

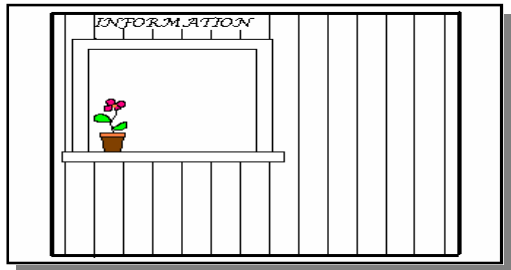
INFORMATION WINDOW

of the
WANTAGH PRESERVATION SOCIETY
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October, 2007

OFFICERS

President	Jeff Saporito
1st Vice Pres.	Joshua Soren
2nd Vice Pres.	Ellen Cook
Recording Secy	Elaine Yarris
Corresp. Secy	Dick MacMillan
Treasurer	Harry Strole

TRUSTEES

Alice Blaustein	Robert Cook	Rose Kamins	Claire Reisert	Alfred Thomson
Rita Coffey	Georgia Cotsonas	Dick MacMillan	Jeffrey Saporito	Sue Wendt
Ellen Cook	Theresa Donahue	Grace MacMillan	Harry Strole	Elaine Yarris
	Mary Ege	Frank McKenna	Joshua Soren	

OCTOBER 23 MEETING

Come to our October meeting to hear our own Al Thomson with a program of horror movies just in time for Halloween! He will show clips and samples from the earliest flicks, through improving technology and techniques, right up to some of the more sophisticated shows of early TV.

Refreshments will follow, of course; if you'd like to help, call Theresa Donahue at (516) 221-2152.

AUTUMN YARD SALE

Our Autumn Yard Sale was held on September 29, with 31 vendors displaying all sorts of interesting things. The weather was perfect, and everyone had a great time. As a fund-raiser, the Sale worked out very well, too, with our funds built up to the point where our treasurer, Harry Strole, only has to worry on alternate days.

We were pleased to have the support of The Fork and Knife Restaurant on Park Avenue King Kullen Supermarket, and Iavarone Brothers Grocery.

NEW TRUSTEES FOR 2008 SEASON

At the Trustees meeting of October 16, four trustees were nominated for five-year terms. They are Theresa Donahue, Elaine Yarris, Christopher Wendt and Jim Colotti. Nominations for officers of the society will be considered at the December Trustee's meeting.

CEREMONIES HONOR MUSEUM INSTALLATION

(From the October, 1966 Information Window)
 Despite threatening skies more than 100 Wantagh residents attended ceremonies, Saturday, October 1, honoring installation of the Wantagh Historical Museum in its permanent home on Wantagh Avenue. Sen. Edward A. Speno, chief speaker at the program praised the efforts of the Wantagh Preservation Society, and particularly its President, Mrs. Margaret Aiken, for the perserverance and determination which have given Wantagh its new museum. Also participating in he ceremonies were Dr. William Krum, Supt. of Schools, Hon. Ralph Caso, Presiding Supervisor of the Town of Hempstead, Town Councilman George Murphy, Pastor Lerch and Msgr. McLaughlin, the Wantagh High School Band, the American Legion and Boy Scouts of Troop No. 96.



Preservation Society Calendar

Tuesday, October 23: Membership Meeting at the Wantagh Library General Purpose Room, 8:00 P.M.

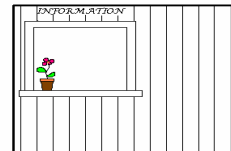
Tuesday, November 20: Trustee Meeting in the Wantagh Museum waiting room, 8:00 P.M.

THE INFORMATION WINDOW

OF THE WANTAGH PRESERVATION SOCIETY

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October 2007



TO JOIN, OR RENEW MEMBERSHIP

Name _____

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Circle one: Indiv. \$10 Family \$20
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Send to: Wantagh Preservation Society
P O Box 132, Wantagh, New York 11793

MEMBERSHIP AVAILABLE

Check the subscription date on the mailing label on the front side of your Information Window. There should be the note, "Dues paid to Jan '08" or later. If not, just select a membership level, fill out the form above, and mail it with your check. 

MUSEUM OPEN FOR SEASON


The Wantagh Museum has been open all Summer with our regular Sunday hours of 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. The Museum and the Railroad Car, Jamaica, are open, as well as the old Wantagh Post Office, which is now being prepared for internal restoration; It can be checked out just by peeking in the windows.

If you would like to volunteer as a host for one or more Sunday afternoons, call Claire Reisert at (516) 785-1309, and she will be glad to pencil you into the schedule. 

THE INFORMATION WINDOW

The *Information Window* is a publication of the Wantagh Preservation Society, and is published preceding its monthly Membership Meetings.

It is available on-line at www.Wantagh.LI, along with the Society's event program and all sorts of other good things connected with Wantagh.

You are invited to submit short articles on items of local historical interest. The Editor is Dick MacMillan, (516) 785-3951. 

In the 1960's, Margaret Aiken, founder and first President of the Wantagh Preservation Society, spoke to fund-raisers early in the project to set up the old Wantagh Station as a Museum. From her notes, here are her stock opening remarks ~

"Thank you all for letting me come to talk to you today. I'm always happy to explain to people how a perfectly sane person can become involved in a crazy project like moving a railroad station up the street!

"I've traveled a lot & lived a lot of places, and have always sketched & painted wherever I've been. Starting with my childhood and college in Arizona – Calif – Greenwich Village. I've always fallen in love with my surroundings; simple things – old houses appeal to me. In the last 20 years of my life on Long Island, I've grown fond of and have sketched quite a few hundred old houses in this area.

"It's heartbreaking to see an old building which you love and respect crumble and disappear through neglect, vandals, fire or simply the march of progress. I got so I was running around a few years ago trying to capture the spirit of a hundred years or tone of life in a sketch ...

"Suddenly the knowledge that the old Wantagh RR Depot was to be demolished unless someone decided to find a use for it inspired a few friends – mainly artists like myself – and we had a couple of meetings with the Garden Club ladies who cared that we had a new attractive park, as well as a few politically oriented ladies who understood that politicians are useful to help you get things done.

"At this point I still had no intention of heading an organization – I could supply inspiration, but know-how and leadership were two qualities I left to others. My friend, Elaine Lichtenstein, whose husband is one of our school principals, wrote letters to Senator Speno, Ralph Caso, Congressmen Tenzor & Wydler, and we got answers, interest & support.

"Unfortunately, at this point Elaine became ill & she handed me all her correspondence on the night before our first public meeting, and suddenly it was up to me!

"We found out that the state would help us – Sen. Speno believed this was a worthy cause. The building was historically worth saving. Ed Smits, the curator of the Nassau County Museum assured us that ..."

