

The Wilcox Cemetery in the Town of Smithville, Chenango County NY, will be the site of some renovations this spring in preparation to honor the Revolutionary War soldier buried there, Job Wilcox (1743-1808). The Town of Smithville has received a partial grant to replace the barbed wire fencing along the front with a board fence. The Town will pay for the remainder of the cost of the fence from the 2026 Town budget. In the middle of the board fence will be placed the original iron gate, refurbished with the addition of a “W” in the middle to designate “Wilcox.” The ceremony and a special Sons of the American Revolution plaque to honor Corporal Job Wilcox will be arranged by family members and will take place sometime this summer. Watch for the date and plan to join us!

The Smithville Historical Society has agreed to ask for donations to restore the badly rusted gate and to provide some incidentals such as grass seed, soil, gravel, and perennial flowers. The bid for the refurbished gate is \$1,716 for which we have collected about half of the funds. If you would like to contribute to the Wilcox Cemetery renovation project, please contact or send your contribution to the Smithville Historical Society, P.O. Box 176, Smithville Flats NY 13841.

Any overage in donations collected will be applied toward resetting the gravestone of three-year-old Melvin Tyler, son of Harry and Eunice Tyler, in the Knickerbocker Cemetery. Melvin’s stone was missing for more than fifty years and was discovered last fall for sale on Facebook Marketplace. Through diligent efforts on the part of many people, it was recovered from the Putnam County, NY area. A special ceremony to dedicate his recovered stone will be held later in the summer.

