

HISTORICAL



NOTES

Newsletter of the Garden City Historical Society

Volume 7, Number 2

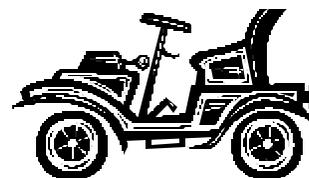
www.gardencityhistoricalsociety.org

Spring 2005

June 2 Free Lecture: The Vanderbilt Cup Races of Long Island



Please join us for a Night at the Races ...
The Vanderbilt Cup Races



THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 7:30 p.m.
Large Meeting Room, Public Library, Lower Level

Lecturer Howard Kroplick will bring his audience back to the historic races with rarely seen images and film of Long Island, including the Garden City Hotel, the race headquarters. The presentation recalls the days in American history when auto racing had its earliest triumphs and fascination for speed was first satisfied. After the race left the local roadways, the first international auto race held in the United States sped its way along Vanderbilt's Long Island Motor Parkway, passing through Garden City.

Mr. Kroplick is a research volunteer at the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum, and a member of the Vanderbilt Race Cup Centennial Committee and the Long Island Motor Parkway Panel. He has researched the races, collecting over 13,000 photos and articles and accumulating one of the largest collections of Vanderbilt Cup Race memorabilia in the world. He'll have quite a display.

Prior to the start of the lecture, the Garden City Historical Society will hold its annual meeting, beginning at 7 p.m. in the library meeting room. The agenda includes the installation of officers. All current members are invited to attend.



Society News

OFFICERS

President
Brian Pinnola
Vice President
Neal Griffin
Secretary
Peggy Griffin
Treasurer
John Traxler

TRUSTEES

Joanne Adams
NancyAnn Akeson
George Bowen
Maureen Clancy
Bill Eckel
Kris Harder
Betsy Patterson
Phil Sands
Sally Schreier
Vincent Seyfried
Joe Stanco
Ed Starr
Maureen Traxler
Newsletter Editor

Committee Members

MaryJane Caldwell
Dale DeMasco
Marjorie Egan
Rob and Dodie Franz
Gloria Jones
Christine Meyers

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Our 2005 Membership Drive is continuing. New members always welcome. Visit our website at www.gardencityhistoricalsociety.org.

House Report: For the past year, the Garden City Historical Society Museum on Eleventh Street has been undergoing renovation and restoration work, thanks to the support of State Senator Kemp Hannon, who was instrumental in helping the Society receive grant funding. Our House Committee has also sought grants through the Empire State Development Corporation. Finishing outdoor work includes the front porch steps and railing and plans for a handicap access ramp entrance. The Society has petitioned the Village of Garden City for a temporary Certificate of Occupancy, pending completion of final work.

Work Session: President Brian Pinnola schedule a work session as part of the February Board of Directors meeting. After a brief business meeting, the directors moved many of the larger items in storage on the second and third floors of the Historic House to positions on the main floor. Prior to the work session, photographs from the Society's collection had been hung on the walls. Additional artifacts are being selected for refurbishing in anticipation of a fall opening of the museum.

Special Thanks: Over recent months, the Society has received several outstanding donations. Through solicitation in our February membership drive, residents Ruthann and Bill Geery donated two copies of a map of Garden City, dated April 1, 1935, drawn by Charles Leavitt Jr., a noted landscape engineer who also designed parts of Long Beach, Long Island, and a map, dated September 1941, of the Franklin Court development. Former Society president Joseph Stanco was instrumental in the donation a Dell computer, complete with monitor, keyboard and mouse from his employer, Rallye Motors. The computer will be used in the Archive Room for artifacts cataloguing and membership database. Contributing members Marjorie and Michael Egan donated a Dell printer to be used with the computer. The Kellum Family donated paintings of John Kellum and his wife. John Kellum was the architect chosen by A.T. Stewart to carry out his plans for the building of Garden City. And finally, former Society president Ani Robertson donated a antique bedroom set.

New Initiatives: The Board of Directors has set up an A.T. Stewart Award Committee, which has met to draw up criteria for an annual award to be given by the Society to an individual homeowner and a non-residential entity that have improved the look of their property in keeping with the aesthetic quality of the Village. In addition, the Society is continuing its Historic Structure Survey. To date, five Village properties have completed the Society's survey, documenting the historic data on their homes or non-residential structures.

Message from President Brian Pinnola

Dear Friends,
By the time you read our newsletter, we may have already received our Certificate of Occupancy from the Village Building Department!

Seventeen years ago, our 1872 Apostle House was moved to its present location, and is now ready to embark on its new role as the Garden City Historical Society Museum. An integral part of any museum is its collections, and the "Society" has been actively pursuing acquisitions to expand its archives collections, which will enhance every museum visitor's experience. We encourage our members and the public to contact us if they have any historical items they would like to donate that may be of interest to the "Society". Some of the items we are seeking include building plans, surveys, books, magazines, maps, paintings, photographs, telephone books and other printed material. Period furniture and clothing are also important items that will enhance our collection. If you are unsure if an item is "of interest," please do not hesitate to call or e-mail us at info@gardencityhistoricalsociety.org, as we welcome all inquiries.

Further, as we prepare to open the museum, we will be seeking volunteers to staff the facility during visitor hours. No previous experience is necessary, and the tranquil setting inside the museum should prove to be enjoyable and rewarding.

Please visit our store on our website www.gardencityhistoricalsociety.org. Our comfortable afghans, featuring seven embroidered Garden City historic structures, make wonderful graduation, birthday or anniversary gifts.

Lastly, I look forward to meeting all of you at our spring lecture, "The Vanderbilt Cup Races of Long Island," on June 2, 7:30 p.m. in the Garden City Library.

Thank you for your patience and continued support. God bless America!

Sincerely, Brian A. Pinnola, (516) 456-0433



Did You Recognize this Wall?

Congratulations to William Slattery who correctly identified this photo taken of the southwest wall at St. Paul's School. The Society presented him with a complimentary copy of former Village historian Mildred Smith's book, "Garden City, Long Island, in Early Photographs, 1869-1919".



Where in the Garden City World... Do you recognize this building?



Red brick, white trim, this building was built in 1902. It's still in use today, and the folks who work there are still doing similar work?

What building is it and where is it located? Send your guess to info@gardencityhistoricalsociety.org and win Mildred Smith's book of early Garden City photographs.

Nominating Committee Report:

The Society's Nominating Committee proposed the following slate of officers: Brian Pinnola, President; Neal Griffin, Vice President; Gloria Jones, Secretary, and Alisa Backert, Treasurer. Officers will be installed at the June 2 meeting.

Historical Notes Email Express

Bringing our organization into the 21st century, the Society would like to send our newsletter, *Historical Notes*, via email to all our supporters who would prefer to receive the publication in that fashion. It's easy — no paper. If you'd like to receive *Historical Notes* via email, please email the Webmaster at info@gardencityhistoricalsociety.org and tell us to put you on our electronic mailing list. It's that simple!

Garden City Historical Society
P.O. Box 179
Garden City, New York 11530-0179

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 133
GARDEN CITY, N.Y. 11530
