

NEWSLETTER

**LANSINGBURGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 219, TROY, NEW YORK 12182-0219**

www.lansingburghhistoricalsociety.org our webaddress

lhssecretary@gmail.com our email address

A WARM WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS WHO HAVE JOINED SINCE OUR LAST NEWSLETTER WAS PUBLISHED

Dorothy Callahan
Stephanie Ferrill
Marie Gavazzi
Elizabeth Kluz
Lenny Kluz
Ann Lampkin
Dennis Mahoney

Edward McTernan
Janice McTernan
Margaret Parnell
Ann Plaisted
Deward Polk
Nancy Solomon
Ray Vincent

SCHOLASTIC AWARD WINNERS

We are proud to announce that the winners of the Lansingburgh High School
Graduation Awards for 2009 went to

Robert Meeson- the Herman Melville Achievement Award in Literature
Tyler Considine- the Chester A. Arthur Achievement Award in Social Studies
Congratulations!

EARLY AUTUMN PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

**September 12, 9:00AM until 2:00PM, Saturday, Melville House- the
Autumn**

Porch Sale benefiting the Society will take place featuring local prints and
historic photos, local post cards, antique and collectible glass and china, antique
tools, small furniture items, collectible bottles, and quality modern gift items.
Donations of quality items are always welcome. If you wish to donate items call
Kathleen Tivnan, 518-235-7647 or leave a message at 518-235-3501. If you'd
like to volunteer to help at the sale, contact Warren Broderick 518-235-4041 or
wbroder2@nycap.rr.com

**September 17, 7:30 PM, Thursday, Melville House- At this regular meeting
of the**

Society, Joseph Zarzynski will speak on Underwater Archaeology in Lake
Champlain. Mr. Zarzynski is the founder of Bateaux Below, an organization
dedicated to the identification and preservation of maritime vessels found in
Lake George and Lake Champlain dating from Colonial days to the War of 1812.

September 20, 1:00 PM, Sunday, Melville House- Warren F. Broderick, author and

historian, will speak on Mohican Native American sites in and around Lansingburgh. The program will begin with a slide presentation. Interested participants may then go on a driving and hiking tour to five of these sites: Unuwat's Castle, Devil's Kitchen, Diamond Rock, Pleasantsdale Quarries and Lansing's Ferry. There will be no more than two miles of hiking but some of it involves climbing over rough ground. Appropriate footwear is recommended. Heavy rain may cancel or shorten the hiking portion of the program. Handouts will be provided to all attendees. This is a joint program with the Native American Institute of the Hudson River Valley, the Hudson River Valley Ramble and the Hudson-Champlain Quadricentennial. **You must preregister for this**

program by

September 19 by calling 518-235-4041 or email

wbrober2@nycap.rr.com

October 15, 7:30 PM, Thursday, Melville House- At this monthly meeting of the

Society, Kathy Sheehan, Rensselaer County Historian and Registrar of the Rensselaer County Historical Society will speak on past and present historical markers in the County. One of these blue and gold markers stands in the yard at Melville House.

October 28, starting at 5:30 PM, Wednesday, Veterans of Lansingburgh Hall, 777

First Avenue, Troy- Our **SECOND ANNUAL GALA FUND RAISER DINNER AND SILENT AUCTION** will be held. This is the largest fund raising event which the Society holds. It funds the continuation of the restoration of Melville House, our educational workshops and programs, tours, and other community events. Last year's fund raiser dinner and auction was a huge success and everyone who attended had a wonderful time! This year it will be even bigger and better. All of you have received a dinner reservation form by email or USPS. You can find more forms on our website www.lansingburghhistoricalsociety.org , by emailing a request to lhssecretary@gmail.com (you will need a printer for these) or see Gordon Brown, Kathleen Tivnan, John Connors, or Dave Marsh for a copy of the form. There will also be reservation forms available at Melville House during events held there. Be sure to reserve early. If you'd like to make a tax deductible cash donation you can use the reservation form for sending that to us. If you'd like to donate something for the silent auction, contact us at our email address or leave a message at 518-235-3501 stating that you'd like us to contact you about a donation for the fund raiser silent auction.

FALL RAFFLE

You will soon be receiving tickets for our fall raffle. Tickets are \$1.00 or six tickets for \$5.00. The drawing will be held at the Holiday Party on December 3rd. This year's prizes include:

- . a ceramic teapot in "Vegetable Garden" series
- . a ceramic ornament with farm animal motif

- . a round antique glass candy dish
- . a book, *Country Wild*, signed by the author David Larkin
- . a hardwood cutting or bread board
- . a small swirled glass paperweight

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RECENT ACQUISITIONS FOR OUR COLLECTIONS

Since the last newsletter was issued we have acquired some important and interesting items for our collections including:

- . a decorated tinware document box from the Filley tin shop (499 Second Ave.)
- . an amber quart and gallon Anderson's Dairy (Rustic Barn Pub) milk bottle
- . a book, "Lil Hannibal" by Carolyn Sherwin Bailey
- . a rare Crystal Springs (LaCorte building, 7th Ave. at 117th St) water bottle
- . five rare post cards of Oakwood Cemetery and Rensselaer Park

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Anyone who has not renewed their membership for the current membership year may do so by calling Membership Chairman Gordon Brown 518-235-4651 or President Kathleen Tivnan 518-235-7647. Regular membership is just \$5 per year, Sustaining membership is \$25 per year and Life membership is \$100. Our membership year starts on April 1st.

OUR COLLECTIONS POLICY

As required by the New York State Education Department we have the following collections management policy. Lansingburgh Historical Society collections include books, manuscripts and artifacts directly related to Lansingburgh ie. made, painted or written by Lansingburgh residents. Items must be in a condition where they can be properly preserved, displayed, reproduced or used in publications. We have limited funds for conservation and restoration of items. The only items not on display are our manuscripts, which are available for research at the Library of the Rensselaer County Historical Society.

We only accession items we intend to keep and we do so immediately upon receipt of the item. We also acknowledge gifts immediately. We do not maintain a backlog of unprocessed items. Because of limited storage space, we do not accept items we can not maintain and make available to the public. If items are offered to us that do not relate to Lansingburgh or are not appropriate for our collection, we give the donor four options:

- . suggest that the owner donate the item to another institution
- . suggest the owner sell the item
- . forward the item to another institution in the donor's name

. accept the item and inform the donor that we plan to sell the item in the future

This year we have transferred items to the Adirondack Museum, Northfield-Mount Hermon School Archives, Melrose (MA) Historical Society, Watervliet Historical Society, SUNY at Albany Archives and The Rensselaer County Historical Society.

Any questions should be directed to our Archivist/Curator, Warren Broderick, 518-235-4041 or wbroder2@nycap.rr.com

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MELVILLE HOUSE RESTORATION

Much work was accomplished this summer on the Melville House. A new furnace and hot water tank were installed. For safety reasons a gas pipe was moved in the attic museum area and the original flooring in that area was restored. One chimney was relined and restored above the roof line. Siding was replaced on the south side of the house under the peak of the roof. Various sections on the rear of the house were repaired and repainted. Hornet nests were eradicated. Drainage work and the laying of sidewalk slates and bricks was begun in the back ell. Plantings will be made in that area beginning this autumn. Your donations and support helped accomplish these important improvements.

WE'RE NOW ON THE INTERNET!

We now have a website. The address is www.lansingburghhistoricalsociety.org. We are receiving inquiries as a result of it and expect those to grow in number as more people access our site. There is contact information, an events calendar, information about Herman Melville and Lansingburgh, membership information, a page of links to other organizations in Troy and our region, and reservations forms for the **GALA FUND RAISER DINNER AND SILENT AUCTION**.

