



# The Information Window

## Antique Car Show is Coming to the Wantagh Museum

The Wantagh Preservation Society is proud to announce the first annual Antique Car Show at the Wantagh Museum on Saturday, July 16 from 10 AM to 4 PM. All are invited to see a wide variety of vintage cars on display by local owners. All vehicles are 1975 or older.

Coffee will be available for purchase in the morning, then at noon, hotdogs and soda will be available. General admission is only \$1 per person. The admission cost for vehicles is twenty dollars and it includes a free coffee, hotdog, soda and a 50/50 raffle ticket. Vehicle set up will be between 8:00 and 9:30 AM. Money raised during the event will go to the Wantagh Historical Society, an all volunteer organization that maintains the Wantagh Museum grounds.



*Vintage autos that stopped by the Wantagh Museum provided inspiration for the Annual Antique Car Show*



*Scan of Click the QR Code for the Antique Car Registration*

The Wantagh Museum will also be open during the event, so be sure to stop in and check out the new display cases that feature local historical artifacts. You'll also be able to explore Wantagh's first Post Office and the Jamaica Parlor Car! 📖

## Passing of Canon John Anthony Greco

*By Bob Meagher, Trustee*

The venerable Canon John Anthony Greco, 83, passed away on Saturday, 2022 April 16. John was a retired Archdeacon of the Diocese of Long Island and Honorary Canon of the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Garden City. Previous to those positions, John was the Rector of Saint Jude's Church in Wantagh on Lufberry Avenue.



*Canon John Anthony Greco*

The congregation was established in 1956 by a dedicated group of devout Episcopalian families that purchased land in Wantagh Woods in 1957 using pre-fabricated buildings that were originally part of Mitchell Field Air Force Base as a temporary house of worship. By 1963 the Church of St. Jude became a parish under the guidance of the Reverend William Heine, as the first rector. Father Heine was succeeded by Father Brussels who in turn was succeeded by the Reverend Greco in 1968.

Father Greco as the parish rector initiated a capital fund drive for the construction of a permanent church. On 1971 October 29, the beautiful Cotswold-style fieldstone Church of St. Jude was dedicated.

In addition to Father John's parish duties and the church project, he found time to assist the Wantagh Preservation Society's train station rehabilitation project. He was instrumental in hosting dinner parties and cocktail party fundraisers at the church and in private homes over a number of years to generate funds for the future museum of Wantagh. *(continued on page 3)*

### Wantagh Preservation Society

1700 Wantagh Avenue (Museum Location)

PO Box 132 (Mailing Address)

Wantagh, Long Island, New York 11793

516.826.8767

[www.wantagh.li/museum](http://www.wantagh.li/museum)

*The Wantagh Preservation Society proudly participated in the Wantagh Saint Patrick's Day Parade on March 20th*



# Wantagh Preservation Society

## Elected Officers

President: Tom Watson  
Vice President: Matt Susco  
Recording Secretary: Mary Corrigan  
Treasurer: Wayne Wagner

## Appointed Officers

Curator: Heather Famiglietti  
Newsletter Editor: Jim Colotti

## Trustees

Harold Ball  
Zack Brauer  
Bob Cook  
Pete McHale  
Bob Meagher  
Fred Parola  
Norene Parola  
Barry Rivadue  
Paul Sigler  
Mary Wagner  
Elaine Yarris

*The Information Window is the official newsletter of the Wantagh Preservation Society, and is published approximately four times each year. 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](mailto:wps@wantagh.li)



*A field of American flags will be displayed on the Wantagh Museum grounds until July 10 to honor the courageous veterans who dedicated their lives to protecting our freedom*

*The Wantagh Museum  
Is now open on Sundays  
from noon to 4 PM!*



*Please stop in and see  
our new displays of  
local artifacts!*

## Attention: Professional Photographers

Whether it be spring, summer, fall or winter, the grounds of the Wantagh Museum provide a scenic venue for professional photographers. However, a Photography Permit is required for all professional photographers that use the museum grounds.



The permit fee is only \$50 per hour (an additional fee of \$25 applies for access to the train observation deck). Your fees provide an important source of revenue for our Museum and helps us maintain its beauty that you depend on.

During your photo shoot, the museum grounds remain open to others and there can be no reservations of any particular area. However, residents that visit the museum have always been courteous.

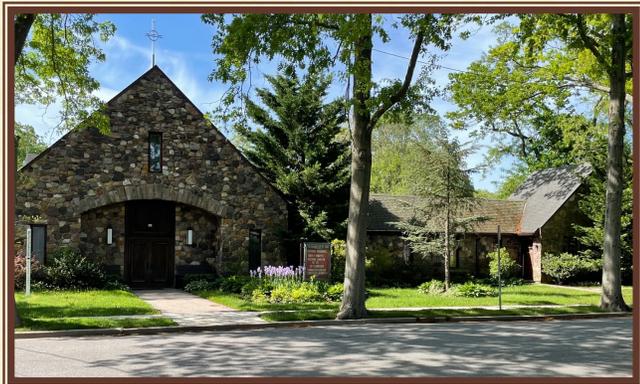


Photography cannot take place before 10 AM or after dusk. Permits are rain or shine.

An approved permit must be presented during the shoot upon request. To apply for a permit, please scan or click the QR code.

Thank you for your support and for helping us maintain the grounds of the Wantagh Museum. 📖

Wantagh Preservation Society



*Saint Jude's Church on Lufberry Avenue  
in Wantagh*

*(continued from page 1)* A second capital fund drive begun in 1989 to build a permanent parish hall and chapel and to renovate the Sunday School wing. Dedication of these buildings took place in 1992 February.

After a 26 year tenure, Archdeacon Greco resigned as rector at the end of 1994 to become the Deputy for Episcopal Administration for the Diocese of Long Island.

It can be said that Reverend John Greco's good works on behalf



*Sunday School wing that was dedicated  
in 1992 along with the Parish hall and  
chapel*

of St. Jude's Parish and Wantagh can be appreciated to this day. May he Rest In Peace. 📖



*Become a WPS member -  
scan or click the QR  
code or mail in the  
coupon below - and  
thanks!*

## Now is the Perfect Time to Renew your Membership

*By Mary Wagner, Membership Chairman*

Our membership drive for 2022 is still underway. The money raised through membership is used for maintenance of our museum and grounds or worthwhile projects that arise. For your information, the society has started placing pictures from our collection on the NY Heritage website. You can access it on nyheritage.org and then enter Wantagh.

You are not just joining the society – you become a supporter of history by enabling the society to continue its work to educate residents, especially children of Wantagh's past. Although the museum was closed due to the pandemic, we are now open on Sundays until early November.

Please join us by paying your dues for 2022. We also invite you to become an active member of the society. Please also let us know if you have any old Wantagh photos, old newspapers or any other historical artifacts. Our contact information is on page 2. Thanks! 📖

### ***We Need You! Join or Renew Your Membership in 2022!***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ New  Renew   
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I'd like to help with:

- |   |   |   |                                      |
|---|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening & Planting       | <input type="checkbox"/> General Meeting Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Construction             | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hosting Museum on a Sunday | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Event Planning   | <input type="checkbox"/> Publication & Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 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**

*“Preservation with a Purpose.”*

## Wantagh Summer News From Olden Days

*Compiled By Carol Poulos, Member*

Check out what was happening in Wantagh during the summer months years ago!

### 140 Years Ago - 1882 July

Local crops are abundant. Hay is harvested and our farmers are expecting a heavy crop of rye and wheat. Potatoes are very fine and promise a high yield. The Lee and Brother whip and fly-net factory has been turning out a vast amount of work this spring and summer. They have filled more orders this season than ever before.

### 125 Years Ago - 1897 June

Some of the young sporting gentlemen of this place are arranging to have a bicycle race here sometime this month. David Seymour, manager of the scheme, has purchased a new bicycle with an 88 gear. He is out on his “silent steed” every evening and expects to be able to set the pace.

### 120 Years Ago - 1902 June

The graduation exercises of the public school will be held at Jonas’ Hall this evening. There will be five graduates..... PW Behrens and HS Dreyer are both building new boathouses at the head of the creek for their new launches.

### 100 Years Ago - 1922 June

Livestock Sale, JA Seaman, auctioneer, will sell, at public auction, 3 heifers, Holsteins, Guernseys, Jerseys, Wednesday, June 14, 1 PM at DeMott Avenue, two blocks north of the station.

### 1922 July

Mr. and Mrs. Birdsall Jackson are driving a new Chalmers car. Edward A. Hannington is driving a new Paige car.

### 1922 August

Attorney Charles Lewis, appearing for the residents of Wantagh and Bellmore, asked for and was granted permission to create in the places named, fire districts.



*Part of a 1922 Chalmers Car Advertisement  
Published in the Saturday Evening Post*

### 1922 September 1

Fire caused by lightning completely destroyed the barn and burned a cow and horse at the farm of Martin Sauer on Jerusalem Avenue last night. Quick work of two workmen, the only persons at home at the

time, saved five horses in the barn. There were five tons of hay in the barn and the fire gained headway rapidly owing to the lightning, the telephone service was temporarily suspended and there was no means to notify the fire department. It was only when flames were sighted by neighbors the alarm was turned in. The damage is estimated at about \$2,500 (over \$42,000 in today’s dollars). 📖



*Wantagh Creek*



*Martin Sauer Farm on the South Side of  
Jerusalem Avenue - Photo taken in 1935*