

INFORMATION WINDOW

of the
WANTAGH PRESERVATION SOCIETY
Pot Office Box 132, Wantagh, New York 11793



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October 2004

OCTOBER 26 MEETING

This month's meeting will be held at 8:00 P.M. in the general purpose room of the Wantagh Public Library. It will be a talk on "The Day Before Yesterday – Ice Age Forms Long Island," presented by pop geologist Fred Hadley. Fred will discuss the formation of Long Island during the last Ice Age, over 10,000 years ago.

After the meeting our refreshment committee will provide coffee and other good things. If you'd like to help with donations of cookies or cake, call Theresa Donahue at (516) 221-2152. 📖

ANNUAL FRUIT SALE IN OCTOBER

This October we are again taking orders for ripe, juicy, seedless navel oranges, tangelos and delicious "Ruby Red" grapefruit. The week before Thanksgiving they will be delivered by truck directly from the Florida grove to our Museum on Wantagh Avenue – just in time to be shared with your friends and relatives on Thanksgiving weekend.

Of course, this year's Hurricanes in Florida has affected our prices a little, but Hale Groves, our supplier, is optimistic about supplies.

Those on our regular mailing list or our "fruit" mailing list, will have received a flyer in the mail with details on the sale and an order form to mail in. Since the deadline for orders is October 30, mail it to the Wantagh PO Box 132 right away. If you need more information, call Mary Ege (516) 781-2914, Grace MacMillan (516) 785-3951, or Elaine Yarris (516) 221-1200 days, (516) 785-0761 evenings. 📖

DEATHS OF TWO TRUSTEES

We are saddened to report the deaths, on separate days, of two of our Charter Member Trustees, Marjorie Strang and Helen Farrell. They each contributed a good deal to the early Wantagh Preservation Society, and will be fondly remembered.

Each of them had retired from most Society activities, but remained interested in all we do. 📖

GENERAL SLOCUM

Last month's membership meeting, with Ken Leib's presentation about the General Slocum Steamboat Disaster, was almost rained out by the remains of hurricane Jeanne, but a hardy group was there to hear about the 1904 disaster that has been ranked with the more-recent 9/11 attack. The memorial society of those whose families were affected still commemorates the event. 📖



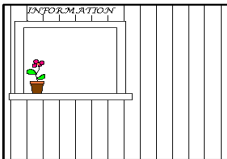
Preservation Society Calendar

Tuesday, October 19: Trustees Meeting at the Wantagh Museum, 8:00 P.M.

Tuesday, October 26: Membership Meeting at the Wantagh Public Library, 8:00 P.M.

Tuesday, November 16: Trustees Meeting at the Wantagh Museum, 8:00 P.M.

Tuesday, November 23: Membership Meeting at the Wantagh Public Library, 8:00 P.M. 📖



THE INFORMATION WINDOW

OF THE WANTAGH PRESERVATION SOCIETY

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October, 2004

TO JOIN, OR RENEW MEMBERSHIP

Name _____

Addr. _____

_____ ZIP+4 _____

Phone _____ New Renewal

Circle one: Indiv. \$6 Family \$12
 Friend \$25 Patron \$50 Fellow \$100

Send to: Wantagh Preservation Society
 P O Box 132, Wantagh, New York 11793

MUSEUM OPEN FOR SUMMER

The Wantagh Museum is still on its summer schedule, and is open from 2 to 4 Sunday afternoons.

We do need more volunteers to act as hosts at the museum. If you would like to volunteer as a host, call Donald Warner at (516) 826-6631, and he will be glad to pencil you into the schedule.

BUILDING 19 MIND BENDER

“Building 19” is a chain of surplus stores in the Boston area, with an eclectic advertising newsletter. Here’s one of the Mind Benders which appeared in their October newsletter!

“You can find me in darkness, but never in light.
I am present in daytime, but absent at night.
In the deepest of shadows, I hide in plain sight.
What am I?”

Ask for the answer at the October 26 membership meeting at the Library, or wait until the next Information Window.

INTERNET ACCESS

The Wantagh Preservation Society is on the Web at www.wantagh.li, and shows older copies of the Information Window and other information. It also covers Wantagh stuff in general.

THE INFORMATION WINDOW

The *Information Window* is a publication of the Wantagh Preservation Society, and is published preceding its monthly Membership Meetings. The Editor is Dick MacMillan, (516) 785-3951.

HOW WANTAGH BEGAN

Here’s more from the “BRIEF HISTORY OF WANTAGH” taken from the 1958 Church Directory of the Wantagh Memorial Congregational Church. Last month’s part of the history described the Puritans who in 1635 left England to live in Connecticut and in 1644 crossed the Sound from Connecticut to settle here on Long Island. Captain Seaman’s and Robert Jackson’s homes were the nucleus that eventually became Wantagh.

The greater community of Hempstead was divided between Presbyterians and Congregational-ists. In about 1657 the Quakers, facing persecution [in New England,] appeared. They were not welcome at first but soon were allowed to settle, and about forty years later began to hold meetings. The Friends Meeting House was not built until 1827. It was Capt. Seaman who first scandalized our village by permitting the Quakers to meet in his Puritan home!

The area around Jerusalem Lane became known as “Jerusalem.” A mill was first built in 1660 and the first regular mail from Brooklyn started about 1780. The first school was built in 1790.

The people were divided on the issue of the Revolution. However, 85 men of the area joined the Revolutionary Army under Capt. Richard Jackson and Capt. Zeb Seaman. Wantagh farms were raided by the British who came up Jones Inlet.

The [Jerusalem] Post Office was established in 1836. With the coming of the Long Island R.R. in 1867, the name of Ridgewood was hung on the station. This was later changed to “Wantagh” because of a conflict with another community of the same name elsewhere in the state. The old records and communion service of the [Wantagh Memorial Congregational] Church all bear the name of Ridgewood. Gradually the center of Wantagh moved south to the station where the commuters gathered around the pot bellied stove to wait for the “steamers” to the city.