



# **Chautauqua County Bicentennial 1811 - 2011**

Join us in Celebrating 200 Years of Rich and Vibrant History

- July 4                      **County 4th of July Celebration**  
Largest parade in County; Special prizes for the best Bicentennial floats; Bicentennial display in the park; bigger than ever fireworks  
Free admission to park all day  
Parade: 10 AM – Noon  
Music, rides, entertainment in Mayville Park: Noon – 10 PM  
Huge Bicentennial Fireworks: 10 PM
- July 8-10                    **Bemus Point—Stow Ferry Celebrates 200 Years  
(passport event)**  
Ferry rides all weekend long!  
Friday: Dedication of Ferry and historical marker at Stow: 10 AM  
Saturday at Stow: Ice cream & pies, cemetery tours, photos, chicken BBQ, & motorcycle Bike-N-Cruise  
Stow vs. Bemus Point Baseball Game at 1 PM  
Sunday: classic car Cruise In
- July 16                      **Ashville Day  
(passport event)**  
10 AM parade followed by family events all day long. Bed races, flea market, quilt raffle, yard sales.  
Spend the day in the charming historical village of Ashville
- July 23                      **Bicentennial Dinner/Dance**  
Casino at Bemus Point, 6-11:30 PM  
Free ferry ride for ticket holders  
Buffet dinner, dancing with Razz & Friends, Chinese Auction  
*All proceeds benefit the Historic Bemus Point-Stow Ferry*  
*Tickets are \$40 each.*
- August 5-7                **Civil War Encampment** at McClurg Museum, Westfield  
Join us as we observe the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of the Civil War; Encampment is free and open to the public

Re-enactors depicting both Union and Confederate soldiers will set up camp in Westfield's Moore Park for demonstrations & skirmishes; The 9<sup>th</sup> New York Cavalry was encamped in Westfield in the Fall of 1861 before marching to Washington. The 9<sup>th</sup> was engaged in some of the bloodiest battles of the War.

August 6

**Sherman Day**  
**(passport event)**

The charming village of Sherman will host a parade, musical entertainment, food & craft vendors throughout the day. Visit the Yorker Museum complex which includes a historic house, school, chapel, general store, and buggy shed.

August 13-14

**Bicentennial History Fair**  
**(passport event)**

47 historical groups from the county and military reenactors will come together for displays & demonstrations. Groups include historical societies, town & village historians, preservation groups, local history authors, and much more. Come and learn about the history of the county, it's unique committees, it's historic sites, and the fascinating people and events that have shaped us.

Chautauqua Suites, Mayville, admission free

Saturday: 10 AM – 8 PM

Sunday: 10 AM – 4 PM

August 13

**Old Fashion Day, Fenton History Center, Jamestown**  
**(passport event)**

9 AM – 3 PM; free admission to festival & museum

Fun outside & in the museum; learn about early inventions, building techniques, ride on an electric truck; crafts & games for kids, food vendors

August 19-21

**Chautauqua County Antique Equipment Association Show**  
**(passport event)**

Stockton, \$5.00 admission (children under 14 free)

Visit a working blacksmith shop, saw mill & print shop; a sugar shack is run by the Maple Syrup Association; weaving & butter making demonstrations; silent auction, flea market; tractor pulls & antique engines, pumps and garden equipment.

August 21 -

**Miller Bell Tower 100th Anniversary**  
**(passport event)**

Miller Park, Chautauqua Institution

1 PM; admission free

Join us to celebrate 100 years that the Bell Tower has stood as a symbol for the Institution & a prominent landmark on the Lake.

Stroll the beautiful grounds of the Institution & enjoy cupcakes at the Park.

Sept 10

**Sinclairville History Fair, Sinclairville  
(passport event)**

8 AM: pancake breakfast

10 AM: Grand Parade, followed by events throughout the day

9:30 PM: fireworks

Celebrate the history of Sinclairville & visit the Valley Historical Society museum. Fun activities for the whole family.

Sept 15-18

**Festival of Grapes, Silver Creek  
(passport event)**

There's no better time to visit the grape belt, when the sweet smell of Concord grapes fills the air and Silver Creek celebrates the grape harvest. Come & try your hand (or feet) at grape stomping, enjoy rides & concessions, arts & crafts, cheer on the firemen in a hose race and much more.

Sept 19

**100 Years of Kling Furniture Manufacturing**

Carroll Historical Society, Frewsburg, NY

Sponsored by Chautauqua County Historical Society & Carroll Historical Society.

This evening program by Bill & Jim Kling, descendants of the founders of Kling Furniture Manufacturing, will bring to life the story of their immigrant ancestors coming to this county, building a substantial business, and realizing the American Dream.

September 24

**Day long workshop for Historians & History Enthusiasts**

Chautauqua Institution, 9 AM – 3 PM

Municipal historians from 9 counties in western New York will meet for the day at Chautauqua Institution to hear 5 speakers discuss subjects including the Civil War, the Civilian

Conservation Corp, the Institution's role in national movements, and the Kling electronic archives.

September 25

**Busti Historical Society Apple Festival  
(passport event), Busti, NY**

11 AM – 5 PM; \$3 adult admission

Visit the Busti Museum & Grist Mill, see historical demonstrations, enjoy craft vendors & delicious foods including apple pie, cider, candied apples and apple butter

Oct 1 & 2

**Harmony Historical Society Harvest Festival  
(passport event), Blockville, NY**

10 AM – 5 PM; Free admission

Tour six buildings, including a school house, weaving shed, barn, and meeting hall. See demonstrations of log hewing, quilting, blacksmithing. Enjoy music, food, horse-drawn rides, quilt raffles, and much more.

*Bicentennial Post Office Cancel*

Each of the county's 37 post offices are participating in a special post office cancel to commemorate the County's Bicentennial. Through June 9, any item with first class postage can be taken to a county post office for stamping with the cancel. This includes postcards, envelopes, or anything else that you'd care to make special with this limited-time opportunity. Many people will bring local history publications for canceling by simply adding a postage stamp to the front piece of the publication.

***Bicentennial Biographies***—200 historically significant individuals from the County will be highlighted in one minute biographies to be aired on local radio stations. Starting in January, 5 individuals will be featured each week, and then posted on the County Historical Society website for the remainder of the year.