

The  
**INFORMATION  
WINDOW**  
of the  
Wantagh Preservation Society  
PO Box 132, Wantagh, New York  
11793

**NEXT MEETING MARCH 24**

Dated material

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March 2009


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2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres.	Chris Wendt
Recording Secretary	TBD
Corresp. Secretary	Dick MacMillan
Treasurer	Elaine Yarris

<b>TRUSTEES</b>			
Alice Blaustein	Robert Cook	Grace MacMillan	Jeffrey Saporito
Jim Colotti	Theresa Donahue	Joan Mallon	Joshua Soren
Rita Coffey	Rose Kamins	Claire Reisert	Alfred Thomson
Ellen Cook	Dick MacMillan		Chris Wendt
			Sue Wendt
			Elaine Yarris


**MARCH 24 MEETING**

The March 24 general meeting will be held in the Community Room of the Wantagh Public Library. The meeting will feature a talk by Tom Gwynne, Vice President Programming of the Cradle of Aviation Museum. He will present a talk on “100 Years of Long Island Aviation History,” and the Cradle of Aviation Museum.

The meeting will begin with the introduction of Mr. Gwynne, and, after the talk, there will be a period of refreshments, with coffee, tea and seasonal desserts. If you would like to help with the refreshments, please call Mrs. Theresa Donahue, at (516) 785-0739.


Following refreshments, there will be a short business meeting for Society members. A major item for discussion is the appointment of a recording secretary for the Society. 


**SPECIAL NEWS ITEM**

Most members of the Society will have received a Flyer announcing our Spring Yard Sale, which is planned for 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. on May 16, with a rain date on the following day. Vendors will register at the Museum Grounds that morning between 7:30 and 9:00 and guests may enter after 10:00 A.M.. 

**TRUSTEES OPPOSE CONDOS**

At their March 17 meeting, the Trustees of the Wantagh Preservation Society voted to oppose the development of condominiums on the property adjacent to the Wantagh Museum.

The Trustees had earlier in the season been distressed by the clear-cutting of the woods on the lots to the south of the Museum, which changed the character of the Museum grounds. Further consideration of the effects that increased population from the development of condominiums would have on traffic and the surrounding neighborhood led them to the negative vote. 

<b>Preservation Society Calendar</b>	
Tuesday, March 24, 2009.	General Membership Meeting in the Community Room of the Wantagh Public Library, 8:00 P.M.
Sunday, April 26, 2009.	Museum visiting hours begin; from 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. for the ‘Summer’ season.
Tuesday, April 21, 2009.	Trustees Meeting in the Museum waiting room, 8:00 P.M. 

TO JOIN OR RENEW MEMBERSHIP

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Addr: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ New  Renew


E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

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


Mail to Wantagh Preservation Society  
P O Box 132, WANTAGH, NY 11793

NEW MEMBERSHIP YEAR BEGINS

Our membership year starts on January 1, and ends on December 31. Members are requested to mail in their membership dues as soon after the year begins as possible. As an aid to those with weak memory, the address label of each Information Window contains a first line with a note like, "Dues paid to Jan '09." In extreme cases, you might see, "Last issue until dues are paid." Better check it out.

The amount of dues that you pay is up to you and your opinion of the needs of the Society. Most folks start with the "Individual" or "Family" membership, and progress to the higher levels over time. 

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Alice's Blaustein's membership tabulations show that so far, 73 members have renewed their membership for the year 2009. Check the mail label on your Information Window to verify that your membership is up to date. 


The INFORMATION WINDOW

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

It is also available on-line at [www.wantagh.li](http://www.wantagh.li) along with the Society's event program and all sorts of good things connected with Wantagh.

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

WANTAGH RADIO CLUB

The Wantagh Radio Club plans a practice simulation of radio communication during emergencies on the weekend of June 28 and 29. Amateur radio, self-powered, can send and receive emergency messages in times when normal lines of communication are blocked. Visitors to the simulation are welcome. 

SEAFORD OYSTER BAY

*The Seaford-Oyster Bay Expressway is now a familiar landmark in Wantagh. Here's the way it started:*

New York State Route 135, known by locals as the Seaford-Oyster Bay Expressway, or even as "The SOB," is a 10.66-mile expressway that connects Seaford with Syosset in Nassau County, New York. The highway runs from the Merrick Road in Seaford to New York State Route 25 in Syosset.

The highway, which replaced the old Nassau County Route 191, first came about in 1953, by engineering pioneer Robert Moses. Proposing a highway to connect Wantagh to Oyster Bay, Moses eventually won the grant to do such, even after opposition from communities along the proposed path. Right-of-way was taken in 1958, and in 1959, construction of the highway began. As time progressed, the expressway was renamed in 1967 from the Wantagh-Oyster Bay Expressway to its current name. In 1969, the expressway was completed, but there was still a stub at each end.

Around 1970, Robert Moses returned his focus to the expressway; this time he proposed an extension from Syosset. This extension would include a long bridge to Rye in Westchester County across the Long Island Sound. The plan got support until it was brought to the federal government, where towns began opposing his plans. In 1973, Governor Nelson Rockefeller stopped the plans, ending the crossing. In 2007, however, a developer proposed building a 16-mile tunnel to Rye, and to counteract environmental problems with a park above the tunnel approach.

There have also been plans for a southern extension to Jones Beach, but these did not go through. In 1988, a massive crash closed much of the highway, and created congestion for most of Long Island. The highway recently has been renamed memorially as the Ralph J. Marino Expressway. 