

INFORMATION WINDOW

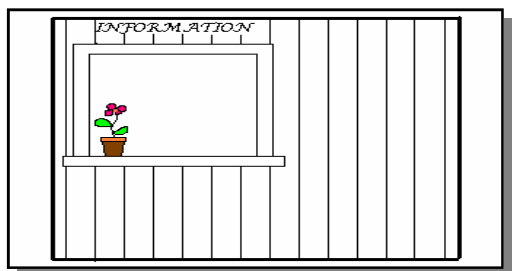
of the

WANTAGH PRESERVATION SOCIETY
Post Office Box 132, Wantagh, New York 11793

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November, 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

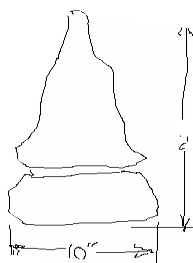
TRUSTEES

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	

NOVEMBER 20 MEETING

Thanksgiving came a an inoportune time this year, upsetting the Information Window schedule, so your copy will arrive too late to announce the program to be presented at the meeting. Actually, it was a good meeting. The new Trustees and Officers for 2008 were sworn in, and we were treated with a video, "New York the Way it Was," which gave a nostalgic view of street games, baseball teams, big bands and all sorts of activities that went on in the 50's. 📖

UNIDENTIFIED ARTIFACT



At the Trustees meeting of November 16, a strange object was found just outside the Museum door! It is a hollow cast iron 'thing,' very heavy and black. Here's a sketch. Can anyone tell us what it is, what it was used for, and how it came to the Museum? 📖

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. 📖

NEW OFFICERS FOR 2008

At the Trustees meeting of November 20, new officers for the year were elected. They are:

President:	Joshua Soren
1st Vice President:	Jeff Saporito
2nd Vice President:	Ellen Cook
Recording Secretary:	Christopher Wendt
Corresponding Secretary:	Robert Cook
Treasurer:	Elaine Yarris

The new Trustees and Officers were installed at the November Membership meeting. 📖



Preservation Society Calendar

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

Tuesday, November 27: Membership Meeting with installation of officers in the Wantagh Library General Purpose Room, 8:00 P.M.

Sunday, December 2: Chamber of Commerce Tree Lighting at the Museum, 3:30 P.M.

Sunday, December 9: WPS Carol Sing at the Museum. 2:00 P.M.

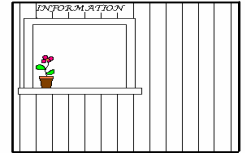
Tuesday, January 13, 2008. Trustee Meeting in the Museum waiting room, 8:00 P.M. 📖

THE INFORMATION WINDOW

OF THE WANTAGH PRESERVATION SOCIETY

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November 2007



TO JOIN, OR RENEW MEMBERSHIP

Name _____

Addr. _____

_____ ZIP+4 _____

Phone _____ New Renewal

Circle one: Indiv. \$10 Family \$20
 Friend \$30 Patron \$50 Fellow \$100

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 '09" 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 will be closed for the season until Sunday, April 20, 2008, when regular opening hours of 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. will begin again.

If you would like to volunteer as a host for one or more Sunday afternoons next year, 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 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.

Here's a little more about Raoul Lufbery, for whom Luffbery Avenue and Luffbery Field were named:

Gervais Raoul Lufbery (March 14, 1885 - May 19, 1918) was a French-American fighter pilot. Though he is sometimes listed as a French ace and sometimes as American, all but one of his 17 combat victories came while flying in French units.

Raoul Lufbery was born in Chamalières, France to an American father and a French mother, and raised by his grandmother. He came to America, settling in Wallingford, Connecticut, enlisted in the United States Army to gain American citizenship and saw service during the Philippine-American War.

When World War I broke out in 1914 and Lufbery enlisted in the French Foreign Legion, he was accepted into the pilot training program and assigned to fly reconnaissance missions with Escadrille VB 106. Lufbery was not considered a naturally gifted pilot. His success was largely due to his perseverance and attention to mechanical detail. He was often teased by his fellow pilots for working with the aerodrome's mechanics on his plane. He also inspected and polished each bullet in his gun drums to help avoid jams, a frequent problem of the Lewis gun.

In 1916, a group of American volunteers formed the Escadrille Américaine (shortly to be renamed the Escadrille Lafayette) to aid France's war effort against the Germans. The squadron was renamed after heavy protest from Germany that an American squadron violated the United States' neutrality. The squadron was largely made up of upper-class Americans with little flight experience.

Lufbery, as an American citizen with aeronautics experience, was recruited to join the unit. He joined the unit on May 24, 1916 and was assigned a Nieuport fighter. By October 12, 1916, he had downed five enemy planes, making him an ace and the squadron's leading aviator.

Having by this date become CO of the Lafayette Escadrille with the rank of Major, Lufbery was chosen to become an officer in the yet-unformed 94th Aero Squadron. Lufbery's principal job was to instruct the new pilots such as Eddie Rickenbacker in combat techniques. The 94th's first combat patrol on March 6, 1918, saw Lufbery leading Rickenbacker and fellow flyer Doug Campbell in unarmed airplanes.