

LHC Summer News # 93- June 2004

Stone Strategies: Documentation, Conservation and Stewardship of Historic Cemeteries

LHC and the Hudson Valley Documentary Heritage Program (DHP) will present the third in a continuing series of workshops throughout the region focused on issues and examples of documenting the historical record and preserving stones and landscapes of historic cemeteries. The July 8, 2004 all-day workshop will take place at St. Thomas's Lutheran Church, and the Churchtown Cemetery, in Churchtown, Columbia County. Previous workshops have been held in Newburgh (Orange County) and in Brewster (Putnam County), and have been attended by participants from local governments, historical societies, religious institutions and community preservation associations from Manhattan (NY County), Westchester, Rockland, Orange, Putnam, Dutchess, Ulster and Sullivan Counties.

The Columbia County Stone Strategies workshop on July 8th has been organized in cooperation with Columbia County Historical Society Curator Helen McLallen, who also serves on the HVDHP Advisory Committee, and is presented with generous support from the Fund for Columbia County of the Berkshire-Taconic Community Foundation. Call LHC: 914-592-6726 or e-mail lowerhudson@msn.com. Registration information is found in this newsletter and on-line.

The Hudson Valley Documentary Heritage Program & Lower Hudson Conference "Handling History" Workshops, present a program co-sponsored by the Columbia County Historical Society, with support from the Fund for Columbia County of the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation:

Stone Strategies:

Documentation, Stewardship and Conservation of Historic Cemeteries

Thursday, July 8, 2004

9:30 am -4:30 pm

Host site: St. Thomas' Lutheran Church Churchtown, N.Y. at the intersection of the Towns of Claverack, Livingston and Taghanic

Historic cemeteries are found in every community, with so many in emergency need of documentation and preservation as residential and business development projects progress through the urban, suburban and rural farming communities of the Hudson Valley. Here's a hands-on chance for citizens, local historians, educators, librarians, genealogists, community groups and historical societies to **learn professional and practical steps necessary to preserve a vanishing heritage**. Those who are responsible for care & access to cemetery property and the information incised on historic gravestones, will find archivists and conservators in a workshop setting, to highlight state & local legal issues, and to demonstrate identification, documentation & preservation strategies you can use.

9:30-11 Stewardship & Documentation – *DHP Archivists Dianne Macpherson and Erica Blumenfeld* *Identify laws and existing historical records signifying ownership and stewardship of historic cemeteries; *Explain where to get permission and access to cemetery properties and records; *Outline methods of documentation (transcription, mapping, photography) resulting in the creation of historical records; *Show how to plan & produce finding aids, and place documentary records in accessible formats and repositories. Local documentation case studies will be presented throughout the morning.

11-12:30 Introduction to Conservation & Preservation – *Conservator C.R. Jones* of the New York State Historical Association, Cooperstown, will demonstrate the identification of gravestone materials, their condition and cleaning techniques, and offer a slide-survey of cemetery markers and their typical physical problems.

12:30 Lunch: bring your own; cold drinks provided.

1:30–4 Conservation walk-through of Churchtown Cemetery – with C.R. Jones, guiding us in practical methods we *can* take, as well as those we should *avoid*, in planning for historic cemetery preservation. Hands-on demonstrations of basic preservation practices, such as stone re-setting, on site.

4 - 4:30 Wrap-Up questions and discussion among participants and presenters.

Workshop Registration Fees: Stone Strategies July 8th

\$30 for LHC members and representatives of Columbia County organizations

\$40 for non-members;

\$25 each for 2 or more from an LHC or Columbia County organization

Complete registration form & mail with fee to: LHC 2199 Saw Mill River Rd., Elmsford, NY 10523

Directions to the Churchtown host site will be sent upon receipt of registration.

Name (s)

Organization / position

Address

Town/State/Zip

Tel: []

E-mail:

Historic cemetery of concern in *your* community:

Total fee enclosed \$_____

Summer Newsletter, continued:

Housing History in the Metro-Suburban Region:

Did you know that there are 120 historic house museums open to the public in the Hudson Valley and greater metropolitan NY-NJ-CT region served by Lower Hudson Conference? With singular approaches to common issues of collections care, historic preservation, education and interpretation, these sites, their boards and staff face common needs for professional development, training and collaborative audience and historical research. Seeking relevance to the past and to new audiences in changing communities, urban, suburban and rural historic house museums search a wealth of resources in the field for answers to the question “Whose History?” is collected, preserved and interpreted for the public, and “Who’s Learning from Whose History?”

In the five boroughs of New York City, the **Historic House Trust** preserves and promotes the (22) historic houses located in New York City parks. Working in partnership with the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation, the goal of the Trust is to provide new levels of attention, support and specialized care to benefit these museums. The Historic House Trust of New York City has published a new guidebook, *Historic Houses in New York City Parks*. The first comprehensive guide to the Trust’s collection in more than 10 years, the book features the work of eight photographers and includes historic images from NYC collections. See www.historichousetrust.org.

History Resources Up Against The Wall: Historic wallpaper library and archives are available at Historic New England (formerly SPNEA, the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities), either at their headquarters in Boston (617/227-3956) or on line at www.spnea.org/wallpaper/. As part of the NEH-funded *Wallpaper in New England Project*, wallpapers from the 1750's to the 1950's are accessible, in addition to wallpaper conservation resources, listings of conservators and manufacturers of reproduction wallpapers.

The Historic House Trust of New York City (HHT) has accepted a significant collection of 1950's Furniture, decoration and household implements to establish its first 20th century house museum at Conference House Park on Staten Island. For information, contact HHT Deputy Director, Benjamin Haavik, 212/360-8282.

This June 27th, the c. 1836 **Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum** (Bronx) commemorates the 350th anniversary of Thomas Pell's 1654 treaty with Siwanoy Indian leaders, creating the Manor of Pelham on 9,166 acres of land in what is now northeast Bronx and southeast Westchester counties. Bartow-Pell Executive Director (and LHC Trustee), Robert Engel, welcomes virtual visitors to www.bartowpellmansionmuseum.org.

Newburgh's c. 1830 **David Crawford House** (Orange Co.) celebrates the 50th anniversary of its opening as the home of the Historical Society of Newburgh Bay and the Highlands. 2004 also marks the 120th anniversary of the historical society's founding. History of the society and its historic house, along with much more, can be found at www.newburghhistoricalsociety.com.

This Revolutionary Region...News of the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area and along the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route (W3R)

Revolutionary Women in Newburgh: Washington's Headquarters State Historic Site hosted the June 13th salute to Martha Washington and in particular to the significant contributions made by patriotic women to the success of the War for Independence. Washington's Headquarters is the first publicly operated historic site in the U.S., and the 1782-83 military headquarters of Commander-In-Chief, General George Washington, shared with his wife Martha.

Mount Gulian Historic Site, a partially reconstructed early 18th century house in Beacon (Dutchess County), and the original home of the **Society of the Cincinnati**, plans a living history museum addition. Contact Executive Director, Elaine Hayes, 845/831-8172; info@mountgulian.org.

The Orange County Farmer's Museum in Montgomery was site of a re-enactment of the 1779 Battle of Minisink (now Port Jervis) last month. The skirmish originally occurred 225 years ago, July 20-22, in which British forces, supplemented by a dozen or more Indians led by Col. Joseph Brant, moved against some 80 patriots led by Col. John Hathorn. The patriots originally came from Goshen and Sussex, N.J. The Minisink Chapter, **Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)**, plan an annual memorial service 11am, July 22, 2004 at the monument to the Goshen patriots who fell during that battle.

According to the spring and summer newsletters of LHC member **Morris-Jumel Mansion Museum**, (Manhattan's oldest house/ NY County), the house was built in 1765 by British Officer Roger Morris, inhabited by George Washington during the Battle of Harlem Heights in 1776, and then by the Jumel family from 1810-1865.

"Thanks in part to the many patriotic societies that formed during the late 19th-early 20th centuries, some houses and sites were spared destruction (in the face of growing turn of the

century housing needs). One criteria that helped ensure site preservation was an association with George Washington. Washington symbolized the values that these groups revered. Historic sites that boasted a connection with the first president were highly sought after by the patriotic societies, and the competition for involvement in saving those sites was great. At the Morris-Jumel Mansion, that pitted two groups—the **Society of Colonial Dames** and four chapters of **the DAR**—against each other. The New York State legislature became embroiled in the debate with the Assembly passing a bill favoring the Daughters, and the Senate in support of the Dames. Unable to agree, they sent the problem back to NYC, where it landed in the lap of the Commissioner of Parks.

“Early in 1904 the issue remained unresolved. Parks Commissioner Pallas called the two groups to a meeting in an effort to sort out the problem. Accounts of that meeting reveal true animosity between the Daughters and the Dames.... For a time it appeared as though no group would be chosen to run the site. The City’s newspapers, which fed on the battle during the winter of 1904, grew silent. Finally, with little fanfare some 100 years ago, the Daughters of the American Revolution opened the Washington’s Headquarters Museum at what is known today as the Morris-Jumel Mansion.” The story of “The Dames vs. The Daughters” will continue on line at www.morrisjumel.org. Contact interpreters at 212/923-8008.

ALPHABET OF RESOURCES -- Grants and Opportunities

AASLH. The **American Association for State and Local History** has opened a new **listserv** for small museums called the Small Museums Network. The listserv provides a forum for staff members, board members and volunteers of small museums to share information, find creative solutions to issues and concerns, and learn from each other about ways to make your organizations successful. AASLH encourages representatives of organizations that provide services to small museums to join this forum as well. To join the listserv, send an e-mail message to SmallMuseums-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. Please put “Subscribe” in the subject box of your message. The listserv will be moderated by Karla Nicholson, director of programs at AASLH. Send questions about this listserv to: Nicholson@aaslh.org.

CCAHA. The **Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts** is seeking organizations with paper-based humanities collections to apply for their **Preservation Overview Survey Program**. The program assists organizations in setting priorities for preservation in their institution, and developing a preservation plan for their collections. A full-day’s review of your collection will cost \$350, including travel expenses and an extensive consultant’s report. Application deadline: July 1st. Contact Preservation Services Office, CCAHA, 264 South 23rd St, Philadelphia, PA 19103. 215/545-0613; e-mail CCAHA@ccaaha.org. www.ccaha.org.

CCI. New **Canadian Conservation Institute** website helps preservation of family treasures: “Preserving My Heritage” provides an introduction to the world of heritage conservation and the work of the CCI at: www.preservation.gc.ca.

HHI. **Heritage Health Index.** In July 2004 sixteen thousand archives, historical societies, libraries, museums and scientific organizations across the country will receive the Heritage Health Index questionnaire issues by **Heritage Preservation** and the **IMLS**. The index will provide baseline information about collections of all sorts in order to guide future preservation planning and programs, target urgent needs for increased funding, and establish a more secure future for the nation’s cultural heritage. Organizations are encouraged to respond thoroughly and promptly to the survey. For updates on the index, see www.heritagepreservation.org, or contact Kristen Overbeck Laise, Heritage Preservation, 1625 K Street, NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20006. Telephone 202/634-0033; e-mail klaise@heritagepreservation.org.

IMLS: The following new grant deadlines for FY 2005 have been announced by the **Institute of Museum and Library Services**, affecting **Conservation Project Support** (now October 1), **Museums for America** (now Nov. 15), and **National Leadership** (now March 1) grant programs. In addition, IMLS has re-named the former "Professional Practices" category as a separate "**21st Century Museum Professionals**" grant program to support professional training, leadership development and strategic planning. Please see www.ims.gov for grant guidelines, or call IMLS Office of Museum Services, 202/606-8539.

IMLS/ MAP grants. **Institute of Museum and Library Services** and the AAM offer **Museum Assessment Program** grants for self-study and peer review of a museum's practices and operations in the following areas: overall institution, collections management, community or governance. IMLS grants cover the majority of the assessment cost for eligible museums on a first-come, first-served basis. See www.ims.gov/grants/museum. Next MAP grant application deadline is December 1st.

MLN. Museum Loan Network partners on TV initiative with **National Center for Outreach:** To continue to foster interdisciplinary collaboration, the MLN is developing a pilot initiative with the National Center for Outreach, an entity funded by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. The initiative will facilitate collaboration between MLN travel grant recipients and public television affiliates to help them better serve their communities. The Museum Loan Network facilitates the long-term loan of art and objects of cultural heritage among U.S. institutions as a way to enhance the installations of museums, thus enabling them to better serve their communities. The MLN grant programs help museums respond to the increasing public demand for installations relevant to a range of age groups and cultural heritages, and to provide better artistic, cultural and historical contexts for works on display. MLN's programs have led to the sharing of objects among different types of museums, fostering collaborations between institutions of varying size and discipline throughout the United States. Funded and initiated by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation and the Pew Charitable Trusts, the MLN is administered by the M.I.T. Office of the Arts. Contact MLN Director, Lori Gross, loanet@mit.edu, or visit <http://loanet.mit.edu>.

NEH. The **National Endowment for the Humanities** offers **Planning Grants** for Museums, Libraries and Special Projects, used to refine the content and interpretive approach of projects in order to prepare them for implementation. Awards of up to \$40,000 are made for a period averaging 12 months. The next deadline for application is September 16th. 202/606-8269; e-mail publicpgms@neh.gov.

NEH. The **National Endowment for the Humanities** is accepting applications for its "**Stabilization of Humanities Collections**" grants until October 1, for institutions looking to better protect their collections. The awards range from \$30,000 to \$700,000, with support not exceeding 50% of the cost of a project. This program aids museums, libraries, archives and historical organizations that are upgrading housing and storage, environmental conditions, security, lighting and fire protection. Because some renovations may put collections at risk, institutions can also request funds for their relocation and temporary storage. The grants do not support new construction or costs of installing climate control, security, lighting and fire protection systems in buildings under construction. See www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/stabilization.html.

NYSCSS. The **New York State Council for the Social Studies** is a professional association of teachers and supervisors at the elementary, secondary, college and university levels. Membership is open to all who teach, supervise, develop curricula, engage in research, or are otherwise concerned with social studies education. Curriculum Resources, Teacher Websites and more are on-line at www.nyscss.org.

PSP. Sacred Places Preservation Training and Funding: “New Dollars/New Partners for your Sacred Place” is a yearlong training program offered by **Partners for Sacred Places**, to help community-serving congregations learn skills for raising new capital resources for their buildings. Partners helps a local sponsor –a statewide or local preservation organization or a denominational office- select and mentor teams from up to twelve congregations as they participate in four daylong training sessions. The program is already underway in six locations. For information on how your organization can sponsor this training,

SAA. Museum Archives Receive New Attention from the Society of American Archivists: The SAA’s “*Museum Archives Guidelines*” offers useful advice in the establishment, development and maintenance of records of a museum’s history and operations, and can be found online at www.archivists.org/governance/guidelines/museum_guidelines.asp. A new publication, “*Museum Archives: An Introduction*”, edited by Deborah Wyte, (SAA 2004) is meant for experienced archivists working in a museum for the first time, for museum staff members given the responsibility for archives collections, for librarians seeking to establish a museum archives program, for registrars and others. See www.archivists.org/catalog for ordering information.

WWW.Grants.Gov: New website aids in search for federal funding among 25 federal grant-making agencies.

RESOURCES: EXHIBITS PLANNED & AVAILABLE

Traveling Exhibit Panels from The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History: Four panel exhibits are available free of charge to public schools, public libraries and historic sites: *Freedom: A History of the U.S.*; *Frederick Douglass From Slavery to Freedom, the Journey to New York City*; *Looking at Lincoln: Political Cartoons from the Civil War*; and *Free at Last: A History of the Abolition of Slavery in America*. For information, contact Jessica Hardin, The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, 646/366-9666; e-mail hardin@gilderlehrman.org.

Hudson River Historical Survey Exhibition Planning Underway: Over a dozen institutions from New York to Troy are participating in the planning of a major exhibition or series of exhibitions, curriculum-related materials, and a master website linking Hudson River history sources, initiated by the New-York Historical Society. Contact Barbara B. Buff for information: 212/873-3400, ext. 238; bbuff@nyhistory.org.

Traveling Exhibit “Route 17” Available From Liberty History & Art Center: The Liberty History & Art Center (Sullivan County) seeks venues for its new traveling exhibition on Route 17. The exhibit explores topics such as the environment and the road, the ways in which the road’s construction changed communities, and a section on taking the trip past well-known landmarks such as O’Brien’s, the Roscoe Diner and the Red Apple Rest. Historic and contemporary photos, engaging text and a small selection of artifacts shed new light on a highway traveled by thousands every day. A video loop of original historic footage is included, along with an interactive station enabling visitors to share their stories of Route 17. Exhibit rental fee is \$750 for up to five months; \$1000 for more than five months. Contact Linda Norris, Riverhill Consultants, 607/829-3501; e-mail riverhill55@hotmail.com.

CALL FOR PAPERS:

The Rensselaer County Historical Society in Troy, NY is presenting a call for papers to be delivered at its fall 2004 symposium, “**Upstate New York Goes to War: War and the Home**”

Front, 1775-2004,” to be held October 29-30, 2004. Submission deadline: June 15th. Contact Stacy Pomeroy Draper, RCHS Curator, at spdraper@rchsonline.org; 518/272-7232, ext.14.

The Costume Society of America, Region I, announces a call for papers for the symposium “**At Work: An Exploration of Occupational Clothing,**” to be held October 16, 2004 in Sandwich, MA. Proposals must be postmarked by July 1st. For information see www.costumesocietyamerica.com/Region1/reg1sym.htm.

Museum Education- *Not Just A Field Trip*, continued

The New England Museum Association (NEMA) reports in a Spring 2004 Newsletter about a regional survey they’ve done to collect data about museum school programs- “Beyond School Time” and their relationship to the federally-funded 21st Century Community Learning Centers initiative. In association with the Harvard Family Research Project (HFRP) (www.hfrp.org), a compilation of profiles written as evaluations of a wide range of education programs and initiatives, can be seen at www.gse.harvard.edu/hfrp/projects/afterschool/evaldatabase.html. The Program Evaluation Bibliography contains more than 230 out-of-school programs, provides the titles of the programs’ evaluation reports, and links to them: www.gse.harvard.edu/hfrp/projects/afterschol/bibliography/index.html.

Out of School Program Resources and Funding Sources:

www.afterschool.gov. Federal resources supporting youth during out-of-school hours.
www.pfie.ed.gov. Partnership for Family Involvement in Education; using family/school/community partnerships to strengthen schools and improve student achievement.
www.ed.gov/programs/21stcccl. The 21st Century Community Learning Centers’ initiative is a key component to the President’s “No Child Left Behind” Act.
www.ed.gov. U.S. Department of Education.
www.afterschoolalliance.org. After School Alliance; www.afterschoolforall.org. After-School for All (Boston). Both partner with the JC Penney Afterschool grants program: www.jcpenneyafterschool.org.
www.mott.org. The Charles Stewart Mott Foundation has partnered with the US Dept. of Education, to document and report on the 21st Century Community Learning Centers initiative.
www.hfrp.org. Harvard Family Research Project reports on out-of-school time programming.
www.TheWallaceFoundation.org. Formerly the DeWitt & Lila Acheson Wallace Fund, the foundation supports Learning in Communities.
www.nccenet.org. National Center for Community education has four regional offices to provide training and technical assistance focusing on community and educational change and emphasizing community schools and after-school programs.

History Detectives: Stories Wanted!

Are you sitting on a piece of history? *History Detectives* is a PBS series about the discovery, documentation and preservation of historic American buildings and artifacts. We are seeking story submissions for our second season. If you, or someone you know, have an object or building that may have played a key part in American History, tell us about your mystery. The most promising ideas are historically significant, and are still unsolved. An old house, family heirloom, or local legend might contain a fascinating conundrum from our nation’s past. The best objects belong to people who may not have a research background, but are enthusiastic about American history. Please submit questions or story ideas to historydetectives@liontv.org. www.pbs.org/tpb/historydetectives.

Chartering Information for Historical Societies

On line guidelines, information and discussion of the process involved in obtaining an absolute Charter from the University of the State of New York, through the NYS Education Department, are available at www.manyonline.org, in a collaborative effort of the Museum Association of New York (MANY), the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA), the American Association for State & Local History (AASLH) and the New York State Education Department (NYSED).

Summer Calendar 2004- Dates, Deadlines, Workshops, Meetings & Conferences

JUNE

1 *Deadline:* Statewide Conservation Treatment Grant Program. Contact Lower Hudson Conference, 914/592-6726; lowerhudson@msn.com.

9-14 Annual Meeting of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic 7 Artistic works (AIC), Portland, OR. For information: info@aic.stanford.edu.

10-13 Annual Conference of the Society for Industrial Archaeology, in Providence, RI. Contact Robert Stewart, Robert.stewart13@worldnet.att.net, or visit SIA website: www.sia-web.org.

15 *Deadline:* AAM Accreditation applications. For forms & information: www.aam-us.org.

24-26 AASLH Workshop: "Historic House Museum Issues & Operations", Chemung Valley History Museum, Elmira, NY.

25-26 AAM Workshop: Learning in Museums, Boston Museum of Fine Arts and MIT Museum

25-27 Sampler Symposium, Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie. 845/437-5237; www.fflac.vassar.edu.

JULY

1 *Deadline:* NEH Preservation & Access Education and Training grants

1 *Deadline:* NEH Preservation & Access Research and Development grants

1 *Deadline:* NEH United States Newspaper Program

8 LHC/DHP Workshop: *Stone Strategies- Documentation and Conservation of Historic Cemeteries*, 9:30am – 4:30pm at St. Thomas' Church, Churchtown (Columbia County).

15 *Deadline:* NEH grants to Preserve & Create Access to Humanities Collections

15-18 Patriot's Weekend at Stony Point Battlefield, S.H.S. (Rockland County).

20-24 League of Historic American Theatres' Annual Conference and Theatre Tour, Philadelphia. 410/659-9533; info@lhat.org; www.lhat.org.

AUGUST

2-8 SAA Annual Meeting, Boston. www.archivists.org/conference.

Anytime J. Paul Getty Trust Conservation Survey grants: www.getty.edu.

SEPTEMBER

28-Oct. 3 National Trust, National Preservation Conference, Louisville, KY. nthp@nthp.org.

29-Oct. 2 AASLH Annual Meeting:, St. Louis, MO. "Exploring Resources for Growth"

OCTOBER

1 *Deadline:* IMLS Conservation Project Support grants

1 *Deadline:* NEH Stabilization of Humanities Collections grants

12 **LHC Annual Meeting and Awards for Excellence**

27-29 New England Museum Association (NEMA) Annual Meeting “The Museum, the Baby & the Bathwater: Authenticity in the Information Age”, Burlington, VT. www.nemanet.org.

FOLKS IN THE FIELD – Keepers’ Progress Reports Around The Region

The **Newburgh Heritage Center** (Orange County) is a new and forming non-profit organization dedicated to preserving Newburgh’s documentary heritage and located in the old Niven Courthouse on Grand Street. The Courthouse has served as a center of community activity since it opened in 1842. Built by Newburgh architect Thornton MacNess Niven, and centered in a small park that was purchased by local citizens to surround it, the courthouse location is described by Newburgh City Historian Mary McTamane as “the ideal town square location to bring people together. The City Council designated the original 19th century part of the building as an archive and museum for the city’s history. Just two blocks from city hall and situated among a wealth of cultural resources including the Newburgh Free Library, Dutch Reformed Church, Karpeles Manuscript Museum, Newburgh Youth Bureau and the Historical Society of Newburgh Bay and the Highlands... a city museum and archive is a perfect complement.

The Newburgh Heritage Center will be a partnership between the city as building owner and a citizen board who will own and oversee the collections housed and exhibited in the gallery/museum space. Each season a different on-loan exhibit can surround a growing permanent exhibit about the fascinating city of Newburgh, New York.” Contact Mary McTamane, 845/569-8090; e-mail NewburghHistory@usa.com.

Congratulations to the **Huguenot Historical Society** and the **Town of New Paltz** (Ulster County) for the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s citation of the community on its 2004 list of *America’s Dozen Distinctive Destinations*. The National Trust cited Huguenot Street as the country’s oldest street with its original houses, now open as museum properties of the Huguenot Historical Society. Among designation criteria was a “commitment to historic preservation with a protected historic core and meaningful context.” Other destination-worthy New Paltz features include the Shawangunk Ridge, Mohonk Mountain House, the Wallkill Valley Trail, the SUNY New Paltz campus and local craft and book shops.

Friends of History, Croton-on-Hudson, NY (Westchester County) is a new organization led by President Carl Oechsner and Vice-President Marion Madison.

The *National Trust’s Center for Preservation Leadership* welcomes **Valecia Crisafulli** as its new associate director for Statewide/Local Partnerships. She has been a senior staff member in the National Main Street Center.

Dr. Louise Mirrer has been named president of the *New-York Historical Society*.

2004 marks the 100th anniversary of the **Morris-Jumel Mansion Museum**. Originally known as the Washington’s Headquarters Association, the museum has served as a center for history education in northern Manhattan since 1904.

Suzanne Morris has been named the new Director of the *Division of Tourism* at the NYS Department of Economic Development, replacing Mary Ellen Walsh.

LETTERS FROM THE FIELD:

Uncovering, Learning and Using Local History in Education

According to educator Dr. Peter Feinman of the Institute of History, Archaeology and Education, "For history to live it must be part of the active memory of the people, otherwise we exist outside of time and space, with no roots to nurture us, no past to build on, and no sense of belonging. (Interpreted and 're-discovered' historic sites including cemeteries, parks, districts and communities) help define (us). As we lose our past we become people having coffee at Starbucks, shopping at Wal-Marts and eating dinner at MacDonald's, without having the faintest idea where we are. Individual people and events created (our communities), and to forget those people and those events is to lose our identity.

"Fourth grade is intended to be one step in meeting this challenge by teaching local history. This presupposes that teachers, who may themselves be new to the area, as are many students, are familiar with local history, and that the topic is not ignored, given the emphasis on (tests and) reading. ... Learning local history- the history of your school, the history of your community, the history of your town- is part of the way children who will become adult human beings in a democratic society become connected in time and space to their village, their state and their country.

"The rule for history is simple: use it or lose it. History is part of who we are today, about why... counties are organized the way they are, about what local municipalities can and can not do. When America's greatest president referred to events which had transpired four-score and seven years ago, he took for granted that his audience knew what had occurred four-score and seven years ago without the need for a caption ... to explain it. The "mystic chord of memories" Lincoln spoke about for the nation applies at the local level as well, and if that chord ceases to exist in our memory, then what will hold us together as We The People?" -Dr. Peter Feinman, 914/933-0440; e-mail feinmanp@ihare.org; www.ihare.org

MEMBERSHIP

LHC Welcomes individual and organizational members who have joined in FY 2003-2004:

New Individual Members:

Cheryl Bernstein, Hopewell Junction/ Dutchess
Janet M. Cassidy, Patterson/ Dutchess
Peter Dajevskis, Pleasantville/ Westchester
Landa M. Freeman, Bedford/ Westchester
William B. Gannett, New York City/ New York
Bronwyn Hannon, Garden City/ Nassau
Lucinda Manning, Ossining/ Westchester
Malcolm J. Mills, East Fishkill/ Dutchess
John R. Morehouse, Riverdale/ Bronx
Marianne Winstanley, Yonkers/ Westchester
Stephen L. Wolff, New York City/ New York

New Organizational Members:

Beczak Environmental Education Center, Yonkers/ Westchester
Bedford Hills Historical Museum, Bedford Hills/ Westchester
Bloomington Restoration Foundation, Bloomington/ Sullivan
Cejjes Institute, Pomona/ Rockland

Crestwood Historical Society, Crestwood (Yonkers)/ Westchester
Dobbs Ferry Historical Society, Dobbs Ferry/ Westchester
Fraunces Tavern Museum/NYSSAR, New York City/ New York
Friends of Alice Austen House, Staten Island/ Richmond
Harlem Dowling-West Side Center, New York City/ New York
Huguenot Heritage, New York City/ New York
Mountain Top Historical Society, Haines Falls/ Greene
Ridgewood Historical Society, Ridgewood/ New Jersey
Salmagundi Club, New York City/ New York
Village of Montgomery Historic Museum, Montgomery/ Orange

LOWER HUDSON CLASSIFIED/ summer 2004

State Historic Site Manager. *John Jay Homestead*, *State Historic Site*, Katonah, NY (Westchester) in the Taconic Region of the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation, seeks Historic Site Manager A, responsible for applying professional and technical standards and guidelines to manage, supervise and coordinate all activities at John Jay Homestead, SHS, including: administration, operation, development & maintenance. She/he will manage, direct and supervise various levels of subordinate staff in historic preservation, interpretation, administration, security and maintenance. Activities will adhere to agency policies and priorities and appropriate government policies. Prepares budget; administers finances; schedules, monitors, coordinates work projects, restoration crew, and contractors; plans and supervises site security; ensures historical accuracy of exhibits, interpretation activities, structures and landscape; prepares reports on activities; monitors/ helps coordinate collections care, archaeology and restoration programs. The incumbent will act as liaison with non-profit "friends" organizations and volunteer community, cultural, educational & research organizations to develop and maintain positive and productive working relationships to advance the preservation and development of the property. Requires knowledge of basic computer functions.

Civil Service qualifications: For permanent appointment must be on appropriate Civil Service list, or currently employed as Historic Site Manager A or B, and be eligible for 70.1 transfer. Consideration of a *provisional* candidate will depend on (non) availability of candidates for permanent appointment. Current state employees must have three years' permanent competitive or 55b/c service in a position at or above Salary Grade 17. Candidates who are not state employees and/or do not meet above qualifications must have a B.A. degree + general experience in museum or historic site operations: collection management, education, research and/or exhibition; administrative experience (budgeting, planning, directing and/or supervising) at a historic house, historic site, historic park, historic section of a museum or with a government agency or program with responsibility for historic houses, museums, historic sites or historic parks. Five years general experience including four years administrative experience required. A master's degree in historic preservation, museum studies or museum education may substitute for one year of general experience. NOTE: if provisional appointment is made, candidate must take and pass a Civil Service exam for this position, and be one of the top three (3) candidates on the resulting eligible list willing to accept the position. Applicants must possess a valid NYS Driver's License. Weekend and holiday work required consistent with public tour/ program schedule. Please submit resume to Jayne McLaughlin, Regional Manager, Taconic Region, PO Box 308, Staatsburg, NY 12580. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply. Applications accepted until June 3.

Curator of Historic Properties. *Huguenot Historical Society*, New Paltz (Ulster Co.) seeks a full time Curator of Historic Properties to oversee the stewardship, restoration and maintenance of nine historic house museums, 25 support structures and outbuildings, and grounds. HHS

owns and operates the Huguenot Street National Landmark Historic District, the Locust Lawn farm complex and the Plattekill Quaker Meeting House. As department head, the Properties Curator is responsible for the historical and architectural integrity, workmanship and fiscal accountability for all capital and maintenance projects, and assists in policy development, coordination of preservation projects, and implementation of events and activities. Minimum requirements: B.A. in historic preservation, architectural history, architecture, or related field and experience in historic property management. M.A. preferred. The successful candidate will have excellent written/ oral communication skills; supervisory and project management experience; thorough working knowledge of historic preservation construction techniques, tools & materials; and be a team player. Entry level position includes housing in the Historic District + benefits package. www.hhs-newpaltz.org. Send resume and cover letter by July 1 to: Search Committee, Huguenot Historical Society, 18 Broadhead Avenue, New Paltz, NY 12561.