

Lake Placid-North Elba Historical Society Newsletter

June 2018

New Exhibit Suffrage Centennial: Women's Place in Society

The Lake Placid-North Elba Historical Society opened for the season with a new exhibit, *Suffrage Centennial: Women's Place in Society*. The exhibit examines the 100 years since women won the right to vote and explores women's place in local history.

2017 is the centennial of the New York State Women's Suffrage amendment to the State Constitution. Women were granted the right to vote in state elections in 1917 three years before universal suffrage passed in Washington.

2018 is the 170th anniversary of the Seneca Falls Convention which met in July 1848 and was also the year the legislature adopted the NYS Married Women's Property Act. This bill recognized a woman's right to own property separately from her husband, thus granting her some amount of financial freedom.

2019 is the anniversary of the 1919 New York State legislature's approval of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution. In 1920 the 36th state, Tennessee, ratified the amendment and women finally had the right to vote in all local, state and federal elections.

Lake Placid was not a center of protest as women sought the vote; however, the fourth annual Suffrage Convention of Essex County was held at the Lake Placid Club in 1917. The exhibition will celebrate the Suffrage Centennial and explore local women who pushed societal norms and whose contributions created a lasting impact on Lake Placid. The exhibit will also address the lives of women who made their impact by the life they lived within their families.

The Historical Society wants and encourages community participation. The exhibit has a Memory Wall where guests are invited to share memories, stories and photographs relating to women and their history in Lake Placid. We invite the public to contribute photos, stories and memories that illustrate the life of women in Lake Placid. These memories and photographs will become part of the exhibition and help to illustrate the life of women in Lake Placid during the last one hundred years.

The exhibition is sponsored by The Cloudsplitter Foundation and a Humanities New York Vision Grant. An opening reception will be at The History Museum, 242 Station Street, Lake Placid, on June 27th. If you want more information, have memories, stories, or observations that you would like to see included please contact the Society at info@lakeplacidhistory.com or call Courtney Bastian at 518-523-3830.

President's Message~

Dear Members and Friends,

Welcome Spring! On Saturday, May 12, the LPNEHS board gathered for the annual spring cleaning of the Train Station. Steve Sama, the chairman of the building and grounds committee along with Vice President Parmelee Tolkan organized the project list and at the end of the day, the Train Station (along with the Freight House) were polished, refreshed and beautified for the summer season. Steve Sama and his crew have done a wonderful job of caring for the buildings. We have been so fortunate to have completed some necessary improvements - painting, new lighting in the small gallery, bathroom improvements and new window boxes to name a few. The next major task at hand will be to replace the slate roof. This project will be a labor of love for our board and membership and we are excited to bring this major project to reality.

The summer programs kick off with the opening of the Museum on May 26th. The Museum will be open weekends only until mid June, and then Wednesday through Sunday throughout the summer. The opening benefit reception to celebrate the new Exhibit - Suffrage Centennial: Women's Place in Society will be on June 27th. The exhibit includes a peek into some amazing local women and their contributions to the evolution of the community that we love today. The annual Heritage Fair will be on August 18th complete with the famous book sale, bake sale, fun activities and music. Finally, please stay tuned for the details of the annual autumn "tour" - the events committee is hard at work organizing an informative and fun evening.

In closing, we are so grateful for the support of our membership, trustees and volunteers. Together, we have made it possible for the Society to grow. As we restore and care for the legacy of the train station and provide resources for education and exposure of our unique history, your participation and support make it possible. THANK YOU!

Sincerely,

Patricia Clark

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Courtney Bastian

Director/ Collections Manager

Bev's Bits~

A report from the Town Historian, Beverley P. Reid

Another successful Winter Olympics is now in the books. While watching our wonderful athletes perform in South Korea I could not help but think how lucky my generation was to be born in Lake Placid during the early 20th century. Living in Lake Placid after the 1932 Olympics was a wonderful experience for all.

We had the brand new venues built for the games to "play" on all during our growing up years... In my family, my oldest brother became interested in bob sledding, my other brother tried ski jumping and downhill, while I fell in love with figure skating. Not only could we compete in these sports but we were lucky enough to be able to attend National, International, World competitions that were scheduled for the area. Fabulous Canadian ice shows, Ice Follies and Stars on Ice were performed at the Olympic Arena. Athletes of every sport trained here, attended schools and became a part of our families.

The very first Olympic gold medal was awarded to a local man, Charles Jewtraw, in speed skating and from that time on the North Country has had at least one athlete compete in a Winter Olympics. At the present time there have been one hundred and eighteen athletes, hundreds of coaches and thousands of local volunteers who have participated in the Olympics in and out of Lake Placid.

"And the beat goes on."

OLUNTEER WITH US

The Lake Placid-North Elba Historical Society is always looking for volunteers. Being a very small organization we depend on a single employee and many volunteer hours from our friends and Board. There are many ways to help: accessioning objects in our collection-it's fun! cleaning glass plate negatives, helping organize and host the Heritage Fair, providing baked goods and book donations for the Heritage Fair, and preparing mailings.



Volunteer Andrew Smith cleaning glass plate negatives

Please call Courtney Bastian at 518-523-3830 or by email info@lakeplacidhistory.com to discuss opportunities!



Thank you to our recent supporters!

Events and Programs: Adirondack Education Foundation Generous Acts Fund, Essex County Cultural Assistance Program, and Stewart's Shops Exhibition Support: Humanities New York Vision Grant and the Cloudsplitter Foundation Operational Support: Adirondack Education Foundation & the Uihlein Foundation

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www.lakeplacidhistory.com info@lakeplacidhistory.com



LPCA office (518) 523-3830

GET YOUR LIBRARY BOOKS AT THE Train Station!

The Lake Placid Public Library will offer patrons who have ordered books through interlibrary loan or have books on hold the option of picking them up on Thursdays or Fridays at the History Museum to avoid the traffic of Main Street. When your book arrives, the Librarian will ask for your preference on a pickup location!

SOCIETY EVENTS

Summer Hours: Wednesday - Sunday, 10am-4pm New Exhibit- Suffrage Centennial: Women's Place in Society

June 16 & 17 and October 6 & 7—Behind the Scenes **Collections Tour**

As a stop on New York State's Path Through History Weekend, join us as we dive into our collections storage in a rare behind the scenes tour. Learn why collections management and conservation is critical for preserving history! Tours available with general museum admission.

June 27th— Museum Opening Reception BENEFIT

Celebrate the museum season and our new exhibit at our reception, Wednesday June 27th 5-7pm.

August 18th—Heritage Fair

Join us for our annual family event that features our famous bake sale, used book sale, and live music. In the Museum we will be celebrating the New York State Suffrage Centennial. There will be activities for all ages. 10am -2pm

Annual Meeting August 24, 2018

All members are welcome. The History Museum 4:45pm, 242 Station Street On the agenda: Election of new officers

Historic Fall Tour - STAY TUNED for details

This year the Historic Fall Tour will explore past post office locations in Lake Placid. This event is always great fun and informative, too.



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Lake Placid-North Elba Historical Society

LAKE PLACID-NORTH ELBA HISTORICAL SOCIETY THE HISTORY MUSEUM

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