



Historical Highlights

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

1981
MAY - DECEMBER

1982 MONTHLY MEETINGS

JANUARY - NO MEETING.

~~FEB. 9~~ - REBECCA WATROUS, EDUC. PROGRAM DIR. AT HISTORIC CHERRY HILL, ALBANY. SLIDE-LECTURE, "THE VAN RENSSELAER WOMEN OF CHERRY HILL." (1787-1840'S)

June 8 -

MAR. 9 - MRS. DANA M. BERNTSON OF VALATIE WILL SPEAK ON THE HOME OF BENJAMIN HARRISON, OUR 23RD PRESIDENT. THIS PRESIDENTIAL HOME IS LOCATED IN INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

APR. 13 - JUDY AND HENRY ROWE. SLIDE SHOW. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE RENSSELAER GLASS WORKS.

MAY - ANNUAL DINNER, ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS. DATE AND LOCATION WILL BE ANNOUNCED.

MONTHLY MEETINGS BEGIN AT 8:00 P. M. AT THE SAND LAKE TOWN HALL (THE FORMER FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SAND LAKE) ON ROUTE 43, ONE MILE EAST OF AVERILL PARK, UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS ARE USUALLY HELD AT 8 PM ON THE FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH. COMMITTEE MEMBERS WILL BE NOTIFIED OF EACH MEETING OR MAY CALL ARTHEA GIBBS AT 674-3127 FOR INFORMATION.

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LIBRARY NEWS

NEW BOOK CAN BE BORROWED BY MEMBERS. ALBANY: CAPITAL CITY ON THE HUDSON, BY JOHN J. McENENY, A NATIVE ALBANIAN WHO IS ALBANY'S COMMISSIONER OF HUMAN RESOURCES. INTRODUCTION BY ALBANY'S MAYOR, ERASTUS CORNING II. SEE LIBRARIAN MYRA WEHNAU.

QUILTING NEWS

WILL THOSE GALS WHO TOOK HOME BUTTERFLY QUILT SQUARES TO EMBROIDER, PLEASE RETURN THEM TO MYRA WEHNAU AS SHE IS PUTTING THE QUILT TOGETHER NOW. YOU CAN BRING THE SQUARES TO THE MEETING OR STOP AT MYRA'S. HER NUMBER IS 674-3351 IF YOU WANT TO CALL. THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP. THE FINISHED QUILT WILL BE RAFFLED OFF AS A FUND RAISER.

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OFFICERS FOR 1981-1982

PRESIDENT	PETER B. SPRAGUE	RECORD. SECY.	ELINOR ZAKI
VICE PRES.	MARY MARG. CIPPERLEY	CORRES. SECY.	ARTHEA B. GIBBS
TREASURER	MARION HACKER	CUSTODIAN	DOROTHY LEITGB

TRUSTEES

HELEN GUY - 1979-82 MYRA WEHNAU AND KEN BROCK - 1980-83
SHIRLEY RESCOTT AND ROSS FRENCH - 1981-84

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MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

SLHS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS OF \$50 EACH WERE PRESENTED TO CAROLE M. STALLONE OF WEST SAND LAKE AND ANTHONY E. ARMLIN OF AVERILL PARK, JUNE 1981 GRADUATES OF AVERILL PARK HIGH SCHOOL. SCHOLARSHIPS WERE AWARDED FOR EXCELLENCE IN HISTORY, AND WERE PRESENTED TO THE WINNERS AT COMMENCEMENT.

1981 SCHOLARSHIPS WERE GIVEN IN MEMORY OF LATE MEMBERS IDA M. BUTLER OF AVERILL PARK AND JOHN E. CLIFFORD OF EAST NASSAU.

WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT WE HAVE RECEIVED DONATIONS TO THE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND TOTALING \$105 (IN 1981). ADDITIONAL DONATIONS TO THIS FUND WOULD BE MOST WELCOME. DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE. SIMPLY MAIL YOUR CHECK TO SAND LAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, SCHOLARSHIP FUND, BOX 492, WEST SAND LAKE, N. Y. 12196.

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 1982.

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THE SOCIETY HAS JOINED THE FEDERATION OF HISTORICAL SERVICES LOCATED AT THE SHAKER MUSEUM IN OLD CHATHAM, N. Y. DIRECTOR MOLLY LOWELL ATTENDED THE JULY 28TH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AT MIA CIPPERLEY'S TO DISCUSS WHAT THE FHS CAN DO TO ASSIST OUR HISTORICAL SOCIETY WITH ITS PROJECTS. THIS SHOULD BE A MOST WORTHWHILE CONNECTION.

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NEWS FROM BRUNSWICK HISTORICAL SOCIETY - THE TOWN OF BRUNSWICK WILL CELEBRATE ITS 175TH ANNIVERSARY IN 1982. AS PART OF THE CELEBRATION, THE 1866 PLAY, "EAST LYNN" WILL BE PRESENTED ON MAY FIRST BY THE RENSSELAER COUNTY PLAYERS AT THE TAMARAC SCHOOL AUDITORIUM.

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THIS NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED BY THE SAND LAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY. THE SOCIETY WAS GRANTED AN ABSOLUTE CHARTER BY THE REGENTS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK ON NOVEMBER 15, 1979.

PRESIDENT: PETER B. SPRAGUE EDITOR: ARTHEA B. GIBBS
NEWSLETTER PHONE: 574-3127

TOWN PURCHASES HISTORIC GLASSMAKING TOOLS

IN OCTOBER, THE TOWN PURCHASED A SET OF EARLY GLASSMAKING TOOLS. THESE TOOLS ARE THE SAME TYPE USED BY GLASSWORKERS IN OUR OWN RENSSELAER GLASS FACTORY AT GLASS LAKE. THEY WERE HANDMADE BY GLASSWORKERS AND WERE USED IN THE MT. WASHINGTON GLASS FACTORY IN NEW BEDFORD, MASS. DURING THE SAME PERIOD THAT THE RENSSELAER GLASS FACTORY WAS IN OPERATION. (1805-1852)

THESE TOOLS ARE A RARE HISTORIC FIND, AND WILL BE INVALUABLE IN TEACHING THE SCHOOLCHILDREN ABOUT GLASSMAKING AS A PART OF LOCAL HISTORY.

THE TOOLS WERE SHOWN IN THE GLASS EXHIBIT DURING HOUSE TOUR '81, AND ARE NOW ON EXHIBIT AT THE TOWN HALL. STOP IN AND SEE THEM.

MORE ABOUT RENSSELAER GLASS----

JUDY AND HENRY ROWE PRESENTED THEIR SLIDE SHOW ON RENSSELAER GLASS AT THE NATIONAL BOTTLE MUSEUM SOCIETY'S ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS ON NOVEMBER 12TH AT BALLSTON SPA, N. Y.

AT THAT TIME, THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOTTLE MUSEUM SOCIETY REQUESTED THAT A RENSSELAER GLASS DISPLAY BE SET UP IN THE MUSEUM IN BALLSTON SPA JUNE THROUGH OCTOBER, 1982. THIS IS THE FIRST REQUEST FOR A DISPLAY OF RENSSELAER GLASS IN A MUSEUM!

WORKERS ARE NEEDED TO HELP PREPARE THE DISPLAY. PLANS CALL FOR THE BUILDING OF A MINIATURE GLASS HOUSE. (FACTORY) WE NEED SOMEONE WHO DOES CERAMICS TO MAKE SMALL POTS, FOR ONE THING. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING, PLEASE CALL JUDY ROWE AT 674-5388, ROSS FRENCH AT 674-5710 OR ARTHEA GIBBS AT 674-3127.

HISTORY OF RENSSELAER GLASS FACTORY

AS YOU KNOW, JUDY ROWE HAS BEEN RESEARCHING THE HISTORY OF THE RENSSELAER GLASS FACTORY FOR SEVERAL YEARS, AND RECENTLY HAS BEGUN WRITING A BOOK ABOUT IT. YOU WILL BE INTERESTED TO KNOW THAT THE BOOK IS NEARING COMPLETION.

BACK COVER: WEST SAND LAKE CORNERS LOOKING SOUTH. SKETCH BY TIM FLANAGAN FOR COVER OF 1980 HOUSE TOUR BOOKLET. (FROM OLD POSTCARD)

TIM, A FORMER AVERILL PARK RESIDENT, NOW LIVES IN ^{ARIZONA} COLORADO. HE WAS SEEN ON "THAT'S INCREDIBLE," ON CH. 10 TV ON FEB. 1ST, 1982, BURNING PORTRAITS IN WOOD BY DIRECTING THE SUN'S RAYS WITH A MAGNIFYING GLASS.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: ON THE ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES OR
GET A LITTLE CHARGE AT YOUR SLHS!

DURING THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS IT HAS BEEN MY OBSERVATION THAT THE MOST SUCCESSFUL PROJECTS OF THE SOCIETY HAVE BEEN THOSE IN WHICH THE PEOPLE INVOLVED HAD FUN EVEN THOUGH THEY WERE WORKING HARD. I AM CONVINCED THAT THIS IS A VITAL ELEMENT TO THE SUCCESS OF A VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION. PROJECTS MUST MEET SOME NEED OF THE WORKERS AND SHOULD ALSO MEET NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY TO BE REALLY SUCCESSFUL. WE HAVE TO GET A LITTLE CHARGE OUT OF WHAT WE DO.

PEOPLE DO NOT LONG SUPPORT GROUPS JUST BECAUSE THEY EXIST. THE GROUP MUST MEET SOME NEEDS OF PEOPLE. OUR GROUP IS SMALL; OUR PERSONAL RESOURCES ARE LIMITED; AND THIS LIMITS THE SIZE AND NUMBER OF PROJECTS WE CAN UNDERTAKE. THE SOCIETY CAN BE SUCCESSFUL AS A SMALL GROUP. SHOULD WE WISH TO GROW, WE MUST PROVIDE A LITTLE CHARGE TO A BROADER BASE OF THE COMMUNITY.

FINANCIALLY WE HAVE GROWN SEVERAL HUNDRED DOLLARS OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS THANKS TO DUES, DONATIONS, AND SEVERAL FUND RAISERS AS WELL AS COST CONTROL. FINANCIAL GROWTH IS IMPORTANT FOR SEVERAL REASONS, INCLUDING THE PROBABLE CONTINUED SCARCITY OF PUBLIC MONEY. WE SHOULD PROBABLY CONTINUE TO SEEK AN INCOME TO SLIGHTLY MORE THAN OFFSET EVERY EXPENSE. WE HAVE PUT OUT GOOD PRODUCTS AND GOOD SERVICES, AND WE HAVE ASKED PEOPLE TO PAY A LITTLE CHARGE FOR THEM.

OUR FUTURE ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE SUCCESSFUL IF THEY ALLOW US TO GET A LITTLE CHARGE, GIVE A LITTLE CHARGE, AND ASK A LITTLE CHARGE.

PETER B. SPRAGUE

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DID YOU KNOW?

THE LARGEST LIBRARY IN THE WORLD IS THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS IN WASHINGTON, D. C., WITH MORE THAN 59 MILLION ITEMS.

THE LONGEST BRIDGE IN THE WORLD IS THE VERRAZANO-NARROWS BRIDGE ACROSS NEW YORK HARBOR BETWEEN MANHATTAN AND STATEN ISLAND.

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100 YEARS AGO

CHESTER ALAN ARTHUR BECAME THE 21ST PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (1881-1885) UPON THE DEATH OF PRESIDENT JAMES A. GARFIELD ON THE 19TH OF SEPTEMBER, 1881, AS A RESULT OF AN ASSASSIN'S BULLET.

PRESIDENT ARTHUR WAS AN 1848 GRADUATE OF UNION COLLEGE. HE SERVED ONE TERM AS PRESIDENT, AND DIED ON NOVEMBER 18, 1886. HE IS BURIED IN ALBANY RURAL CEMETERY.

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. MEMBERSHIP YEAR ENDS MAY 31, 1982.

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

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.

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1981 HOUSE TOUR A GREAT SUCCESS

HOUSE TOUR '81 WAS HELD ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1981, FROM 1 TO 5 PM IN THE SAND LAKE-AVERILL PARK AREA, WITH HEADQUARTERS AT THE SAND LAKE TOWN HALL. FEATURED WERE SIX HOMES, THE SAND LAKE BAPTIST CHURCH, THE COUNTRY TOKEN STORE (FORMERLY NASH'S STORE AND THE SAND LAKE POST OFFICE), AS WELL AS SITES OF THE RENSSELAER GLASS FACTORY, JOHN COONS' SAWMILL, STAATS TOMPKINS' PAPER MILL, THE BURDEN DAM AND THE FORMER DEPOT OF THE TROY & NEW ENGLAND RAILWAY (NOW TREMONT'S LUMBER CO.), ALL FROM THE PERIOD 1790-1900.

AT THE TOWN HALL WE HAD TWO AUDIO-VISUAL PROGRAMS, ONE ON THE RENSSELAER GLASS FACTORY AND ANOTHER ON OUR EARLY MILLS. WE HAD EXHIBITS OF RENSSELAER BRAND GLASS AND GLASSMAKING TOOLS; ALSO TOOLS, PRODUCTS AND MEMORABILIA FROM SOME OF THE FARMS AND MILLS. WE ALSO SOLD SOME OF OUR HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS.

THE TICKETS WERE PRICED AT \$2.00 PER PERSON, AND INCLUDED A PRINTED TOUR BOOKLET AND REFRESHMENTS WHICH WERE SERVED AT THE TOWN HALL ALL AFTERNOON.

EVERYONE WORKED VERY HARD ON THE TOUR; THE OWNERS OF HOMES AND BLDGS., THE TOUR COMMITTEE AND MANY MORE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS. A VOTE OF THANKS TO EACH AND EVERY ONE WHO HELPED MAKE THIS TOUR SUCH A GRAND SUCCESS, NOT FORGETTING ALL THOSE GALS WHO BAKED SO MANY DELICIOUS COOKIES FOR THE REFRESHMENT TABLE.

VISITORS COMMENTED THAT THE TOUR WAS MOST ENJOYABLE AND INFORMATIVE AS WERE THE AUDIO-VISUAL PROGRAMS AND EXHIBITS (NEW THIS YEAR). THE WEATHER WAS CLEAR AND SUNNY, ALWAYS A BIG BOOST FOR A TOUR. ALSO, THE TOUR WAS A FINANCIAL SUCCESS.

WE HOPE TO HOLD ANOTHER TOUR IN THE FALL OF 1982.

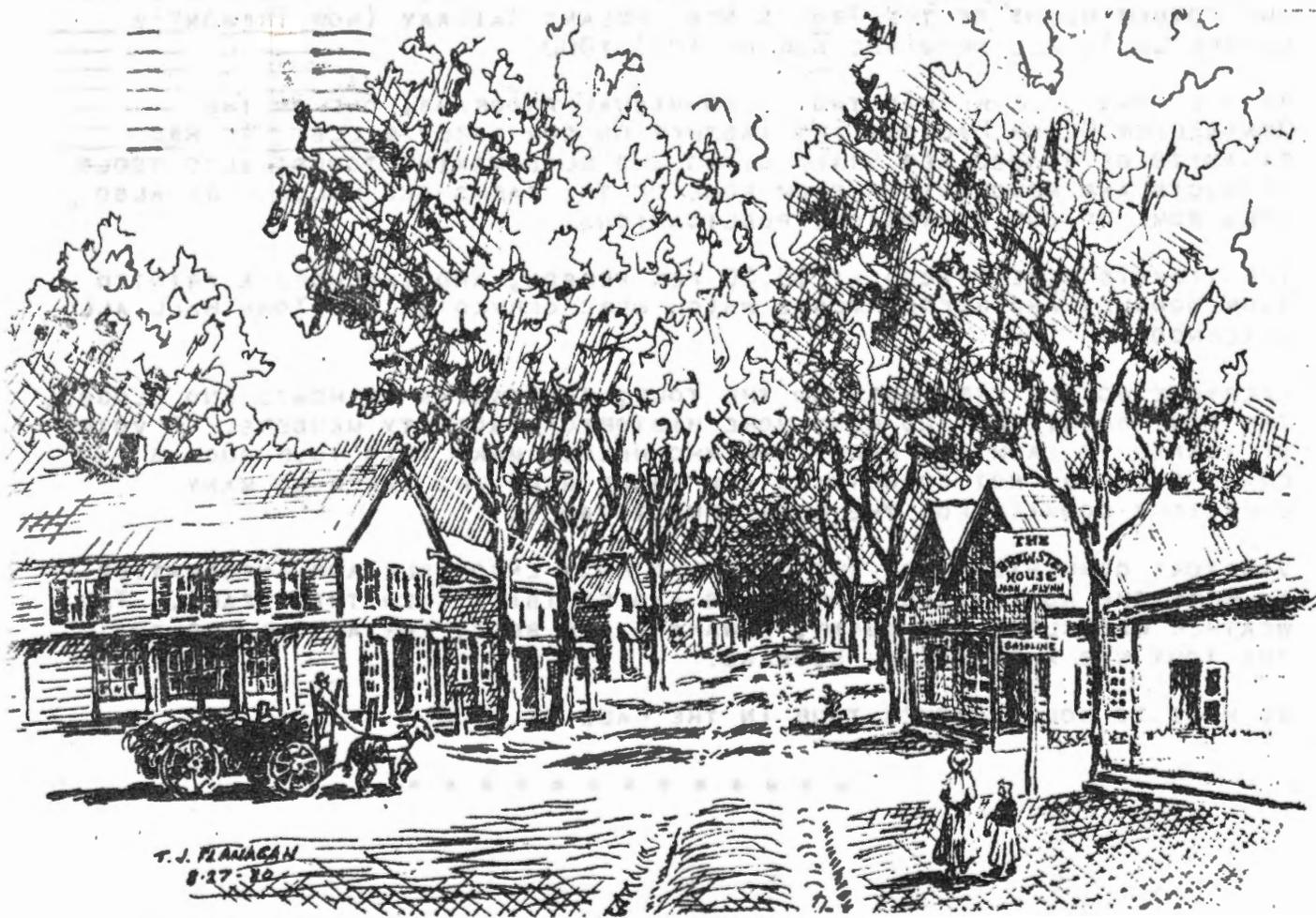
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Mrs. + Mrs. Wesley Miller
R. O. # 1, Box 11
Oswego Park, NY 12018



SAND LAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
POST OFFICE BOX 492
WEST SAND LAKE, N. Y. 12196



T. J. FLANAGAN
8-27-30