 30, 1833, and is a son of William A. and Emily (Brundige) Smith, both natives of Albany county. William A. Smith came to Northville in 1836 and engaged in the hotel business for some years and then embarked in the tanning business at Hope Falls, Hamilton county, under the firm of William A. Smith & Company, and continued in that until his death. He was a Democrat in early life and afterwards a Republican, and was representative of the district to the State Legislature. He has also held many other offices. He was a well known and honored citizen, and a member of the Baptist Church. Albert J. Smith was educated in his native village and also at Gilbertsville Academy, Otsego county. When his schooling was finished he engaged in the mercantile trade at Northville for some years, followed by nine years in the tanning business at Wells. He then returned to Northville and engaged in business as a general merchant, and has continued in trade ever since. He has been a Democrat in politics, and was a candidate on his ticket for member of Assembly. He was also supervisor three terms, chairman of the board, and has held several other offices. On February 14, 1858, he married Susannah Brown, of Wells, Hamilton county, a daughter of Truman and Harriet (Whitman) Brown, who were among the very early settlers of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have three children: George T., William A., and Hattie E., wife of James Moore. The two sons are in business with their father. Mr. Smith and wife are members of the M. E. (Methodist Episcopal) Church.

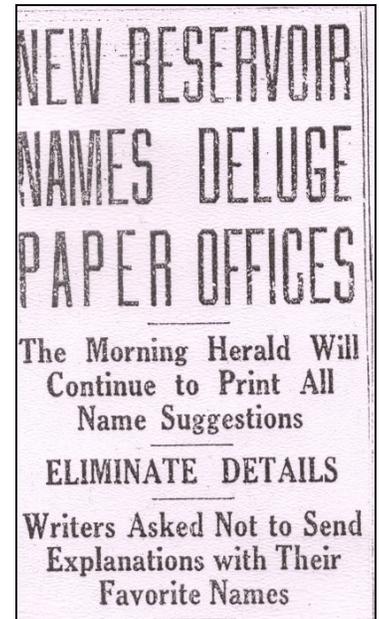
GREAT SACANDAGA LAKE

Previously known as Sacandaga Reservoir



While the Conklinville Dam was in the process of completion, there were many suggestions for naming of this new body of water. The Gloversville newspaper ran many articles and a contest for suggestions of an appropriate name. Below are a few of the hundreds of suggested names.

Memory Lake
Lake of the Woods
Conklinville Lake
Mountain View Lake
Sacred Lake
Roosevelt Lake
Sir Wm. Lake
Vlaie Lake
Tryon Lake
Lindy Lake
Lake Thayendaga
Lake Iroquois
Lack Kcadnorida
(Adirondack spelled
Backwards)
Sargent Lake
Hudsondaga
Lake Fulton
Northern Lake
The Damn Lake
Lake Saronda
Mosquito Lake
Lake Sacarondack
Lake Adirondack
Empire Lake
Cran-May-Daga-Lin
Summer House Lake
Kennyetto Lake
Sacandaga Lake
Lake Sacandaga



Sacandaga Lake or Lake Sacandaga seemed to have been the most popular but because of the name Sacandaga Lake near Speculator, and that the name Sacandaga Reservoir had been used on much on the legal papers, deeds, etc. the HRRB decided against the name, Sacandaga Lake. In 1968 it was finally changed to Great Sacandaga Lake