

PLACID PIONEER

HISTORY HAPPENS HERE!

NEW EXHIBIT AT MUSEUM

A collaborative program with the Lake Placid Elementary School's 4th and 5th grades

"This is the best Monday EVER!" is the quote heard around the classroom as the 5th grade history fair was wrapping up on Monday, June 8 at the Lake Placid Elementary School.

The Lake Placid-North Elba Historical Society recently partnered with the Lake Placid Elementary School (LPES) to teach a special class project in which students took a hands-on approach to studying local history.

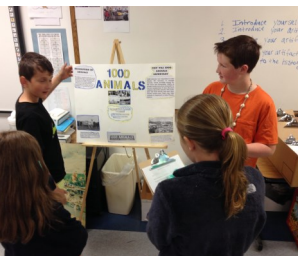
"Their journey into Lake Placid's past started with an artifact from the Lake Placid Historical Society," computer science teacher and program coordinator Tom Dodd said. "If they were interested in ice skating, they chose a pair of ice skates, or if they were interested in John Brown, they were given some primary source documents from the 1850s to take a look at."

The two fourth-grade classes and three fifth-grade classes in the LPES worked with the Historical Society for five days a week over three weeks (one week/class) to study artifacts and produce a finished project which they presented at a History Fair on their final day.

Finished projects will be displayed on a rotating basis at the museum during the 2015 season.



Students displaying finished projects to one another for feedback and comment



LAKE PLACID VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT: 110 YEARS OF SERVICE AND DEDICATION

The exhibit includes photos, documents, stories, and artifacts. It is on display at the History Museum through the 2015-2016 seasons which run from Memorial Day to Columbus Day.

Parmelee Tolkan, Museum/Exhibit Chairperson at the LP-NEHS, got the idea for the exhibit by attending a LPVFD annual department banquet. According to Parmelee: "There were three companies that started. One was down near Mill Pond, one was on the Lake Placid Club property and one was on the far end of town. That was the beginnings of the fire department, you know, everyone was sort of doing it together."

She goes on to say: "I loved the photos of the oldest fire trucks. Actually, I think it's because they are not encased in metal, like they are now, you can't really see the inner workings. On the older trucks, the ladders are hanging on the outside, you can see the hoses, sometimes they have a section where they're carrying 300 gallons of water on the truck—you're really aware of how the truck functions. There's a 1925 truck that we have a picture of that came from a photo of the fire department that I just love. We have been able to use our Stedman and Moses glass plate negative collection to augment, obviously only in the very early period of 1900-1920, but we did have one wonderful photo of that one truck with the fire department band standing behind it on a hill. One of my very favorite photos."



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE - Jennifer Tufano

It's been a pleasure...

Normally this space is reserved for our Board President's message about the state of the Society, our previous accomplishments and future goals. This spring is a little different as I must resign as the Director/Registrar of the Historical Society and re-locate with my family to the Finger Lakes region this summer.

It's with a very heavy heart I am saying goodbye to you all and difficult to articulate what the past six years here has meant to me. As an 'outsider' coming in (from Central NY—gasp!), I was greeted with nothing but kindness and acceptance from my supportive Board of Trustees and the larger community.

As is the case with many of those who live here, Lake Placid became not just where I lived but part of who I am. Our family's intention was to raise our children here until they graduated high school and their immersion in the culture and community drove my interest in developing our school programs. Seeing that program take off is one of the great highlights of my tenure and I hope generations of our local youth continue to benefit from the Historical Society's wealth of local knowledge and collections.

There is not enough space in which to express my gratitude for being able to care for and present your local history these past years. I took my work very seriously and will long remember the many conversations I enjoyed with many of you. I hope you will equally embrace Carla Eilo, your incoming Director/Registrar. She is very excited to continue the good work taking place here.

Until we meet again...



LAKE PLACID – NORTH ELBA
HISTORICAL SOCIETY



THE HISTORY MUSEUM
P.O. Box 189

Lake Placid, NY 12946

518.523.1608 (museum)

518.523.3830 (LPCA office)

TheHistoryMuseum@verizon.net

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Jennifer Tufano—Director/Registrar

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANT RECOMMENDATIONS BEING PUT INTO ACTION

In the fall of 2014, the LP-NEHS, with grant funding from the Museum Association of New York, hired consultant Gwen Spicer of Spicer Art Conservation to complete an environmental assessment of the museum building and adjacent freight house storage building. The primary issue to be addressed with this consultancy relates to our collections storage and lack of climate control. While our organization operates year round, currently in rented space, our seasonal museum building and Freight House out-building hold the bulk of our collection which includes objects, photographs, books, and textiles. Neither of these buildings is insulated and therefore affords no climate control measures.

After an extensive site visit, Gwen provided a lengthy report detailing measures we should take in order to provide better care for our collection into the future. Some of those suggestions included purchasing data loggers to track temperature and humidity levels, re-arranging stored collections, purchasing different shelving units and storage boxes, purchasing a HEPA vacuum to keep down dust and allergens, and wrapping the freight house in a protective membrane. We are taking these suggestions very seriously and are making plans to implement some measures this season.



Director Jenn Tufano visiting the museum basement with consultant Gwen Spicer

WHO, WHERE, WHEN?



Do you know anything about this fire?
From the Stedman and Moses Collection
of glass plate negatives
Thehistorymuseum@verizon.net

ADIRONDACKGIVES.ORG CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY TO FUND NEW SHELVING UNITS AND A HEPA VACUUM!!

At the Historical Society, we get very excited about things like new shelves and safe, healthy vacuum cleaners. But they are very pricey! We hope you will visit our donation page at AdirondackGives.org (a crowd-funding arm of the Adirondack Foundation) and contribute to help us purchase these essential collections preservation items. Their inclusion in our environmental upgrades will help us protect our valuable collection for future generations to appreciate and enjoy.

www.adirondackgives.org

ESTATE PLANNING

- Please consider the LP-NEHS as you make estate planning decisions. Your thoughtful gift would make a real contribution to the longer term preservation of the organization and historic collection. Please contact the LPCA office at 518.523.3830 for more information.

SOCIETY UPDATES

UPCOMING EVENTS

MEMORIAL DAY-COLUMBUS DAY

NEW EXHIBIT OPENING: THE LAKE
PLACID VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPART-
MENT 110 YEARS OF SERVICE AND
DEDICATION **WED-SUN 10AM-4PM**

AUGUST 15 **HERITAGE DAY**
FUNDRAISER AT THE HISTORY
MUSEUM **10AM-2PM**

AUGUST 20 **ANNUAL MEETING**
AT THE HISTORY MUSEUM.
ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS. ALL
ARE WELCOME.

4:30PM, 242 STATION STREET

SEPTEMBER 2015 **HISTORIC TOUR**
MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW

BAKED GOODS, BOOKS, AND VENDORS NEEDED FOR HERITAGE DAY FUNDRAISER

Our annual Heritage Day fundraiser needs your homemade baked goods and newer used books (no text books, encyclopedias, or poor condition items). Books can be dropped off during museum hours Wednesday-Sunday 10am-4pm. If you would like to bake and donate something yummy, please contact the museum office.

And be sure to join us on Heritage Day, August 15th!

All proceeds benefit the Historical Society!

SOCIETY WELCOMES NEW ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR/REGISTRAR CARLA EILO

Carla Eilo will join us as our new Administrative Director/Registrar in early July. She is coming from William Patterson University in New Jersey where she has worked in the Career Development and Advisement Center. Carla has a Masters degree in Museum Management and has previously served with the Thomas Edison National Historical Park in New Jersey and the Morris-Jumel Mansion in New York City. Please join us in welcoming Carla and her husband Dave to Lake Placid and the Adirondacks.

Please come see Carla at the LPCA office or museum this summer!

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

The job of Historian is definitely an interesting and a diverse one. This Spring has been a wonderful example. I was asked to help search information and pictures for the wonderful exhibit for the Museum about the Lake Placid Volunteer Fire Department. I certainly found that to be challenging and interesting. Then a young man contacted me about Lyman Epps and an article written by a former English teacher of LPHS, Fran Mihill. He had discovered that Miss Mihill and his Grandmother had been students of the same professor and had many similar interests. Coincidentally I received a note from a former contact requesting information about people of color who were musicians in the early 1900's.

Another call led me to the Jack Shea residence where I found several 1920's speed skating programs, dozens of pins, patches, etc. (these were shared with Alison from the Olympic Museum). Alison was also working on a display for Henry Uihlein and wondered why, when he was such an avid hockey player in college, did he become so interested in speed skating? We decided it was because of his age and the popularity of speed skating in the 20's compared to hockey.

Then a gentleman who worked at the Lake Placid Club in the late 1970's stopped in with several items from the club, including a key to the "sugar bowl" and a beach blanket with the 1980 Logo. Also a real estate agent who had attained a listing in another town requested information on the location and its connection to Lake Champlain's war stories.

Due to the fact that one of my responsibilities is to keep a scrapbook of obituaries, I also send a list of the yearly obits to the Alumni Association for their annual banquet.

Just some examples of my interesting job.

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