



# Historical Highlights

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

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DECEMBER 9, 1986 -- 8:00 PM -- SAND LAKE TOWN HALL

A THIRD-GENERATION BELL-MAKER, EDWARD W. KEHN, WILL PRESENT A VISUAL PROGRAM ABOUT THE MENEELY BELL COMPANY OF TROY, WHERE HE WAS A PLANT ENGINEER. THE MENEELY BELLS ARE VERY WELL-KNOWN NATIONALLY AND ARE IN MANY OF OUR LOCAL CHURCHES. MR. KEHN EARNED A DEGREE AS A METALLURGICAL ENGINEER FROM RPI. PRESENTLY HE RESIDES IN WYNANTSKILL, AND HAS MOST RECENTLY PRESENTED THIS PROGRAM FOR THE GREENBUSH HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

WATCH THE NEWSPAPERS, ESPECIALLY THE ADVERTISER, FOR DETAILS OF OTHER REGULAR MEETINGS, HELD AT THE SAND LAKE TOWN HALL ON THE SECOND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 8:00 P.M.

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THE NOVEMBER 11 PROGRAM BY PROFESSOR CHARLES BALLARD ABOUT THE TROY AND NEW ENGLAND TROLLEY WAS POSTPONED FROM NOVEMBER 11 TO THE SPRING BECAUSE OF OUR INCLEMENT WEATHER.

CANCELLATIONS DUE TO WEATHER ARE BROADCAST ON WGY, WPTR, WQBK, WTRY, AND WROW AT NOON OR DURING THE AFTERNOON.

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SLEUTHS -- PROBLEM SOLVERS -- RESEARCHERS -- HISTORICAL TRIVIA  
REMEMBER THIS FROM THE LAST ISSUE?

THE SOCIETY HAS BEEN PRESENTED WITH A BOOK OF PRESSED FLOWERS AND LEAVES PREPARED BY ELIZABETH BARNARD. A NOTE IN THE FLYLEAF READS 'SAND LAKE NEAR TROY ABOUT 1840'. IT WAS FOUND AND PRESENTED TO US BY THE PUBLIC LIBRARY IN GROTON, CT. WHO WAS SHE? WHY WAS SHE HERE? IS SHE A LEAF ON YOUR FAMILY TREE?

OUR FIRST CLUE (FROM JUDY ROWE) IS THAT MS. BARNARD WAS PROBABLY RELATED TO THE ARNOLD FAMILY, WHICH OWNED THE GLASS WORKS. THANKS, JUDY!! ANYONE ELSE HAVE ANOTHER CLUE?????????

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OUR THANKS TO YOU FOR MAKING OUR RECENT BOOKSALE A GREAT SUCCESS AND FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE WEST SAND LAKE FIRE COMPANY.

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## THE HUDSON-MOHAWK INDUSTRIAL GATEWAY

DURING THE 19TH CENTURY A GREAT CONCENTRATION AND VARIETY OF BUSINESSES AND INDUSTRIES SPRANG UP IN THE HUDSON-MOHAWK AREA. AS THE HUB OF TRANSPORTATION ROUTES FORMED BY THE MOHAWK AND HUDSON RIVERS, ERIE AND CHAMPLAIN CANALS, EARLY HIGHWAYS AND RAILROADS, THIS AREA WAS THE COMMERCIAL CENTER FOR NORTHEASTERN NEW YORK AND VERMONT. WATER POWER FROM SEVERAL STREAMS, POWER CANALS, AND THE MOHAWK RIVER PROVIDED ENERGY FOR MILLS STARTING IN THE 17TH CENTURY, TURNING WATERWHEELS AT FIRST, AND LATER TURBINES, INCLUDING THE MAMMOTH 60' X 22' BURDEN WHEEL. THIS ENERGY WAS THE ESSENTIAL RESOURCE FOR 19TH CENTURY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

THE GATEWAY IS A NON-PROFIT EDUCATIONAL CORPORATION WHOSE TRUSTEES AND MEMBERS ARE CONCERNED ABOUT 19TH CENTURY INDUSTRY AND INDUSTRIALLY RELATED BUILDINGS AND SITES AS WELL AS ONGOING INDUSTRIES ON BOTH SIDES OF THE HUDSON RIVER IN THE CITIES AND VILLAGES OF TROY, WATERFORD, COHOES, GREEN ISLAND, AND WATER-VLIET. GATEWAY FEELS THE FULLEST FUTURE OF THE AREA RESTS IN LARGE MEASURE ON SUCCESSFUL UTILIZATION OF THESE HISTORIC INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES IN A REVITALIZED URBAN ENVIRONMENT.

THE GOALS ARE: 1) CONTINUED OPERATION OF 19TH CENTURY INDUSTRIES AND PRESERVATION OF INDUSTRIAL AND INDUSTRIALLY RELATED BUILDINGS AND SITES THROUGH ADAPTIVE REUSE; 2) THE DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM CENTERED ON THESE INDUSTRIES, BUILDINGS, AND SITES; AN EDUCATIONAL PROCESS COMMUNICATING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE AND MONUMENTS; AND THEIR RELATION TO PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES TODAY; 3) STUDY OF INDUSTRIAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN AMERICA DURING THE 19TH CENTURY, FOCUSING ON THE HUDSON-MOHAWK AREA; PROVIDING THE EDUCATIONAL CATALYST TO CREATE AN APPRECIATION AND AWARENESS OF THE REGION'S HERITAGE.

ELLIE PATTISON AND JOHN KACHARIAN, PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE GATEWAY, ARE ACTIVE MEMBERS OF OUR SAND LAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

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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 - Kitty Mace  
Vice-President - Arthea Gibbs  
Secretary - Alan Feuss

Treasurer - Marion Hacker  
Editor - Barbara Mohan

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MEMBERS' NEWS

MADOLYN CARPENTER, OUR TOWN HISTORIAN, ON SEPT. 25-26-27 ATTENDED THE UPSTATE FALL MEETING OF THE NEW YORK STATE HISTORIANS AT THE BEECHES IN ROME, NY. ATTENDED BY ABOUT 150 TOWN AND COUNTY HISTORIANS, IT WAS BOTH INTERESTING AND WORTHWHILE.

ELINOR P. ZAKI, ASSISTANT TOWN HISTORIAN, ACCOMPANIED MADOLYN CARPENTER TO THE HUDSON VALLEY HISTORIANS ASSOCIATION MEETING AT HYDE PARK, NY ON OCTOBER 25.

FRAN RUCKDESCHEL EGBERT WILL BE OUR OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE AT THE MEETINGS OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE.

PICTURES OF SOME OLDER HOMES IN THE AREA ARE AVAILABLE ON CALENDARS FROM 1975, FOR ONLY \$0.50 EACH. GUESS WHO HAS THEM????????

THE TOWN'S 175TH ANNIVERSARY IS JUNE 12, 1987. OFFER YOUR ASSISTANCE IN THE FESTIVITIES. WE ARE PLANNING TO PRESENT A LIST OF ACTIVE MEMBERS TO THE TOWN -- BE SURE ALL YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS WILL BE LISTED FOR POSTERITY.....

MAY 12 IS THE DATE OF OUR ANNUAL DINNER. THE COMMITTEE HAS STARTED PLANNING, AND NEEDS HELP.

1986-1987 MEMBERSHIP

FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS COUPON, WITH YOUR CHECK, TO:  
SAND LAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 492  
WEST SAND LAKE, NY 12196

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

MEMBERSHIP FEES: \$4.00 PER PERSON, \$6.00 PER FAMILY  
HALF-PRICE FOR JUNIORS (TO 16) AND SENIORS (65 AND OVER)  
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: SAND LAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
MEMBERSHIP CARDS WILL BE MAILED.

ELINOR ZAKI WILL ANSWER YOUR MEMBERSHIP QUESTION (674-2005)

Dated Material...Open at Once



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SAND LAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
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SO YOU STILL WANNA BE INVOLVED?? MAKE A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION:

- YOU COULD:
- ATTEND A MEETING WITH A GUEST
  - ADD A BIT OF INFORMATION TO THE NEWSLETTER.
  - BAKE SOME COOKIES OR DONATE OTHER REFRESHMENTS
  - SUGGEST A PROGRAM
  - GIVE A PROGRAM
  - DONATE TO THE LIBRARY
  - PLAN A HOUSE TOUR
  - SHARE AN ATTIC TREASURE

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*Happy Holidays  
to All!*