

NEWSLETTER

LANSINGBURGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 219, TROY, NEW YORK 12182-0219
www.lansingburghhistoricalsociety.org our webaddress
lhssecretary@gmail.com our email address

April 2010

DEATH OF THREE LONG TIME MEMBERS

We were saddened to learn of the death of Barbara Carlo, a member who had been a Trustee of LHS in years past. We are also saddened to learn of the death of Steven Draper who had been an LHS member and supporter for many years. Otto Ciavardoni who had been a Life Member for many years passed away during the winter.

EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

APRIL 24, Saturday, 9:00AM to 2:00PM, Melville House- our annual Book Sale will take place rain or shine (it takes place indoors). Hundreds of quality used books and ephemera priced from 50 cents to \$20. Books on Troy, Rensselaer Co., New York State and local history; Herman Melville, Americana, gardening, natural history, fiction and nonfiction, post cards, Troy trade cards, etc. Proceeds from this sale benefit the restoration of the 1786 Herman Melville House.

May 20, Thursday, 7:30PM, Melville House- Hugh Vaughn, Lansingburgh native and dowser, will give a talk about invisible energies of Lansingburgh and their connections to Native Americans and sacred sites.. He will explain ley lines and spirals, the art of dowsing and controversial actions of General John Ellis Wool of Troy in 1838. The public is invited to this event and refreshments will be served.

JUNE 12, Saturday, 9:00AM to 2:00PM, Melville House- our annual Porch Sale will take place rain or shine inside and on the porch at Herman Melville House. There will be hundreds of antiques and collectibles, kitchen and household items, local post cards, antique tools, antique and collectible glass, small furniture, a desk; beer, soda and medicine bottles, some perennial plants, etc. No junk! Proceeds benefit the restoration of the 1786 Melville House.

SEPTEMBER 16, Thursday, 7:30PM, Lansingburgh Branch of Troy Public Public Library (NW corner of 114th St and 4th Ave)- Ned Pratt, President of the local chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians will present a program on Troy's endangered churches. Some of these churches may not survive, others may be reused in a way that their architectural features are not respectfully preserved. Stained glass and other elements of these religious edifices will be discussed. This program is open to the public and refreshments will be served. Note that this program will be presented at a different location than Melville House (see underlining above).

OCTOBER 14, Thursday, 7:30 PM Melville House (note that this is one week earlier than our usual general meeting date) Walter J. Hollien, a preservation architect involved with many major restoration and preservation efforts will lecture on Lansingburgh's historic architecture, including information and photographs relevant to establishing historic districts in Lansingburgh.

OCTOBER 21, Thursday- this is the date reserved for our annual **GALA FUND RAISER DINER AND SILENT AUCTION**. This is the biggest fund raising event of the year for our historical society. Even better, it's an evening of great food., an auction with something for everyone, and an ideal time to reacquaint with friends and meet folks you haven't seen recently. Let us know now about donations of items you'd like to place in the auction. More details about this event will be forthcoming.

NOVEMBER 18, Thursday, 7:30PM, Melville House- our annual Holiday Party will be held including an auction of small antiques, collectibles, Christmas books and holiday ornaments. There will be note paper for sale which shows a winter scene in Lansingburgh in the 1870s. This party is open to the public and refreshments will be served.

CANDIDATES FOR MAY ELECTION- The Board of Trustees has approved the following slate of officers which the Nominating Committee drafted in March.

TRUSTEES: Trustees serve for three years. The difference in expiration dates is an effort to have only one third of the fifteen Trustees elected in a given year.

Thila Bell for a term expiring May 2011

Michael Barrett for a term expiring May 2012

Daniel Brady for a term expiring May 2012

Margaret "Peg" Parnell for a term expiring May 2012

David Marsh for a term expiring 2012

Kathleen Tivnan for a term expiring 2012

Keith Willis for a term expiring 2011

OFFICERS: Officers serve for three years but in the 2010 election the President, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer will serve for three year (ending May 2013). The other officers will serve for two years (ending May 2012) in order to not have all officers' terms expire in the same year.

President- Kathleen Tivnan for a term expiring May 2013

Vice President- Russell Ziembra for a term expiring May 2012

Recording Secretary- Elizabeth "Liz" Van Buren for a term expiring May 2012

Treasurer- Margaret "Peg" Parnell for a term expiring May 2013

Corresponding Secretary- David Marsh for a term expiring May 2013

Historian/Genealogist- Gordon Brown for a term expiring May 2012

Archivist/Curator- Warren Broderick for a term expiring May 2012

Assistant Treasurer/Auditor- John Musco for a term expiring May 2012

COMMITTEES- The Nominating Committee asked members to serve on various committees as follows:

MELVILLE HOUSE AND GROUNDS- it monitors property and advises the Trustees

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|----------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| David Saehrig, Chairperson | Gordon Brown | Andy Maier |
| Warren Broderick | Jim Gordon | Russell Ziemba |

FUND RAISING AND PUBLICITY-raises money and advertises programs

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|---------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Daniel Brady, Chairperson | Jane Ann Smith | Mary Jo VanPatten |
| Gordon Brown | Liz VanBuren | |

WEBSITE- maintains content of the website

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|-------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Julia Shaw, Chairperson | Dave Marsh | John Joyce Musco |
| John Connors | John McKlintock | |

MEMBERSHIP- builds and maintains membership

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|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Gordon Brown, Chairperson | Kathleen Tivnan |
| Warren Broderick | The entire membership helps with this committee. |

COLLECTIONS- advises on matters related to our collection

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| Richard Zeller, Chairperson | Dorothy Clayton |
| Warren Broderick | Kathleen Tivnan |

EVENTS AND PROGRAMS- plans events and programs

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| Russell Ziemba, Chairperson | Julia Shaw |
| Warren Broderick | |

HOSPITALITY-provides refreshments and decoration for our general meetings

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| Liz VanBuren, Chairperson | Peg Parnell |
| Dorothy Clayton | |

HISTORIC PRESERVATION-monitors the status of historic property

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| Russell Ziemba, Chairperson | Walter Hollien |
| John Connors | Julia Shaw |

NOMINATING- provides a slate of officers and Trustees; fills vacancies

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|------------------------------|--------------|
| Kathleen Tivnan, Chairperson | Dave Saehrig |
| Dave Marsh | Liz VanBuren |

ad hoc CEMETERIES PROJECT COMMITTEE

Gordon Brown, Chairman

John Connors, Dave Marsh, Roy McDonald, Dave Saehrig and Kathleen Tivnan were present at the first meeting of this committee. Since then Walter Hollien, Charles Stehlin, Michael Barrett, Russell Ziemba and other members have offered to help. We are also getting support from the general public among people interested in persons buried in the cemeteries. Once we get a project funded this committee will become more active.

The President of the Lansingburgh Historical Society is an *ex officio* member of all standing and *ad hoc* committees. Any interested member is encouraged to join any committee. Just call the chairperson of that committee and offer your time.

APRIL IS MEMBERSHIP MONTH at the Lansingburgh Historical Society. We've had three new life members join in this membership year. Four members have joined or renewed at the Sustaining membership level. Eighteen have joined or renewed at the Regular membership level. It is very import to have all historical society members involved in the activities and financing of the organization. Gordon Brown is asking that any member who has not renewed to do so and consider raising the level of membership.. He is also asking members to encourage friends and acquaintances to join. Use the address on our newsletter front page.

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NAME_____

MAILING ADDRESS_____

_____ **ZIP** _____

EMAIL ADDRESS_____

____ Regular(\$5) ____ Sustaining(\$25) ____ Life (\$100) Donation\$ ____

Donations welcome! You may include it with your membership.

