



# The Historian

A Publication of the Three Village Historical Society



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## The Three Village Historical Society

### Governing Board

Peter Paul Ostapow  
*President*  
Patricia Yantz  
*Vice President*  
Karin Lynch  
*Treasurer*  
Patricia Richter  
*Recording Secretary*

### Trustees:

Fred Bryant  
Patricia Cain  
Frank Degen  
Stephen Healy  
Steven Hintze  
Ronald LaVita  
Michael O'Dwyer  
Gregory Perricone  
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Frank Turano

### Staff:

Patricia Hildebrandt  
*Executive Director*  
Karen Martin  
*Archivist*  
Donna Smith  
*Director of Education*  
Betty Domino  
*Office Manager*  
Dianne Trautmann  
*Office Assistant*

Volume 47 Issue 4

Winter 2010

## Patricia Hildebrandt appointed Executive Director



The Society welcomes new Executive Director Patricia Hildebrandt. Photo courtesy of P. Hildebrandt

The Three Village Historical Society is pleased to welcome Patricia Hildebrandt as its new Executive Director. Ms. Hildebrandt's vast experience in historical endeavors includes serving for seven years as the Director of Education for the Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities from 2003 to 2009.

As a graduate student, Ms. Hildebrandt managed the educational programs and taught classes for the Three Village Historical Society while earning her masters degree in Liberal Studies at Stony Brook University.

She has been the caretaker of the historical Sherwood Jayne House in Setauket, where she has lived for six and a half years. While Director of Education at SLPIA she oversaw the annual Apple Festival and other educational activities and events. She is a Board Member of the Setauket Civics Association and a co-char of the Greening of 25A committee. Ms. Hildebrandt is also involved in many historical education programs at the Brentwood library and other Long Island organizations.

"I am happy to work for an organization that I have been involved with and worked for in the past", she said, "I wholeheartedly support the mission of the Three Village Historical Society."

A native Long Islander, Ms. Hildebrandt has also lived in Vermont and Ohio.

## 32nd Annual Candlelight House Tour

Our sincerest thanks goes out to all who made the 32nd annual Candlelight House Tour a huge success. Our homeowners, Nancy & Luke Boland, Carol & Bill Gray, Elaine & Enzo Micali, Michael J. Opisso, Frank & Arlene Vero and Donald & Christine Woodring, all deserve a special thank you for opening their homes and hearts to us. Special thanks to our generous sponsors, wonderful volunteers, docents, Traffic Chair and committee, House Chairs and committee members who made this year's tour "Petticoats and Patriots" a most memorable one.

Thank You!

**Patricia Yantz**

Chair

2010 Candlelight House Tour



View of Little Bay, the same view Anna Smith Strong had of Abraham Woodhull's house during the time the Culper Spy Ring operated in Setauket.

Photograph: Beverly Tyler

## Notice of Annual Meeting

**Meeting takes place at the Emma S. Clark Library Community Room, 120 Main St., Setauket. 7:00: reception, 7:30 Annual Meeting, 7:45-9:00 Speaker.**

**Stay connected.  
Receive event  
reminders and  
updates on  
volunteering  
opportunities.  
Send us your  
email address!  
info@tvhs.org**

The purpose of the Annual Meeting is to elect Officers and Trustees. The following is the slate of candidates for all offices of the Society as provided by the Nominating Committee.

The 2010 TVHS Nominating Committee submits the following slate of trustees:

<b>President</b>	Patty Yantz
<b>Co-Vice President</b>	Frank Turano
<b>Co-Vice President</b>	Steve Hintze
<b>Corresponding Secretary</b>	Carol Lane
<b>Treasurer</b>	Karin Lynch
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	Barbara Gottfried
<b>Past President</b>	Peter P. Ostapow

### Class of 2011

Cathy White  
Michael Hynes  
Andrew Pelosi  
Robert Lauto

### Class of 2012

Fred Bryant  
Michael O'Dwyer  
Steve Healy  
Patty Cain

### Class of 2013

Donna Smith  
Ron LaVita  
Frank Degen  
Janet McCauley

Respectfully submitted – 12/8/2010

by Janette Handley & Joan Miaritis ,Co-chairs; Michael O'Dwyer and Fred Bryant

*Additional nominations can be submitted in writing by at least five (5) members to the Corresponding Secretary not less than thirty (30) days before the Annual Meeting on January 24, 2011. You may mail, fax or email your nomination(s) to the TVHS office. All nominees shall have agreed to serve if elected. All qualified names will be placed on the ballot. Nominations from the floor at the Annual Meeting will not be accepted.*

### The Historian

Is published quarterly by the Three Village Historical Society.

Suggestions for articles are welcome. Please send all articles, photos, feedback and ideas to:

**info@tvhs.org**

In the subject line

please include:

**The Historian.**

The deadline: for our

next issue is

February 15, 2011

### Acting Editor & Layout:

Dianne Trautmann

Betty Domino

Assistant Editor:

Fran Harrison

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## TVHS Calendar of Events



**SPIES!** *How a Group of Long Island Patriots Helped George Washington Win the Revolution* is open Sundays from 1-4:00 p.m., including December 26th and January 2nd. The exhibit will also be open on Wednesday, December 29th from 1-4:00 p.m. Admission: \$5/person for adults and \$3/person for children and TVHS members. *Exhibit made possible in part by a grant from NYCH.*

**Monday, January 24, 7:00pm: Monthly Lecture Series and Annual Meeting.** Election of new slate to the TVHS Board of Trustees by the membership. Slide show of photos taken by Bev Tyler from the 32nd Annual Candlelight House Tour. Presentation: "In the Good Old Colony Days: Songs of Early America" by Linda Russell and the New York Council for the Humanities. **Meeting takes place at the Emma S. Clark Library** Community Room, 120 Main St., Setauket. 7:00: reception, 7:30 Annual Meeting, 7:45-9:00 Speaker.

**Please note, the Emma S. Clark Library is closed on National Holidays. Therefore, on those occasions, our Lecture Series and Member Meeting will take place a week later. The months effected this year are: January, February and September.** Please call 631-751-3730 or check our website [www.tvhs.org](http://www.tvhs.org) if you are unsure of the date for a particular meeting of event.

## President's Message



***"My parting wish is that we all make it our personal mission to ask people to become members of this truly wonderful organization."***

Peter Paul Ostapow,  
President of the Three  
Village Historical Society.  
*Photo courtesy of Susan  
Byrnes*

***If you are interested in volunteering for any of our Winter Events help is needed for the Monthly Lecture Series and Annual Dinner. Contact Donna Higgins at (631) 751-5177***

Let me begin by wishing you all a very joyous holiday season. May it be filled with love and happiness, and best wishes for a prosperous New Year.

The questions I am compelled to ask, now that I am coming to the end of my tenure is, **What did we accomplish? Did we leave the TVHS in better shape than when we found it?** To give an honest answer to the questions, I had to turn to our newsletter *The Historian* (Volume 26, issue 1) to see what we set out to accomplish. Our primary goal was to increase public awareness, participation, membership and revenue.

In October, we opened our newest exhibit, SPIES *How a Group of Long Island Patriots Helped George Washington Win the Revolution*. Many of our members and staff helped with the project, but it was our longtime member, Elizabeth Kahn Kaplan, who was our guiding force. She is to be congratulated for introducing the idea and thanked for assisting in the design and implementation of the installation. In addition she raised most of the funds, including writing the major grant that we received.

We moved our monthly lecture series to the Emma S. Clark Memorial Library so that we could have access to their audio/visual equipment, the convenience of their larger parking lot and also to enhance our visibility in the community. We introduced a Stewardship Campaign to raise funds to maintain the Bayles-Swezey homestead, our headquarters, located at 93 North Country Road in Setauket. As a result of our initial effort, the campaign provided us with the funds to upgrade our electrical system, update our restroom, refinish the plank flooring and paint the entire first floor which houses our exhibits. As soon as spring arrives, we will install a new roof, hopefully add gutters and leaders, and repair and paint the exterior.

Financially, we are in good shape considering the present economic climate. Our 32<sup>nd</sup> Candlelight House Tour was a success thanks to our chairperson, Patty Yantz, and the generosity of the homeowners for allowing us to include their wonderful homes on the tour.

Through your continued support we are able to maintain our office staff and cover our overhead. On a non-financial front, I believe we have a much better handle on the issues concerning the Society and how best to address them. We have new exhibits and projects scheduled for completion in the months and years ahead.

In 2010, we hired a new director, Dr. Catherine Abrams, who helped us secure a few grants and assisted in the development of our new exhibit. Dr. Abrams was recently replaced by the extremely talented Patricia Hildebrandt. She will guide the Society to the next level along with our incoming officers and board of trustees.

After three years of dedicated service, our office manager, Betty Domino will be leaving us before the year's end. On behalf of the Society I would like to thank her for all of her help, guidance and hard work towards the Society's mission.

In the final analysis I believe we have accomplished all our goals and I am leaving the Society on solid ground. I wish the new officers and board much success in the coming years. My parting wish is that we all make it our personal mission to ask people to become members of this truly wonderful organization. Thank you for this opportunity to serve.

Sincerely,  
***Peter Paul Ostapow***

**Membership Renewal:** Membership in the Three Village Historical Society is renewed in January. If you have not renewed your membership for 2011, please use the form found on the back of the newsletter. *Not sure if you need to renew?* Call the office Monday-Friday from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. or email us at [info@tvhs.org](mailto:info@tvhs.org) and we will check on your membership status for you. ***The office will be closed for the holidays from Dec. 24, 2010—Jan. 3, 2011.***

***Happy Holidays from the Three Village Historical Society Board of Trustees & office staff.***

Three Village Historical Society  
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East Setauket, NY 11733-0076

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### All members are entitled to Basic Benefits:



10% Discount on all Gift Shop Purchases  
Subscription to The Historian newsletter  
Nine Monthly Member Meetings  
Discount and Advance purchase on all  
of the Society's programs

#### Suggested Membership Levels:

- Individual: \$30.00
- Dual/Family: \$50.00
- Patron: \$100.00
- Benefactor: \$250.00
- Helmsman: \$500.00
- Midshipman: \$1000.00

**Rates Reflect Annual Dues,  
Renewable January of Each Year**

For a complete list of benefits for each level of  
membership please visit our website:

**<http://www.tvhs.org>**

### The Three Village Historical Society Membership Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Payment:**

Check payable to: ***Three Village Historical Society***

or

Credit Card: MasterCard or Visa:

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail application to:  
**The Three Village Historical Society**  
93 North Country Rd.  
Setauket, NY 11733