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2014 April/May

The Information Window

Thank You to Girl Scout Troop #3561

By Karen Chowske, WPS First Vice President



From left to right are John Seer, owner Old Mill Nurseries, Brianna Campbell, Kayla Conway and Jenna DaSilva

The Wantagh Preservation Society would like to give a big “Thank You” to Girl Scouts Brianna Campbell, Kayla Conway and Jenna DaSilva of Troop #3561 for doing their Silver Award project at the Museum this past March! The weather this Spring hasn’t been the best, yet they worked really hard over the few nice days we had (and one not-so-nice day) to get the project done.

They planted a beautiful garden around our new lamppost with matching mulch and stones on the other side of the stairs. The girls consulted with John Seer, owner of Old Mill Nurseries in Bellmore, on what kinds of plants would do well in full sun and with only rain water. They also built a planting box around the sign at the beginning of the trail to the Wantagh Parkway and planted hostas which will do well in the shaded area of the trail.

We’d also like to thank Mr. Seer and Old Mill Nurseries for helping the girls and for generously donating all of the materials used in the project.

We’re so grateful that they chose our Museum for their Award project and encourage you to stop by to see what a great job they did! While you’re there, stop into the Museum and take a look around. We re-open on Sundays, from 2-4pm, on April 13th. 📖

The 2014 Membership Drive

By Mary Wagner, WPS Membership Chairperson

Many of you have already sent in your dues for the 2014 year and we thank you very much! If you have not, now is the time to do so. The money raised through membership is our main source of funds. You are not just joining the society; you become a supporter of history. You enable the society to continue in its work to educate the public and children on Wantagh’s past and to help restore the Jamaica train so it can be open to visitors.

An application to join or renew is included on the third page of this Information Window. As an alternative we have also implemented a secure online payment option accepting all major credit cards. Visit museum.wantagh.li, or, click or scan the QR Code (in the upper left corner) to pay online if you wish. 📖



Wantagh Preservation Society

1700 Wantagh Avenue (Museum Location)

PO Box 132 (Mailing Address)

Wantagh, Long Island, New York 11793

516.826.8767

museum.wantagh.li

Upcoming Events:

- ◆ General Meeting, April 22 at 7:30 PM at Wantagh Library, featuring “Moving into History” by Bob Meagher
- ◆ Trustee Meeting, May 6 at 7:30 PM at Wantagh Museum
- ◆ General Meeting, May 27 at 7:30 PM at Wantagh Library, featuring “Show & Tell” where residents are invited to bring their own historical items to show and tell

Wantagh Preservation Society

Elected Officers

President: Bob Meagher
1st Vice President: Karen Chowske
2nd Vice President: Bob Cook
Recording Secretary: Tom Watson
Corresponding Secretary: Elaine Yarris
Treasurer: Wayne Wagner

Appointed Officers

Curator: Carol Poulos
Newsletter Editor: Jim Colotti

Trustees

Ellen Cook
Joan Mallon
Claire Reisert
Joshua Soren
Mary Wagner

The Information Window is the official newsletter of the Wantagh Preservation Society, and is published every two months. Please obtain written permission from the individual authors before using material contained in this publication.

We hope you enjoy our newsletter. Your comments, ideas and suggestions are welcome!

wps@wantagh.li



The new turn-of-the-century styled lamppost now illuminates the museum grounds. Please see the "President's Message on page 3 for more information.



*The Museum
is now open on Sundays
(but not Easter Sunday)*



*Stop by and see our
newly renovated
exhibits!*

NSDAR Donation

By Ellen Cook, WPS Trustee

Wantagh's Jerusalem Chapter National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) presented a donation, with money raised from the DAR Doll Raffle, to the Wantagh Preservation Society. The presentation was made at the Wantagh Preservation Society's March general meeting. 📖



From left to right: Guest Speaker Dave Morrison, Jerusalem Chapter Vice Regent Ellen Cook, Jerusalem Chapter Treasurer Mary Wagner, and Wantagh Preservation Society President Bob Meagher.



Eagle Scout to Restore Jackson Cemetery

By Tom Watson, WPS Recording Secretary

Christian Wendt of Boy Scout Troop 239 will be conducting his Eagle Scout Project on the days of June 21st, 28th and 29th. His project will entail restoring the Jackson Cemetery on Wantagh Avenue in Wantagh (located just north of the St. Frances de Chantal Church). For this project, Christian plans to lead a group of 30-35 volunteers in the clean-up of the grass, repainting of the fence, trimming of bushes and shrubs, cutting down overgrown thorns and branches, removing various stumps, and building a small garden around the cemetery sign. In addition, Christian plans on repositioning crooked headstones and searching for missing headstones in the cemetery that might be buried under ground.

The Wantagh Preservation Society recently obtained Town of Hempstead landmark status for the cemetery. In this historic cemetery are buried early residents of the area including descendants of Robert Jackson who settled here over three centuries ago. Buried in the cemetery is Thomas Jackson who died in 1842. He was a Revolutionary War soldier who served in the 4th Line and the Second New York Regiment. Also buried in the cemetery is Brigadier General Jacob Seaman Jackson, a veteran of the War of 1812.

Christian is in the process of raising the necessary funds for the materials, supplies and tools needed for the project. Donations can be sent to Christian at 3979 Hudson Avenue, Seaford, 11783.

President's Message

By Bob Meagher, WPS President

Hopefully the winter of 2014 is finished and we can now look forward to spring flowers, warm weather and the resumption of the Preservation Society's ongoing museum projects. If you happened to drive past the museum at night this past season, perhaps you noticed that the buildings and grounds were bathed in a brighter light than years past. That's because we have acquired a new turn-of-the-century styled lamppost to compliment our train station and parlor car. Known as a Bishops Double Crook luminaire, this lamp was manufactured for us by Sentry Electric, a nationally recognized company located in Freeport, Long Island.

The great folks at Sentry worked closely with us during the past year to help us install the lamp in the right location and we can't thank them enough for the sense of security we feel under its bright light.

We have had two terrific guests at our general meetings at the Wantagh library this season. In February, Paul Mateyunas presented a slide presentation on Long Island's gold coast mansions. In March, Dave Morrison lectured to us about the Port Jefferson line of the LIRR. These programs wouldn't come about except for the efforts of Ellen and Bob Cook to bring us topics of interest about Long Island's past.

We Need You! Join or Renew Your Membership for 2014!

Name: _____

Street: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ New Renew

Email: _____

I'd like to help with:

- Gardening & Planting General Meeting Planning Construction Publicity
- Hosting museum on a Sunday Special Event Planning Publication & Newsletter Restoration
- Other _____

Check Membership Level: Individual \$15 Family \$25 Friend \$35 Patron \$50 Fellow \$100

Please Make Checks Payable To: Wantagh Preservation Society PO Box 132 Wantagh, NY 11793

Support your community!



*Join the WPS today!
Fill out the form, or click/scan the QR code.*

Special Presentation April 22

By Mary Wagner, WPS Membership Chairperson

A special presentation is planned for our general meeting on April 22 at 7:30 PM at the Wantagh Library. Bob Meagher, WPS President, will present the slideshow "Moving Into History". It will feature the 1966 moving of the original Wantagh Railroad Station to its present site on the Wantagh Preservation Society grounds. It will also feature relocation of the parlor car to its present site on the museum grounds in 1972. 

Coming Soon: Spring Yard Sale!

By Bob Cook, Second Vice President

The Wantagh Preservation Society is again holding a "Spring Yard Sale," to be held on Saturday, 2014 May 17th, from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM (rain date is Sunday, May 18th). If you have sale articles but do not wish to rent space, you may donate them to the Preservation Society table. The Spring Yard Sale is held on the grounds of the Wantagh Museum, on the west side of Wantagh Avenue, opposite Emeric Avenue, between Sunrise Highway and the Southern State Parkway. Publicity for the Spring Yard Sale will be carried online, in local newspapers and posters displayed around the community.

All vendors must complete the application below and send it with a check made out to the Wantagh Preservation Society in advance of the event. Vendors who have not pre-registered will no longer be accepted the day of the event.

Vendor's set-up time is from 7:30 AM to 9:00 AM, and cars being driven onto the grounds to deliver merchandise must be left in the rented \$35 space. Please note that you will not be able to drive a car onto the museum grounds and then drive out after unloading. All cars must be left in a \$35 space – this is a change from previous events. You must leave your car on the Museum grounds until the end of the sale. Vendors provide their own tables and must remove their unsold items and refuse after the sale. They also agree not to leave before the normal closing hour of 4:00 PM.

The rental fee for one space with car that is approximately ten feet wide is \$35.00 and an additional space is \$25.00 (\$35.00 if an additional car is to be left in a space). Spaces vary in depth and the amount of shade, and will be assigned on a "first come, first served" basis. There are no space reservations in advance. No refunds will be made except for rejections.

Merchandise of all sorts, including new sale items, are acceptable. No food or beverage can be sold by vendors. Merchandise must be displayed on tables or on the ground behind the white space markers and within the rented areas. While personal radios are acceptable, there shall be no public address systems.

For more information about the rain date on Sunday, May 18th, call the Yard Sale Chair Person, Elaine Yarris at (516) 785-0761 or email Elaine at elainetybooks@optonline.net. 

2014 "Spring Yard Sale" Application Form

Applications will be accepted as long as space permits. Arrival time is 7:30 A.M. to 9:00 A.M. No food or beverage can be sold by vendors. Vendors must supply their own tables. Vendors must remove their unsold items and refuse. In the event of a rain cancellation on the rain date no refunds will be issued. If you agree with these terms, submit the form below with your check, payable to "Wantagh Preservation Society" and mail to "P.O. Box 132, Wantagh, NY 11793-0132."

Name: (Please print) _____

Address: _____ Town: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Number of \$35 Spaces: _____ Number of \$25 Spaces: _____

E-Mail: _____ (contact for future events)

Amount Enclosed @ \$35.00 per space w/ car and \$25.00 per additional space: _____

I agree to remain until closing time, 4:00 PM Signature: _____