

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE TOWN OF COLONIE

Cordially Invites You to a Special Presentation by

Tom Ragosta *

Ice Harvesting History

Sunday, January 29, 2017 - 2:00 pm

William K. Sanford (Colonie) Town Library, 629 Albany Shaker Road



The Onderdonk family ice harvesting on the Mohawk River circa 1900. Ice was hauled up to the box cars of the NY Central RR then taken to the large ice houses at Karner.

Remember the days of the Ice-box? Electricity, pollution and the cost of labor have changed all this. The ice trade, also known as the frozen water trade, was a 19th-century industry, centering on the east coast of the United States, involving the large-scale harvesting, transport and sale of natural ice for domestic consumption and commercial purposes. This power point presentation will be a brief history of its development on the Hudson River and detail the process for harvesting storing and delivery. Tools of the trade will be on display.

*** Tom Ragosta was raised in Watervliet and attended local schools including LaSalle Institute and Union College. He retired from AlTech Specialty Steel Corporation as their Environmental Manager. Tom is currently the President of the Watervliet Historical Society, Curator of the Watervliet Museum and the Watervliet City Historian.**

For further information call Ann Eberle at 713-4861 or Fran McCashion at 459-4209