JANUARY PROGRAM

Honor Flight

On Tuesday, January 27th, John Paddock, HFS Co-founder and Vice President, will highlight Honor Flight Syracuse (HFS). HFS, operating from Hancock International Airport, is Central NY’s own hub in the national Honor Flight Network. HFS transports military veterans at no cost to Washington, DC, to visit memorials dedicated to honor their sacrifices; a number of local veterans are now HFS Mission alumni. Priority is veterans from World War II, Korean War and any veteran with a terminal illness.

Please join us at 7:30 at 28 Hannum Street to:

- Learn how Skaneateles organizations and individuals were instrumental in forming HFS;
- View a short video documenting an HFS Mission;
- Get information on applying for an HFS Mission or becoming a volunteer;
- Discuss how Honor Flight might complement community historical society work.

In this photo, 98-year-old veteran Paul Fritsch, seated, talks with a younger veteran in front of the World War II Memorial during last year’s Honor Flight.

Photo courtesy of Ed Magdziak
CREAMERY HOURS, JAN-MARCH
Fridays, 1-4 p.m.
Winterfest: Sat., Jan. 24, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Or by appointment

FEBRUARY PROGRAM
The Source of Water for Onondaga County and the Potential Impact of Climate Change

Dr. Neil Murphy, Jr. will present our program on Tuesday, February 24 at 7:30 p.m. at The Museum at The Creamery. Dr. Murphy is Senior Fellow for Environmental and Sustainable Systems at the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, and was President from 2000-2013.

His technical expertise lies in the areas of environmental science and engineering, hazardous waste management, renewable energy systems, limnology, urban runoff planning, and industrial wastewater treatment. And, he's a long-time summer resident of Skaneateles Lake.

The City of Syracuse started taking their drinking water from Skaneateles Lake around 1890. While much has been written about the history of the “water steal,” this program will be an interesting look at future concerns that could be influenced by climate change.

Please join us, and bring a friend or neighbor. Refreshments will be served.

AMAZON SMILE PROGRAM
Do you shop at Amazon? If so, they have started a new program that donates a percentage of all eligible sales to a charity of your choice. The Skaneateles Historical Society is now participating, so all you have to do is go to:

http://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7339639

and shop as usual. No cost to you, a benefit to us--what a great deal! Give it a try!
In October 2014, S.H.S. presented a program about the acquisition and history of an old, early 20th Century Skaneateles Boat and Canoe Company model No. 5 “double end rowboat,” built c. 1908.

Credit and our thanks go to Mr. John Wilson of Charlotte, MI., (shown here in March of 2011 at the time of delivery).

The story of her “rescue from certain oblivion” and ultimately her professional, proper documentation, also credited to Mr. Wilson, are now secure in the S.H.S. archives. (sic) “Documentation of a quality crafted, small ‘pulling rowboat’ — the craftsmanship of which had been long lost from any records of her original design and creation,” he expressed.

These detailed documents and plans are available for purchase. You may see a sample set in our Gift Shop, and if you’re interested, ask for details on how to order the various components…paper plans, "study plans," or the CD which includes everything.

There is a wonderful display of Skaneateles-built skiffs, sailboats, canoes, and other small pleasure boats on display in our Boat Building and addition, along with their histories on Skaneateles Lake and elsewhere around the Finger Lakes.

This is fascinating material. Hopefully you will pay us a visit to see “what’s new,” — or should we say, “what’s old?”

- David Bates

Building repairs in progress

The Skaneateles Historical Society is in the midst of major repairs on our original building, which was renovated 25 years ago. Although the building is owned by the Village, we are responsible for its maintenance. Failed tile flooring, outdated insulation, and roof repair costs are exceeding our reserve accounts. The most critical need is to prevent roof ice dams forming, which in previous winters has caused leaks right over some of our most valuable artifacts, including the sleigh that was made in Skaneateles in 1892.

If you have not already been asked to donate to these projects, please consider doing so. One of the primary goals in our Mission Statement is to preserve the artifacts that have been entrusted to us, and we need everyone’s help to accomplish this. Your tax-deductible donations can be made online at our new website, or send a check to the Skaneateles Historical Society with a notation for Repairs.

We deeply appreciate your generous support as we continue to serve our community and delight visitors with our outstanding museum, which you have made possible.
New President for the Historical Society
by Julie DiBagio

Dave Bates is stepping out of the role of vice president and into the role of president of the Skaneateles Historical Society following Karlene Miller's retirement.

Dave's background is in printing and graphic arts design from RIT's school of printing. He served three years in the US Army.

Dave and his wife, Toppie, moved to Skaneateles in 1999. Upon retirement he became interested in the history of his new community. One day he wandered into the Creamery museum and there met Pat Blackler, who, when she learned of his background in printing, wasted no time in asking him to help with the organization of antique printing material and a time line of the Skaneateles newspapers. Also around this time, he read an archival copy of The Loomis Gang and realized that local history could be quite colorful. He was hooked.

Dave took over the S.H.S. membership data base and assumed the vice presidency when Kathy Kane retired. This VP job also entailed the program chairmanship which he has managed to the present.

When asked what he would like to see evolve from his role as president, he pragmatically answered that he couldn't respond until he has been in the role for awhile. He does stress, however, that he wants to maintain the dedication and enthusiasm of his predecessor.

Welcome, Dave!

Winterfest--January 24, 2015

Please join us on Saturday, Jan. 24 for special hours, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., to see our ice-cutting exhibit and photos of winter scenes from years gone by. We’ll even be serving cocoa! There’s a photo on the back page of this newsletter that shows ice cutting near West Lake St.
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Electronic version of our newsletter

We’re still working on this; there is currently a problem with some people’s spam filters. If you indicated an interest in an email version, you may receive it. In the meantime, we’re still mailing hard copies to everyone as well.

It will always be mailed in paper format for those of you who prefer that option.

BOARD MEMBERS: President, David Bates; V-P, Secretary, Mona Smalley; Corresponding Secretary, Karen Lengyl; Treasurer, Betsy Foote; Town Historian, Beth Battle; Village Historian, Jorge Battle; Members-at-large, Julie DiBagio, Robert Green, John Havemeyer, David Miller, Karlene Miller, Barbara Patrick, Joseph Spalding, Susan Spalding, Bill Stinson, Lewis Wellington, Richard Whalen
MUSEUM DIRECTOR: Laurie Winship

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A MESSAGE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

First, let us remind everyone that January marks the beginning of the 2015 membership year. Your newsletter’s address label reflects your last renewal on record. Please take a moment and look for that date. Anything other than “2015” means your membership needs to be renewed.

We realize a few members wish to renew at the same time each year; i.e. toward the end of the calendar year. If that is you, please continue to do so.

David Bates
Membership Chair
davebates3@gmail.com
(315) 497-3446

Make check payable to The Skaneateles Historical Society and mail to David Bates, 5623 Mack Road, Skaneateles, NY 13152.

NAME(S) ____________________________________________________________
ADDRESS ________________________________________________________________________________

email address ____________________________________________________________ Please print clearly. Emails are only used for notifying members about upcoming programs and other events.
MEMBERSHIP $___________________
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BOARD MEMBERS: President, David Bates; V-P, Bill Stinson; Secretary, Mona Smalley; Corresponding Secretary, Karen Lengyel; Treasurer, Betsy Foote; Town Historian, Beth Batlle; Village Historian, Jorge Batlle; Members-at-large, Julie DiBagio, Robert Green, John Havemeyer, David Miller, Karlene Miller, Barbara Patrick, Susan Spalding, Richard Whalen
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Ice cutting on the lake, off of West Lake St., around the turn of the century.

Photo donated by Shirley Feldmann