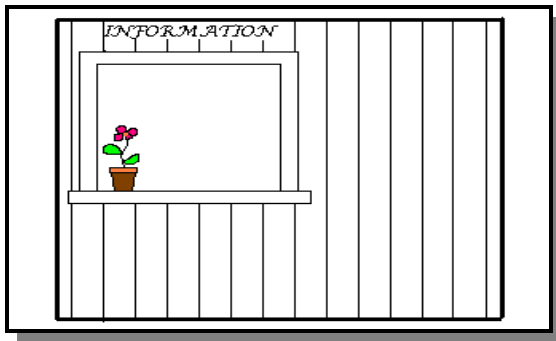


The INFORMATION WINDOW of the WANTAGH PRESERVATION

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May 2005




MAY 24 MEETING


Our May meeting will be held at the Wantagh Public Library at 8:00 P.M. on Tuesday, May 24. Rather than a formal speaker, we will listen to members of the Society in a "Show and Tell" night. Each member is invited to prepare a short talk about his (or her) favorite hobby or interest, with exhibits, photos etc. for illustration. Talks will be limited to about ten minutes. Call Frank McKenna at (516) 221-1200 so that he can schedule your part of the program.

After the meeting, our refreshment committee will provide coffee and wonderful cakes and cookies. If you'd like to help, call Theresa Donahue at (516) 221-2152. 

SUMMER BREAK


June and July are for relaxing and enjoyment. The Museum will be open on Sunday afternoons from 2:00 to 4:00, and our monthly meetings will be cancelled until August. We hope to put on our regular Magic Show and an outdoor Movie Meeting at our regular meeting time in August. Look for notices in the August Information Window. 

WARREN HILTONSMITH


We are saddened to report the passing of Warren Hiltonsmith, one of the founding members of the Preservation Society, on May 16. He and his wife Marion have contributed greatly over the years. Warren is the author of many of the descriptive documents in our files, and Marion was the first editor of the Information Window. 

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Since last month's Information Window was distributed, even more of our members have renewed their membership. There are *still* some who haven't, though. If you are one of those, please use the form on page two of this issue.

Check the first line of the mailing label on your copy. The text on the left ends with a date, "06Jan" for example, which indicates membership expiring in January '06. If your label has a date earlier than "06" you need to renew. 

WPS ON THE WEB

To find out the latest about the Preservation Society, look at www.wantagh.li. Under "Activities," click on "Wantagh Museum," and then on "Information Window" to read current news or check up on earlier releases. 




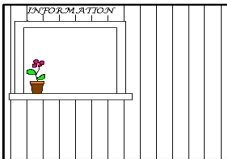
Preservation Society Calendar

Tuesday, May 24: Membership Meeting at the Wantagh Public Library, 8:00 P.M.

Tuesday, June 21: Trustees Meeting at the Wantagh Museum, 8:00 P.M.

No Membership Meetings in June or July.

Tuesday, August 23: Summer Magic Show in the morning, Outdoor Movie Meeting in the evening. Read the August Information Window for details. 



THE INFORMATION WINDOW

OF THE WANTAGH PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Page 2

May 2005

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 STARTS '05 SEASON

The Wantagh Museum will open for the 2005 season beginning with the Garage Sale event on May 14, with hours of 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. Sundays.


We will need more volunteers to act as hosts at the museum during the summer months. 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.




MAY'S MIND BENDER

Here's another of those Mind Benders!


"I am a rock group that has four members, all of whom are dead. One of the members was assassinated. What am I?"

Ask for the answer at the May 14 Garage Sale or at the May 24 meeting at the Library – or wait until the next Information Window. 

LAST MONTH'S MIND BENDER, UNBENT

A soul cannot be felt, seen or touched, but everyone has one; there's even Soul Music! 

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. 

We received this interesting letter, along with a "CD" armband, from Charles W. Strang, a resident of Wantagh in an earlier time.

LETTER FROM CHARLES STRANG

I grew up in Wantagh on North Jones Avenue which at the time was a subdivision owned by my grandfather – but the property was not selling. As with most families at the time he owned property but had little cash. The family previously owned a farm in North Wantagh, arriving there from Brooklyn at the turn of the century.

When I was nine years old, World War II started, and soon thereafter in 1942 the German submarines began sinking ships off Jones Beach. To reduce danger to the ships passing Long Island off shore, Long Island was in a partial blackout condition. In addition, there was an active civil defense organization. The community's headquarters was established during air raid drills at the Wantagh Hotel. To back up the telephones they asked youngsters to volunteer to be runners, so I volunteered. Enclosed you will find the CD armband that I wore during those drills. I thought perhaps it would be better preserved in your custody than in my sock draw in Hawaii.

Later in the 1940's and early 1950's I worked weekends and summers as a busboy in the Wantagh Hotel, finally leaving the Hotel as a summer worker in 1954 when I entered the Army.

After graduating from Wantagh elementary schools and Mepham High School, I graduated from Virginia Tech and spent twenty years as an Army officer serving two tours in the Infantry in Vietnam, along with tours in the 82nd Airborne Division, 25th Infantry Division, and the Pentagon. In addition, I spent several tours in Hawaii finally retiring as a Lt. Colonel. After a second career as an Academic, I retired as a Professor of Accounting from Western New Mexico University in 2002 and still teach in the School of Accounting at the University of Hawaii.

My wife and I now spend half the year in Hawaii and the other half in New Mexico.

Yours sincerely,

Charles W. Strang