



# Historical Highlights

NEWSLETTER OF THE SAND LAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
POST OFFICE BOX 492 • WEST SAND LAKE, NEW YORK 12196

1982  
MAY - DECEMBER

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

THE SEASON OF GOOD TIDINGS IS PAST FOR THE YEAR 1982, AND WE ASK, "WHAT IS IN THE FUTURE?" IF WE REFLECT UPON THE PAST MONTHS AND THE SUCCESS OF A BOAT TRIP, MUSEUM VISITS, A CLOCK STUDY AND CRAFT PROGRAMS THAT WERE THE RESULT OF A COOPERATIVE EFFORT, WE LOOK FORWARD WITH ANTICIPATION TO COMING MONTHS. THIS SUPPORTIVE ATTITUDE AND CONSTANT INPUT FROM ALL WILL CERTAINLY RESULT IN INNOVATIVE PLANNING THAT CAN RESULT IN ENJOYMENT FOR ALL AS WE EXPLORE TOGETHER THE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS OF OUR PAST. HOPEFULLY OUR MEMBERSHIP CAN BECOME OF SIGNIFICANT VALUE TO THE COMMUNITY AS WE CONTINUE OUR SEARCH FOR NEW PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS. WILL YOU CONTINUE THE EFFORTS TO UNDERSTAND OUR RELATIONSHIP TO THE PAST?

I KNOW THIS CAN BECOME A HAPPY NEW YEAR FOR ALL.

*Ross French*

## 1983 MONTHLY MEETINGS

JANUARY - THERE WILL BE NO MONTHLY MEETING IN JANUARY.

\* TUESDAY - ELMER E. STAHLMAN WILL PRESENT A PROGRAM ON THE HISTORY OF THE AVERILL PARK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT. FEB. 8 8:00 PM MR. STAHLMAN, PROF. EMERITUS OF RUSSELL SAGE COLLEGE WAS SUPERVISING PRINCIPAL OF THE AVERILL PARK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT FROM 1929 TO 1959.

LOCATION- THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE AUDITORIUM OF THE SAND LAKE SCHOOL, "WHERE IT ALL BEGAN."

TRIPS AND PROGRAMS FOR UPCOMING MONTHS WILL BE ANNOUNCED.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING - THE NEXT MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 31ST AT ART HANDLEY'S, AT 7:30 P. M.

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\* Storm date is Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>.

OFFICERS FOR 1982-1983

PRESIDENT - L. ROSS FRENCH	RECORD. SECY. - DAPHNE WESTCOTT
VICE PRES.- ARTHUR HANDLEY	CORRES. SECY. - ARTHEA B. GIBBS
TREASURER - MARION HACKER	CUSTODIAN - JANE VAN PRAAG

TRUSTEES

MARY MARGARET CIPPERLEY - 1982-85      KITTY MACE - 1982-84

KITTY MACE COMPLETES THE LAST TWO YEARS OF ROSS FRENCH'S TERM. ROSS RESIGNED AS TRUSTEE AFTER ONE YEAR TO ACCEPT THE NOMINATION FOR THE PRESIDENCY.

MYRA WEHNAU WAS REAPPOINTED LIBRARIAN. MARY MARGARET CIPPERLEY WAS REAPPOINTED CHAIRPERSON OF THE HISTORIC SITES COMMITTEE, FRAN RUCKDESCHELL WAS REAPPOINTED CHAIRPERSON OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE, AND ARTHEA B. GIBBS WAS REAPPOINTED PUBLICITY CHAIRPERSON AND EDITOR OF THIS NEWSLETTER.

LIBRARY NEWS

LIBRARIAN MYRA WEHNAU ANNOUNCES THAT SHE HAS RECEIVED SEVERAL NEW BOOKS ON HISTORICAL SUBJECTS WHICH MEMBERS CAN BORROW.



WANTED

STEEL BOOKCASE WITH LOCKING DOORS FOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY LIBRARY BOOKS.

IF YOU HAVE A BOOKCASE YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE, PLEASE CALL MYRA WEHNAU, 674-3351.

\* \* \*

AND HERE'S A JOKE-

AT A COUNTRY AUCTION, A FARMER WATCHED IN DISBELIEF AS A LADY ANTIQUE COLLECTOR BID \$43 FOR A HANDBLOWN WHISKEY BOTTLE. AS SHE CARRIED THE BOTTLE BACK TO HER SEAT, THE FARMER GOT A CLOSE LOOK AT IT. "HOLY SMOKE, MARTHA," HE SAID TO HIS WIFE, "THAT THERE JUG IS EMPTY!"

-AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

1782-1982

ON JUNE 20, 1782, THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS CHOSE THE BALD EAGLE AS THE SYMBOL OF THE UNITED STATES. OUR FOUNDING FATHERS CHOSE THIS GREAT BIRD TO REPRESENT THE STRENGTH AND COURAGE OF OUR GREAT NATION.

ON JUNE 20, 1982, THE U S A BALD EAGLE COMMAND SPONSORED A BIG 200TH BIRTHDAY BASH AT INDEPENDENCE HALL IN PHILADELPHIA WHERE THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS HAD CHOSEN THE BALD EAGLE AS THE NATION'S SYMBOL.

THE U S A BALD EAGLE COMMAND WAS STARTED 8 YEARS AGO BY RICK CARRIER, NEW YORK WRITER & ARTIST, TO INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE BIRD. PRESIDENT REAGAN HAS RECOGNIZED THE CAUSE, ISSUING A PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING JUNE 20 AS "NATIONAL BALD EAGLE DAY."

MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

SLHS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS OF \$50 EACH WERE PRESENTED TO SHEREEN PALMER AND STEPHEN FREEMAN, JUNE 1982 GRADUATES OF AVERILL PARK HIGH SCHOOL. THE SCHOLARSHIPS WERE AWARDED FOR EXCELLENCE IN HISTORY AND WERE PRESENTED TO THE WINNERS AT COMMENCEMENT.

THE 1982 SCHOLARSHIPS WERE GIVEN IN MEMORY OF JOHN WILFORD AND KENNETH VAN VALKENBURG OF WEST SAND LAKE AND WALTER I. NASH OF SAND LAKE.

WE PLAN TO GIVE A SCHOLARSHIP FOR EXCELLENCE IN HISTORY TO A GIRL AND A BOY IN THE GRADUATING CLASS AT AVERILL PARK HIGH SCHOOL IN JUNE OF 1983.

DONATIONS TO THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND WOULD BE MOST WELCOME. DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE. SIMPLY MAIL YOUR CHECK TO SAND LAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, SCHOLARSHIP FUND, P. O. Box 492, WESTSAND LAKE, NY 12196.

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THE FEDERATION OF HISTORICAL SERVICES HAS MOVED ITS HEADQUARTERS FROM THE SHAKER MUSEUM IN CHATHAM TO TROY WITH OFFICES AT THE RENSSELAER COUNTY COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS BUILDING AT 189 2ND STREET, PHONE 273-3400. THIS LOCATION WILL BE MORE CONVENIENT FOR OUR MEMBERS WHO WISH TO ATTEND FEDERATION WORKSHOPS, ETC.

\* \* \* \* \*

DID YOU KNOW THAT THE FIRST GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK STATE WAS GEORGE CLINTON (1739-1812)? ELECTED IN 1777, HE SERVED AS GOVERNOR UNTIL 1795, AND AGAIN FROM 1801 TO 1804.

GEORGE CLINTON WAS TWICE ELECTED VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: IN 1804, SERVING UNDER PRESIDENT THOMAS JEFFERSON, AND IN 1808 UNDER PRESIDENT JAMES MADISON. HE DIED IN 1812, THE FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT TO DIE WHILE IN OFFICE.

GEORGE CLINTON WAS DEWITT CLINTON'S UNCLE.

DEWITT CLINTON (1769-1828) WAS THE 6TH GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK STATE. HE SERVED 3 TERMS, 1817-1822, 1825-1828, AND DIED IN OFFICE 1828.

DEWITT CLINTON WAS A STAUNCH ADVOCATE OF THE BUILDING OF THE ERIE CANAL. HE BROKE GROUND FOR THE CANAL AT ROME, N. Y. IN 1817, AND IN 1825, HE OPENED THE CANAL TO NAVIGATION.



HOUSE TOUR '82

ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1982 WE HELD ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL HOUSE TOUR IN THE SAND LAKE AVERILL PARK AREA.

THE PERIOD COVERED BEGAN IN THE EARLY 1800'S AND CONTINUED TO THE RENOVATION OF ST. HENRY'S CHURCH IN 1982.

THE TOWN HALL, STOP NO. 1, AND HEADQUARTERS FOR THE TOUR, FORMERLY WAS THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SAND LAKE.

THE HOMES SHOWN WERE THE LEWIS SLITER HOUSE, RESIDENCE OF THE BRUCE BECK FAMILY, BROOKSIDE INSTITUTE, RESIDENCE OF THE JEROME PARRY-HILL FAMILY; A MILL OWNER'S HOME ON THE BURDEN LAKE ROAD, RESIDENCE OF THE STEPHEN PAVONE FAMILY; AND THE WITTMAN FARMHOUSE, OCCUPIED BY THE BRIAN SULLIVAN FAMILY.

THE CHURCH OF THE COVENANT (FORMED BY THE MERGER OF THE AVERILL PARK METHODIST CHURCH AND THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SAND LAKE) AND ST. HENRY'S NEWLY RENOVATED CHURCH WERE SHOWN TO TOURISTS.

AL COON KINDLY OPENED THE CROOKED LAKE HOTEL JUST FOR THIS TOUR AND CONDUCTED THE TOUR GROUPS HIMSELF.

THE DRIVEBY SITES WERE THE FORMER TROY & NEW ENGLAND RAILWAY DEPOT (NOW THE TREMONT LUMBER CO.), AND CRYSTAL LAKE AMUSEMENT PARK (WHICH WAS CLOSED FOR THE SEASON).

TICKETS WERE \$2.50 THIS YEAR, AND INCLUDED REFRESHMENTS AT THE TOWN HALL AND A PRINTED '82 TOUR BOOK.

PROPERTY OWNERS HAVE DONE A FINE JOB OF RESTORING AND MAINTAINING THEIR HISTORIC PROPERTIES. WE WERE PROUD TO SHOW THEM ON THE TOUR.

WE THANK EVERY ONE WHO WORKED SO HARD ON THIS TOUR; THE PROPERTY OWNERS, THE TOUR COMMITTEE, HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS AND ALL THE REST OF THE FOLKS WHO HELPED MAKE THIS TOUR SO SUCCESSFUL. EVEN NATURE SMILED UPON US WITH A WARM AND SUNNY DAY.

*Thank you again for your assistance w/ the tour! Arthea*

- NOTICE -

WE HAVE A FEW HOUSE TOUR BOOKS AND HISTORIC CALENDARS ON HAND. THESE ARE AVAILABLE AT HALF PRICE. CONTACT MADOLYN CARPENTER OR ARTHEA GIBBS. WE OFTEN BRING A SUPPLY TO MEETINGS.

HOUSE TOUR BOOKS

1976, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982

CALENDARS

1975-76, 1977, 1978

MEMBERSHIP COUPON

FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS COUPON TO SAND LAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY,  
P. O. Box 492, WEST SAND LAKE, N. Y. 12196 WITH YOUR CHECK FOR  
YOUR 1982-83 MEMBERSHIP (IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO.)  
THE MEMBERSHIP YEAR IS JUNE 1, 1982 TO MAY 31, 1983.

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CHECK ENC. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE No. \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE NOTE BELOW, YOUR SPECIAL INTERESTS, HOBBIES, COLLECTIONS,  
ETC.:

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MEMBERSHIP FEES: \$3.00 PER PERSON, \$5.00 PER FAMILY. JUNIORS  
TO AGE 16, AND SENIORS (65 AND OVER) HALF PRICE. PLEASE MAKE  
CHECKS PAYABLE TO SAND LAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY. MEMBERSHIP CARDS  
WILL BE MAILED TO YOU.

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ABOUT MEMBERSHIPS...

EVEN IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND MEETINGS OR PARTICIPATE IN OTHER  
ACTIVITIES, YOUR MEMBERSHIP HELPS TO SUPPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
GOALS OF "PRESERVING THE PAST," AND "ENRICHING THE FUTURE."

IF YOU HAVENT SENT IN YOUR DUES FOR THE 1982-83 MEMBERSHIP  
YEAR, PLEASE DROP YOUR CHECK IN THE MAIL NOW SO WE CAN KEEP YOU ON  
OUR MAILING LIST. OUR PROGRAM CHAIRMAN IS PLANNING SOME INTERESTING  
PROGRAMS AND TRIPS FOR THE MONTHS AHEAD.

PHONE: 477-7391

FRAN RUCKDESCHELL  
MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON

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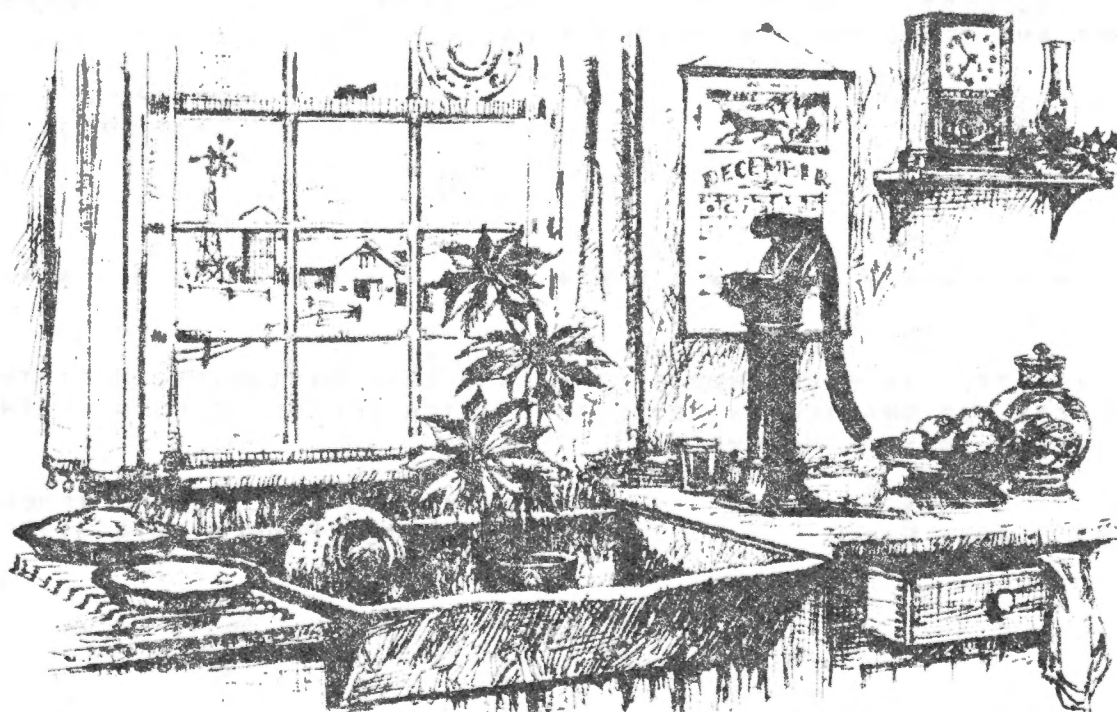
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W I N T E R   O N   T H E   F A R M