

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

NEXT MEETING OCT 27

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October 2009

OFFICERS	
President	Joshua Soren
1 st Vice Pres.	Ellen Cook
2 nd Vice Pres.	Chris Wendt
Recording Secretary	TBD
Corresp. Secretary	Dick MacMillan
Treasurer	Elaine Yarris


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

OCTOBER 27 MEETING

The October 27 General Meeting will be held in the Community Room of the Wantagh Public Library, at 8:00 P.M. The meeting will feature a talk by Sal Polisi, a wood sculptor, on his hobby, and on the South Street Seaport Museum in New York City, where he is employed.


After the talk there will be refreshment period where there will be a chance to ask questions and examine his displayed carvings.

If you'd like to help with refreshments, please call Theresa Donahue at (516) 221-2152.

Following refreshments, there will be a short business meeting for Society members. A major item on the agenda is the installation of officers of the Society for the coming year. 

GEORGIA COTSONAS MEMORIAL


Georgia Cotsonas was a long-time loyal Trustee of the Preservation Society, until her unexpected death in January of this year. The Society is planning to plant a memorial tree on the Museum grounds in her honor on November 8 at 2:00 P.M.

The tree is to be an American Redbud tree, which will bloom with reddish purple flowers in March and April, and will be visible from Wantagh Avenue. 

ELECTION OF SOCIETY TRUSTEES

At October 13 meeting of the Society Trustees, members of the Trustee class of 2014 were elected. They are: Ellen Cook, Dick MacMillan, Jeffrey Saporito, and Thomas Watson.

Officers of the Society were also elected:


President	Thomas Watson
1 st Vice President	Ellen Cook
2 nd Vice President	Chris Wendt
Corresponding Sec.	Dick MacMillan
Recording Sec.	tbd 



Preservation Society Calendar

Tuesday, October 27, 2009: General Membership Meeting in the Community Room of the Wantagh Public Library, 8:00 P.M.

Tuesday, November 10, 2009: Trustees meeting in the Waiting Room of the Wantagh Museum, 8:00 P.M.

Tuesday, November 24, 2009: General Membership Meeting in the Community Room of the Wantagh Public Library, 8:00 P.M. 

TO JOIN OR RENEW MEMBERSHIP

Name: _____

Addr: _____

_____ ZIP _____

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

MEMBERSHIP COSTS

Our Board of Trustees has been concerned lately about the costs of running our Society. A major monthly cost, of course, is the printing and postage required for the Information Window. Each information Window delivered costs approximately 36 cents for printing and postage, so we're checking to see whether members who haven't paid their dues are still on the mailing list. We've dropped a number of delinquent members, and our mailing list is now close to the Post Office minimum size, with only 206 addresses. To be sure of your membership, check the note at the top of your mailing label, "Dues paid to Jan 2010." You know what to do about it if the year is less than that! 📖

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Membership Chair Alice Blaustein reported at last week's Trustee Meeting that so far this year 135 members had remembered to pay their dues. She is hopeful that more will be coming in over the next month so that we will have complete membership by the time of the Independence Day Parade on July Fourth. 📖

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 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. 📖

IN THE BEGINNING,
THE TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD

Hempstead is a major township in Nassau County, and was the first major settlement in this part of Long Island. Here's how it began, with immigrant settlers (from Connecticut, no less) who set up the town in the Dutch Colony of New Amsterdam!

The Town of Hempstead is the largest township in the United States, encompassing over 142 square miles, with a population of approximately 759,000 people. Within the Town there are 34 unincorporated areas and 22 incorporated villages, over 65 parks and marinas, and 2,500 miles of city, county, state, and federal roads. The records in the holdings of the Town of Hempstead Archives portray events and transactions that impacted on the management, physical development, and governance of the Town of Hempstead.

The history of the Town of Hempstead really begins prior to its official inception in 1644. In 1636 settlers from the Plymouth, Massachusetts Colony established the towns of Hartford, Windsor and Wethersfield (then called Watertown) in Connecticut.

From Wethersfield a handful of people journeyed along the Long Island Sound and established Stamford, Connecticut. This group included the Reverend Richard Denton and his four sons. In 1643, two emissaries (Robert Fordham and John Carman [Fordham's son-in-law]) were sent across the Long Island Sound to the Dutch-held westerly part of Long Island to obtain town rights from William Kieft (the Dutch Director General) and to purchase title from the Indians.

In December of 1643, Carman and Fordham met with tribal representation of the Reuckowacky, the Merockes, Matinecock, and Massapeguas and a land deed was negotiated on December 13, 1643. The deed failed to specify boundaries of the vast land tract that was to become Hempstead. Nor did it mention any form of compensation for the tribes. The Deed that Fordham and Carman had concluded with the Indians in 1643 was not confirmed until July 4, 1657! 📖