

Winter 2012 Newsletter 2

February 2012



Nanticoke Valley Historical Society

The first meeting of the Historical Society, after our cold weather break, was Monday, February 20. The topic was US Presidents. People brought any Presidential material they happened to have for a Show and Tell. Nancy Barry brought a punch made from a recipe used by Dolly Madison. Lukas Kaczynski showed 'I Like Ike' campaign buttons and gave a summary of Eisenhower's presidency. Several people recommended particular books. Anita showed the David McCullough biography of Theodore Roosevelt, Mornings on Horseback. Dottie Winans told us about Great Graves of Upstate New York. It is written by speaker and author Chuck D'Imperio, of Oneonta. She was delighted with a recent presentation she saw, in which he discussed 70 interesting characters buried in our part of the world. They went from a US president to a local race horse, with fascinating information about each one.

We welcomed two new members, Brian and Sandy McKinley who are living at 3368 St. Rt. 26. They ask for suggestions of people experienced and available for working on old houses.

The next meeting will be on March 19. It will be a Heritage sharing program. We know each other so well, but not our backgrounds. You know ----- ancestry, birth-place, background stories of any kind. Alice and Carla will bring refreshments.

On Wed. April 4 there will be a fund raising dinner at Frank's, in Maine. It will be held in the newly built addition, which seats 80. The room will be reserved for the Historical Society benefit dinner between 5:00 and 9:00. Both eat-in and take out dinners will be \$20.00.

Call Sandy Rozek or Nancy Barry for reservations. You get to choose then, which entrée you will get – Chicken Parmesan or Pasta Bolognese. It is a full dinner with dessert and all, so plan to come and stay awhile.

Please pass the word to friends and neighbors. We will be in a private room, so it will be a great time to catch up with folks.

May will be a busy time. Jim Tokos' annual theme dinner at the Museum will be in May. This year's theme will be Baseball, with the meal representative of the extraordinary culinary delights being served at the biggest and best baseball venues now-adays.

Call Nancy Berry (862-4527) for information or to make a reservation. Space is very much limited, so call early if you are interested.

*Newsletter edited by
Anita & Dick Shipway*

New York State's Heritage Weekend will be May 18,19 and 20 with special activities all over the state to welcome in the new summer tourist season. As part of that we will have buildings open on the Sunday afternoon. There will be a need for people to show the mill, the one room school house, and the various sections of the museum building. Please say yes if you are called.

Grey Osterud will be here to speak at the May 21th meeting. In her words, the topic of her talk will be "Changing Work, Neighboring, and Cooperative Dairying in the Nanticoke Valley, 1890-1945"

On the day before, she will have a book signing for **Putting the Barn Before the House**, during the time the Museum building will be open. Grey did a lot of research for this book, right here in our valley, and she spent time last year during the Heritage Weekend sitting in the Museum looking through pictures and chatting with people. It will be nice to have her again.

The book will be for sale at the museum, with a commission going to the Historical Society. \$26.95 .

The Broome County Historical Society, of which many of our members are members too, will have their annual picnic at our site on June 20. We will be showing them what we do for school tours – and eating too.

Greek Names

Here is some interesting information, for everyone who has ever wondered why we are surrounded by places with names copied from ancient Greece and Rome. There is Vestal of course (the Vestal Virgins) as well as Syracuse, Rome, Utica and Troy (not only Troy New York but the one down in PA too) There is also Camillus, Cicero, Cincinnatus, Corinth, Fabius, Ilion, Junius, Macedon, Marcellus, Pompey, Romulus, Scipio, Sempronius, Sparta, Ulysses, Ovid and Virgil, among others.

It can all be laid at the feet of Robert Harpur, the very same Robert Harpur for whom was named the college that grew in our midst in Endicott and later moved to Vestal/Binghamton and sprouted into Binghamton University. As a deputy New York State Surveyor General, he was in charge of dividing off parcels of land within the Military Tract, and coming up with names for the Townships being established. Of course the Surveyor General was over him and a meeting of the Commissioners of the Land Office of New York was required to make each one official, but the general consensus seems to be that he was the one that picked out names.

In 1795, after many years serving New York in various significant capacities, he moved West with his second wife and family, and settled on Belden Creek, in New York State. That area is now called Harpursville.

Other Happenings of Interest to Historical Society Members

Please share interesting information that you have with other Historical Society people by contacting the Newsletter at BRUSHCUT1@juno.com or 785-9207

A new theatrical production is being presented at the **Roberson Museum and Science Center February 23 through February 26**. It is an outgrowth of the extensive local Civil War Exhibition which has been at Roberson since a year ago. Apron Strings is the name of the play and it has to do particularly with four soldiers and a drummer boy returning home to this area, from service in the Civil War.

Laura Cunningham converted the compelling stories of twelve actual individuals into a play. Roberson has built a custom stage in the third floor "ball room" for this presentation. The Thursday through Saturday show times will be 7:30 pm. Sunday's matinee will be at 2:00.

Tickets will be \$8.00 for members of Roberson and \$10.00 for non-members. More information at Roberson.org or 772-0660

Tours of the Phelps Mansion Museum (next door to the Broome County Public Library) take place every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 to 3:00 Children are free Adults \$5.00

The Center for Technology and Innovation is collecting stories of local industry and technological advances for a digital archive. Call 773-0092

Please consider:
Being interviewed
Suggesting interesting people for others to interview
Interviewing others
Helping with recording technology
Organizing files and/or data

The Broome County Local History and Genealogy Center, on the second floor of the Broome County Public Library, is open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 9:00 to 5:00 and Tuesday Noon to 8:00 One can call or drop in during those times 778-3572.

The United Way of Broome County has announced a new date for the Half Day Workshop for Non-Profits, that had been postponed from the flood time period. It will be Wed. March 21 2012, 8:00 to 1:30

Information at Lsheehan@binghamtonchamber.com or ashaw@binghamtonchamber.com

A program about the flood impact on Washingtonian Hall (the 1799 home of Amos Patterson on River Road in Endwell) and about the building’s history, will be given in the Broome County Public Library. It will be presented at 6:30, on Wednesday May 16. Linda and Ken Jackson, present day owners of the home, will be the speakers.

1. Broome and Tioga County [Heritage Weekend | WWW.Heritageweekend.org](http://www.heritageweekend.org) will tell you what things are open that weekend and give you a map May 19 and 20, 2012 Cached

A notice for people affected by Hurricane Irene or Tropical storm Lee:
The New York State disaster Case Management Program connects you to services that might help you and your family. Whether you have applied for FEMA or SBA assistance or not, even if you were not eligible for those federal programs, there may be local resources available to help you. Call Catholic Charities 729-9166

The Broome County Historical Society’s Annual Picnic will take place at the Museum grounds of the Nanticoke Valley Historical Society. 6 PM June 20.

The Binghamton Poetry Project

Please join us at the Broome County Public Library this spring for a series of poetry workshops led by Creative Writing Instructors from Binghamton University. All workshops are **free and open to the public**.

2012 Schedule:

March 6th, 4pm – Children; March 13th, 5:30pm – Adult; March 20th, 4pm – Children; March 27th, 5:30pm – Adult; April 3rd, 4pm – Children; April 10th, 5:30pm – Adult; April 17th, 4pm – Children; April 24th, 5:30pm – Adult; May 1st, 4pm – Children; May 8th, 5:30pm – Adult.

Registration:

Adults please contact the Information Services Department at the Broome County Library: 607-778-6451

Kids (suggested age group of 8 to 13 years old) please contact Youth Services Department at the Broome County Library: 607-778-6456 or youth@bclibrary.info

All Workshops will be held at the Broome County Public Library located at 185 Court Street, Binghamton, New York

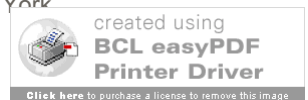
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Consider becoming a volunteer for the Broome County Historical Society at the Local History and Genealogy Center. Our volunteers provide at least three hours each week at the Center.

Activities may include:

- Handling genealogical inquiries
- Entering computer data
- Working on exhibits
- Assisting patrons with questions
- Staffing booths at events

For more information, contact Gerry Smith at gsmith@co.broome.ny.us.



Workshop Objectives:

The workshops for both children and adults will encourage participants to write and listen to poetry; teach the process of writing poems; encourage clarity in writing; explore poetic forms; encourage participants to write frequently; develop a supportive atmosphere within the workshop setting; teach how to locate poetry books in the library; encourage students to try various techniques.

Workshop Description:

We will read poems and discuss their form, theme, and content. We will use many poetry books and books about poetry in the library to help lead discussions about the poems we read and write. We will go over student poems together, offering suggestions and comments on the work. We ask people to express their comments in as gentle and kind a manner as possible. Most importantly we will have fun with our writing.

[Binghamton Center for Writers, c/o Department of English, General Literature, and Rhetoric, Binghamton University - State University of New York, Post Office Box 6000, Binghamton, NY 13902-6000.](#)

Contact Nicole Santalucia: nsantal1@binghamton.edu

No body'd 'splained it Like That to Me Before

During a recent tour of the cooperative library of historical papers, upstairs at the Binghamton Public Library, Gerry Smith was showing various kinds of storage. When he pulled out a drawer of a "flat storage" case (what I would call a map case or maybe blue print drawers) he pointed out a local recruitment poster from the Civil War.

One of the men asked if they had any from the Revolutionary War times. His reply was that they wouldn't have been a good recruitment tool, as most of the men of this area, then, could not read. "Except", he mumbled, "for Joseph Brant."



Audley Allen is the little boy in this photo. The picture was taken on Lee Loomis's new In-Post-Card Size camera, in 1917. It is one of the great photographs Sue Lisk has come across in gathering materials for the book she is working on.



Baptist minister's boy in Maine 1908.

The Board of Trustees for the Nanticoke Valley Historical Society

- Each voting board position has a three year term. Three board positions are to be refilled each year, providing an ever changing but on-going board coverage.
- Board members Stan Lisk, Yancy Moore, and Diane Chianis will serve through 2012.
- Board members Chris Underwood, Janice McKitrick, and Pat Krzyzewski will serve through 2013.
- Board members Alice Hopkins, Clark Gardner, and Dottie Winans will serve through 2014.

Officers

President: Sandy Rozek
 Vice President: Nancy Berry
 Secretary: Carla Sullivan
 Treasurer: Sandy Halliday

Museum Curator

Sue Lisk

Mill Curator

Tom Kotasek

2012 Dues Are now due.

Check the address label to verify that your dues are up to date.

Note: If you are receiving this newsletter via E-mail please check your records to verify that your dues are up to date. Your yearly dues help the Historical Society pay its bills.

The Newsletter E-mail address is:

nvhistoric@verizon.net

Please use the dues return slip below. On the top of your address label is printed your dues Paid/Due status for years 2011 and 2012. Your dues may either be mailed to the Treasurer at the address on the Slip or given to the Treasurer at meetings (in an envelope with your name on it and the dues slip enclosed).

Dues Return Slip - Please Circle Year(s) 2011 2012

Note: See Address label for your Dues Paid status.

Please mail returns to: Nanticoke Valley Historic Society
 Attn: Treasurer
 PO Box 75
 Maine, NY 13802

Is this name or address a change from your address label?

Yes ___ No ___

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: (Home) _____ **(Work)** _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Dues: ___ \$15.00 Single ___ \$20.00 Family ___ \$50.00 Patron ___ \$100.00 Business

Nanticoke Valley Historical Society
March Meeting is Monday March 19
7:00 PM at the Museum

It will be a Heritage sharing program. We know each other so well, but not our backgrounds. You know ----- ancestry, birthplace, background stories of any kind.

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY
PO Box 75
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