



# PLACID PIONEER

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY RECEIVES HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARD

Adirondack Architectural Heritage (AARCH) recently recognized the Lake Placid – North Elba Historical Society (LPNEHS) with a Preservation Award for its sensitive restoration and long term stewardship of the 1904 Lake Placid Train Depot and Freight House. The Award was accepted by Administrative Director and Registrar Jennifer Tufano at the 2011 AARCH Preservation Awards luncheon on September 26 at Garnet Hill Lodge in North River, NY.

Over the past decade the LPNEHS raised over \$100,000 for preservation and restoration of The History Museum and Freight House collections storage facility. This has included repair and replacement of the slate roof, removing tile floors to reveal and refinish original hardwood flooring, installing an accessible walkway at the front entrance, installing new electric service throughout the building and repainting the exterior by restoring the original paint colors. Funds to support these projects came from private board donations, capital campaigns, local foundations and operating funds.



2011 AARCH award recipients.  
Director Jenn Tufano far right.  
Photo courtesy of AARCH

The Freight House, located adjacent to The History Museum, houses large collection items including vehicles, trunks, tools and furniture. In order to make this structure safe and secure private donors and local foundations donated funds which allowed the LPNEHS to stabilize the entire foundation including leveling and reinforcing the floor. Final steps of the restoration included installing new interior lighting and returning the exterior paint to its original color.

Chuck Damp, President of the LP-NEHS, said “We have worked very hard over the years and especially in the last decade to faithfully restore and preserve the historic buildings which house The History Museum and the collections in the Freight House. We are thrilled to be recognized by a regional historic preservation organization such as AARCH for our stewardship of these historic properties. With the community’s ongoing support we will continue to improve these properties to support our mission of preserving, collecting and exhibiting our community’s history and by serving as an educational resource for our community and for our visitors”.

## BEV'S BITS...*A report from the Town Historian, Beverley P. Reid*

### THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY IS FIFTY YEARS OLD

It was in May 1961 that forty interested Lake Placid citizens met at the Lake Placid Public Library to form what is now the Lake Placid-North Elba Historical Society. Their main concern at that time was the demolition of so many of the old landmarks in the area.

Con't. on page 4

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE-Chuck Damp

Dear members and friends,

It is that time of year again. We recently sent to all our members and supporters our solicitation for the annual appeal. This year we are combining efforts with the continuation of the Cornerstone Project. As you all know, we have been working diligently to completely accession and digitize our collections. Originally we had anticipated that the project would take about two years to complete, we now know we were overly optimistic. We have accessioned over 4,500 objects which has enabled us to make available to the public for the first time some items we have had for years.

We are quite confident that we can complete the project by June 2012. We will need approximately \$30,000 to finish the project and fund the repairs we made to the freight house. We were recently recognized by Adirondack Architectural Heritage for our rehabilitation work on the museum building and freight house. Please consider giving generously so we can complete the Cornerstone Project once and for all.

We have had some recent changes to our Trustees that I would like to announce. After many years of service Greg Peacock has resigned from the board. He will truly be missed. His depth of local knowledge was quite valuable and his energy was enviable. Thanks Greg!! Patti Hopkinson has had to step down due to family commitments; Patti was instrumental in bringing back the annual Heritage Day which helps our budget quite tremendously. Thanks Patti.

We have four new trustees which we look forward to working with. Please join me in welcoming Ben Cross, Georgia Jones, Betsy Lowe and Ron Huber. Here's to a great year ahead and thanks for agreeing to help us out!

All my best to you for the upcoming year, Chuck



### LAKE PLACID – NORTH ELBA HISTORICAL SOCIETY



### THE HISTORY MUSEUM

P.O. Box 189  
Lake Placid, NY 12946  
518-523-1608

[TheHistoryMuseum@verizon.net](mailto:TheHistoryMuseum@verizon.net)  
[www.LakePlacidHistory.com](http://www.LakePlacidHistory.com)

#### Board of Trustees

Chuck Damp, President  
Peter Roland, Jr., Vice-President  
Janet Bliss, Secretary  
John Huttlinger, Jr., Treasurer  
Susan Babcock  
Sue Cameron  
Reginald Clark  
Ben Cross  
Dean Dietrich  
Chuck Finley  
Ron Huber  
Georgia Jones  
John Lansing  
Betsy Lowe  
Steve Reed  
Beverley Reid  
Parmelee Tolkan



Director/Registrar  
Jennifer Tufano

## FROM OUR COLLECTION

### A DONATION FROM ANNE DAMP



Lake Placid Ski Club sign #10.617

This sign was recently donated by Anne Damp of Lake Placid.

Do you have a sign related to Lake Placid that you would like to donate? Call Jenn at 518.523.2529 to see if it can be added to the museum collection.



Image and saws from Adirondack Museum

ICE! EXHIBIT CONTINUES TO 2012

## WHO, WHERE, WHEN?



**Do you know anything  
about this picture?**  
**Thehistorymuseum@verizon.net**

### The LP-NEHS is now on Facebook

Thanks to dedicated Trustee Sue Cameron, anyone with a Facebook account can search for 'Lake Placid History Museum', 'Like' us, and follow our events, programs, recognitions, blog posts, exhibit photos, etc. throughout the year.

Please offer us your suggestions and comments. Tell us what you want to see and what would make the site more useful and fun for you!

[www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)

## SOCIETY SEEKING

### OUR WISH LIST

- Volunteers for winter accessioning. As we wrap up our project, we need YOU to help identify photographs in our warm, cozy office. Times and days Monday through Friday are flexible and at your convenience. Please call Jenn today at 523.2529.

## SOCIETY UPDATES

### 2012 'ODDS AND ENDS' WINTER LECTURE SERIES

**HOWARD JOHNSON'S 7:00P**  
**ADMISSION IS FREE**

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| JANUARY 25  | Wilmington Historical Society<br><i>"Postcards from Wilmington"</i> |
| FEBRUARY 29 | Hadley Kruczek-Aaron<br><i>"Tim-buk-to Revisited"</i>               |
| MARCH 21    | Carl Hathaway and Chris Woodward<br><i>"Adirondack Boats"</i>       |
| APRIL 25    | Marilyn McCabe<br><i>"Adirondack Women Writers"</i>                 |

### PAST EVENTS

Thanks to you our new exhibit entitled 'ICE!' and opening receptions were great successes! The collaborative work of trustee Parmelee Tolkan and local author Caperton Tissot resulted in a broad look at ice and its significant impact on our region. The exhibit runs through the 2012 season.



**FOR MORE DETAILS ON ANY OF OUR UPCOMING EVENTS PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT**  
**[WWW.LAKEPLACIDHISTORY.COM](http://WWW.LAKEPLACIDHISTORY.COM)**

## BEV'S BITS...*A report from the Town Historian, Beverley P. Reid can't from p. 1*

The recent purchase of the "Red House" with the plans to replace same with a new motel called "The Lakeside Motor Lodge" was of the greatest concern. The "Red House" built in 1852, was erected by one of the first settlers of Lake Placid by the name of Joseph V. Nash. Three years later Mr. Nash enlarged the house and he became Lake Placid's first innkeeper. Many well known people visited the "Red House" and thus began the tourism trade in Lake Placid.

The establishment of the Society was very successful and their charter was completed before the end of the year. However, the preservation of the "Red House" was not and the property is now the site of the "High Peaks Resort".

Mrs. Mary Prime was elected the first President of the Society and many prominent citizens followed in her footsteps. Laura Viscome held the title of Secretary for the most years and was one of the best "friends" of the Society. Her weekly columns in the Lake Placid News usually called attention to the many meetings, lectures and sales that were being held at and for the Museum.

In 1967 through the generosity of Louise and Frances Brewster, the railroad station was donated to the Society and became their permanent home. Since that time several renovations have been made to the building as well as the storage house. Due to the wonderful donations of antiques and artifacts the Society's collection continues to grow. The process of digitizing the contents to bring then up to modern times is nearly complete. The Society was established to: "encourage interest in our unique history and to maintain programs to acquire, protect and display historic area memorabilia." This original statement is still true today. The Society continues to improve on the collection with the help of local volunteers, grants, benefactors and hundreds of generous contributors.



LAKE PLACID—NORTH ELBA  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
THE HISTORY MUSEUM

NON-PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Lake Placid  
NY 12946  
Permit No. 30