

**Russia, Herkimer Co. NY
(Cold Brook)**

Organization of the First Universalist Society in Cold Brook[,] Herkimer Co. New York

Persuant to public notice given by Daniel Ballou of Utica N.Y. a clergyman who has during the season immediately preceding the action hereinafter recorded conducted regular religious services in the school building in Cold Brook Herkimer Co. N.Y. and in accordance with the Revised Statutes of the State of New York Vol. 2 Sec. Page 1674 of the 7th Edition there assembled in the school building aforesaid in the place before mentioned a congregation of people for the purpose of organizing a Universalist Society. The said meeting was called to order at noon on the 3^d day of November 1889, by D. Ballou the clergyman who had conducted the devotional services. Persuant to the Statute providing for meetings of this character two moderators were elected viz: Mr. George Gorton of Cold Brook and Mr. Charles Carpenter of Cold Brook both of whom assumed the duties of their office as moderators and judges of the election[.] Daniel Ballou acted as clerk by request of the moderators and by unanimous consent of the meeting. The meeting being duly organized and ready for business the following named gentlemen were elected trustees to wit: Henry Cooper whose term of office shall continue five years; George Vickery whose term shall continue four years; David Clemmens whose term shall continue three years; Lewis Davis whose term shall continue two years and Fred Payne whose term shall continue one year.

*George Gorton
Chas. Carpenter
Moderators*

Daniel Ballou, clerk

Herkimer County

Chas Carpenter and Geo. Gorton being duly sworn deposed and say that they are the moderators of the above organization and that Henry Cooper[,] George Vickery[,] David Clemans[,] Lewis Davis and Fred Payne were duly elected Trustees of the aforesaid association for the term aforesaid stated.

*George Gorton
Chas. Carpenter*

Sworn and subscribed before me the 4th day of Dec 1889

W. W. Moon Notary Public

The Organization being thus completed the following Constitution was adopted for the government of the Society.

Art. 1.

This Society shall be known as the First Universalist Society of Cold Brook Herkimer County N.Y.

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Art. 2.

The object for which this Society is organised is for the advancement of Christian belief and faith as adopted by the General Convention of Universalists at Winchester, N. H. in 1803, and which is the only recognized creed of the Universalist Church in Europe and America viz:

1. We believe that the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament contain a revelation of the character of God and of the duty interest and final destination of mankind.
2. We believe there is one God whose nature is love revealed in our Lord Jesus Christ by one holy spirit of grace who will finally restore the whole family of mankind to holiness and happiness.
3. We believe that holiness and true happiness are inseparably connected and that believers ought to be careful to maintain order and practice good works for these things are good and acceptable unto men.

[No Art. 3 given]

Art. 4

The Board of Trustees of this Society shall consist of five members one of whom shall be elected annually as the term of his predecessor shall expire but those already elected shall continue in office until their successors are chosen.

Art. 5

The Officers of the Board shall consist of a President Secy and Treasurer who shall be chosen at the regular annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Society on the first Saturday evening in November in each year from the members of the board of Trustees who shall hold their office for one year or until their successors shall be elected[.]

Art. 6

The duties of the aforementioned officers shall be such as usually pertain to such officers and they shall at any time upon ten days notice render a full account of their proceedings to the society and shall present full and accurate reports to the society at each annual meeting.

Herkimer County Miscellaneous Records 1: 373-4

Transcriber's note: This entry contains a large number of misspelled words. Rather than noting these errors with "[sic]" I have typed them in a contrasting font.

Transcribed on July 16, 2006 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY