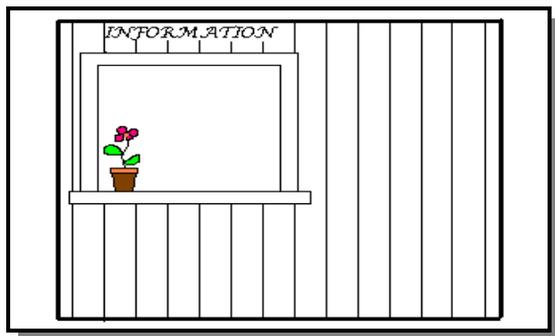


The INFORMATION WINDOW of the WANTAGH PRESERVATION



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October, 2006

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Robert Cook	Larry Elliot	Frank McKenna	Joshua Soren	

OCTOBER 24 MEETING

Our October 24 meeting will be held in the Community Room of the Wantagh Public Library at 8:00 o'clock. Our program will be a talk by one of our members, who will describe the history of our modern telephone system from 1905 to 1960.

After a short business meeting we'll adjourn for the program. Then enjoy comments and discussion, coffee and desserts.

If you'd like to help with refreshments, please call Ellen Cook at (516) 785-0739. 📖

NO CITRUS FRUIT SALE

We're sorry to announce that our annual fruit sale has been called off this year.

This doesn't mean that you should stop eating healthy citrus fruit, though. Just drop in at your local supermarket and buy all you need – and under your breath, say, "...almost as good as the fruit from the Preservation Society!" If it's the payment of money that you miss, just drop us a check! 📖

DAFFODILS FOR NEXT SPRING

The Jerusalem Chapter of the National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR for short) has planted 299 Spring daffodil bulbs around the Museum grounds. We thank the NSDAR for their effort, and look forward to an even more brilliant display next April! 📖

AUTUMN YARD SALE

Our Autumn Yard Sale on September 30 was a great success, with beautiful weather and a great variety of vendors. The kitchen staff reports that the lunch food was sold out. (Except for a few hot dogs, which were somehow eaten during the clean-up process.) We thank all the vendors and WPS members who made the day so wonderful! 📖

FOREST LAKE STUDENT VISIT

Last August, in those almost forgotten hot Summer days, the Forest Lake Summer classes made an excursion to visit our Museum and the LIRR Parlor Car, Jamaica. Eighty students in all walked from the school to the Museum, in groups of 20, shepherded by their teachers.

All apparently enjoyed the visit, and said they were looking forward to another trip next year. 📖



Preservation Society Calendar

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

Tuesday, November 21: Trustees Meeting in the waiting room of the Wantagh Museum, 8:00 P.M.

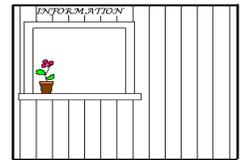


THE INFORMATION WINDOW

OF THE WANTAGH PRESERVATION SOCIETY

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October 2006



TO JOIN, OR RENEW MEMBERSHIP

Name _____

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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

MEMBERSHIP AVAILABLE

Check the subscription date on the mailing label on the front side of your Information Window. If you see numbers on the top line ending in "06Jan." or earlier, this means your membership expired in 2006, in January. No problem, though – it is still possible to join or to renew your membership in the Wantagh Preservation Society for the 2007 year. Just select a membership level, fill out the form on this page and mail it with your check. 

MUSEUM OPEN FOR SEASON

The Wantagh Museum is still open for the season, and group tours of the museum can be arranged by special reservation.. The Museum and the Railroad Car, Jamaica, will be open from 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. every Sunday afternoon.

We do need more volunteers to act as hosts at the museum. If you would like to volunteer as a host, 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. You are invited to submit short articles on items of local historical interest. The Editor is Dick MacMillan, (516) 785-3951. 

LONG ISLAND, KEY TO NEW YORK

Here is a description of how the British began the battle of Long Island, back in 1776. It is taken from a monograph by Myron Luke and Robert Venables as part of the 1976 bicentennial.

The British campaign began modestly with the arrival of three British warships in lower New York Bay on June 25, 1776. On board one of the vessels was General Sir William Howe. He had faced the patriots in Boston and was now ashore at Staten Island, carefully planning how he would go about defeating his patriot counterpart defending New York, George Washington.

By the third week in August, Howe's invasion force had swollen to become the largest expeditionary force Great Britain had ever launched against any foe in Britain's history; 32,000 troops, including German mercenaries, and a fleet manned by 10,000 seamen commanded by the general's brother, Lord Richard Howe. Howe's forces symbolized a Britannia that did indeed rule the waves and was now about to go after a ragged army of 19,000 patriots.

Howe had been in command of the British forces that had made the disastrous frontal assault on Bunker Hill in Boston on June 17, 1775, which had cost the British more than 1,000 casualties. Howe therefore knew that the patriot army was capable of giving a good account of itself if the British attempted a frontal assault on either New York City or the fortifications protecting its Long Island approach at the western end of that island. But a tactical alternative to the frontal assault – battlefield maneuver – had been carefully developed by military scientists, such as Frederick the Great of Prussia, during the previous decades of the eighteenth century. Maneuvers such as marching around an opponent's flanks before attacking demanded greater training and discipline from the troops and the officers than did basic frontal assaults.

Howe was confident that his troops and officers were up to the challenge. The key to New York's defenses was at Brooklyn Heights; whoever controlled the heights controlled the city. While Washington waited in New York City, wondering whether Howe might try to attack from another direction, the British moved onto Long Island in force. 