



Spindle City Historic Society

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Fall 2009

HISTORIAN'S NOTEBOOK

History of the Cohoes Music Hall

The site where the Music Hall stands on Remsen St. at Oneida was originally farmland, purchased in 1826 by the Cohoes Company shortly after its incorporation. Buildings initially built on the site were destroyed by arson in 1873, and William Acheson and James Masten then erected a building housing a music hall (Masten was married to Almeda Arthur, the sister of Chester A. Arthur, the 21st President). The total cost for the construction was \$60,000, shared by the partners, and the building was named "The Central Hall Block." The building was 75' long by 62 ½' wide with a 7'7" cellar. The first floor housed the Post Office and three stores while the second floor had eight offices, including a Western Union Telegraph Office, George Graves Music Rooms, and Graves and Parkhurst Music School. The Music Hall itself was located on the third floor, with an auditorium height of 30 feet from floor to ceiling and stationary seats arranged in a semicircle providing an unobstructed view of the stage. The total seating capacity was 475, including four private boxes and a fourth floor balcony. Dressing rooms were located beneath the stage. Gas lit chandeliers provided the lighting, while fire extinguisher sprinklers provided safety. The drop curtain, with a scene of Lake Lugano, Italy, was painted by Buffalo artist Fred Stanfield. The rest of the décor was a fine example of 19th century commercial French renaissance style in pearl and gold. Its red brick exterior was fired in Cohoes.

The grand opening of the hall was held on November 23, 1874 with a performance of *London Assurance*. The ticket prices were 15 cents for matinees and 35 cents for evening performances, which later increased to 35 and 75 cents. Vaudeville was very popular in the 1890s and most performers began their careers in small cities and towns before going to New York City. Cohoes was rumored to be known as "The Hook." There are several reasons possible for this: sometimes a large hook used to drag poorly received performers off the stage; the theatre circuit traveled up the Hudson and 'hooked' westward to the Mohawk towards Buffalo; the hall hosted second rate performers; or this actually is just urban lore. Cohoes audiences were notorious for their "hard to please" tastes. The renowned Eva Tanguay appeared in *Little Lord Fauntleroy* at age 12. She went on to become a great success, earning \$2,500 to \$3,500 per week in 1918. The Music Hall was also called the "Opera House," as were other performance halls in the city (as many as three at a given time), which has led to some confusion about who performed at the National Bank Music Hall. Among the other notable performers who are credited with appearing there are Buffalo Bill Cody, John

(continued on p.7)

DID YOU KNOW

....that the first Presbyterian Church of Cohoes celebrated its centennial in 1939 at the Silliman Memorial Church? The principal speaker for the event was Rev. George Armstrong, who served as pastor of the church from 1906-1924. He returned to the pulpit for at least one Sunday each summer until his retirement in 1942.

....that in 1984, John P. Ryan, jr., a cultural advisor for the City of Cohoes, proposed establishing a music conservatory in the former Silliman Memorial Presbyterian Church? A performance space was proposed for the church, with the adjacent manse serving as an administration facility. Regrettably, neither this nor other proposals, which included re-using the Silliman structure for a library or visitor's center, were realized.

....that some of the early residents of what is now Cohoes were Dutch farmers who had slaves? Remnants of slave burial sites have been located on the farms of the Heamstreets, Lansings, and those of other families. There is a record of the sale by Isaac J. Fonda of a slave boy to Gerrit Clute for the price of 20 pounds.

....that in 1784, the first church in the area north of Albany was established in Cohoes? It is suspected that the building, located on what is now Baker Avenue, was erected some time earlier for the Dutch-speaking community.

....that in 1795 the first bridge from Cohoes across the Mohawk River was built? The bridge went to Waterford, as an increasing number of people were inhabiting the area. For more of the history of this bridge and its successors, see pages 2 and 3 of this issue.

....that Charles Henry Adams (1824-1902), a US Congressional representative for New York State from 1875-1877 and first Mayor of the city of Cohoes, moved to Cohoes in 1850? He was appointed in 1851 to New York Governor Washington Hunt's staff. He was elected to the NYS Assembly in 1858. He was a banker and manufacturer of knit underwear in Cohoes. After retiring from the manufacturing business in 1870, he was elected the first Mayor of Cohoes, serving from 1870-72. He was a delegate to the Republican National convention in 1872 and served in the NYS Senate in 1872-73, and was New York's commissioner for the Vienna Exposition in 1873. In 1874, he was elected to the US Congress and served one term. After leaving Congress, he returned to being a banker in Cohoes until 1892. He retired to New York City, where he lived until his death in 1902, and is interred in Woodlawn Cemetery in the Bronx.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The Spindle City Historic Society welcomes new members *Dr. Tod Bania, Jeffrey Barr, Gloria Black, Robert M. Donlon, Emmett W. Green, and Leslie Kunick.*

History of the Cohoes-Northside Bridge

by Anne Marie Nadeau

Cohoes is at the confluence of the Mohawk and Hudson Rivers. If you look at a map of New York you will see that to get to the other side of the river you would need a boat or a bridge. A bridge is much more convenient! When you drive across a bridge, unless it is something spectacular, you don't even give it a thought. Such is the case of the bridge connecting Cohoes and Northside.

There have been many bridges across the Mohawk River connecting Cohoes with Northside (Waterford to modern folks). In 1795 the Common Council of Albany approved "the erecting of a bridge below the Cahos (Cohoes Falls)...for the benefit and convenience of the publick... and will encourage Settlements to the Northward of said bridge." This wooden structure was erected several hundred feet west of the present site. Tolls were charged to keep it in good repair.

In 1806, the Cohoes Bridge Co. was incorporated "for the purpose of rebuilding the state bridge over the Mohawk River" because the first bridge was severely damaged by ice during the spring thaw. This bridge lasted about 20 years. In 1826, the Cohoes Bridge Co. was authorized to change the location of the bridge downstream to the present site and

"take such lands of the adjoining shores as might be necessary." High water and grinding ice partly destroyed that bridge in 1832. This covered toll bridge was repaired but finally destroyed by fire in 1853 along with the gatekeeper's residence. In the winter of 1854 a committee was appointed to confer with the legislature on the building of a new bridge. It was finally decided that the state would build and pay for the main body of the bridge and the piers and abutments would be paid by subscriptions from the citizens of Cohoes and vicinity. This was a new experimental type of covered toll bridge. This bridge burned Oct. 31, 1871, to little regret by the citizens, who, according to the *Cohoes Cataract*, "never considered it a first class structure and were in constant dread of having to cross it." The state dam below the bridge was completed in 1871. Yet another new bridge connecting the two communities was completed in 1872 and was known as the "Combination Bridge". This structure was a steel bridge with a wooden plank roadbed, and is depicted in the postcard image below. By 1931 that bridge was declared unsafe by state engineers.



The original Cohoes-Waterford bridge, from an etching by David Cunningham Lithgow.



proceedings. In one such case, the court found in favor of the state in order to secure the property of Mrs. Bruno Amyot for the widening of Saratoga Avenue on the north (Waterford) side of the bridge.

The only work done in 1931 was the concrete work on the new piers for the substructure. This work went well on into the fall and did not resume until after the high water the following spring (1932). The superstructure of the existing bridge was not touched so traffic could pass over it during the winter.

On February 18, 1931, then-governor Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed an emergency bill authorizing \$200,000 in bond money as New York State's share of a new bridge connecting, once again, Cohoes and Northside. He used more than one pen in signing the bill so interested parties could have one as a souvenir.

This project was a work-relief program at the height of the Depression. The State paid to erect the bridge proper and the communities involved paid for building the approaches to said bridge. Bids for work were opened at the end of November 1931 with the Bates and Rogers Co. of Chicago getting the nod. Work was delayed pending condemnation

Preliminary work on the structure began in February 1932. A crew of riggers from the construction company built a pontoon bridge to an island in the Mohawk River. Said island was the base of operations. The equipment for construction was delivered to the work site from the D&H freight yards.

In order to speed construction of the new bridge, the old bridge was closed to traffic May 11, 1932. While the bridge was closed, traffic was diverted over Ontario St. through North Troy to reach Waterford. The United Traction Company (now CDTA) made provisions for rides in Northside and Cohoes. Employees of that company erected wires over Ontario St. for trackless trolley lines. (Trackless trolley or electric bus was perfected in the 1930's. They were cheaper to operate than trolley cars. Trolley tracks had to be maintained. Like trolleys, they got their power from overhead wires. Their flexibility allowed them to pull into the curb for passengers and they didn't need to follow rails.)

By August it was announced that the concrete work on the bridge was almost complete. Work on the structure was ahead of schedule. The contractor had hired 250 men who were working in three eight-hour shifts. By September work on the approaches in either direction had been awarded to Henry Dumary of Albany. Cohoes merchants were unhappy, as they had been since May, because business from Northside was going elsewhere and they wanted to know if the bridge would be opened before winter. By the end of October, the local paper, the *Cohoes American*, reported that the bridge, which is of the concrete arch type, was 95% complete and state engineers were looking to open the span very soon. Work on the approaches from either end was nearing completion. At this time the city was notified by the state Dept. of Public Works to reach an agreement with New York Power and Light (precursor of Niagara Mohawk) for installing the lights on the bridge because the legislature had stated that "the maintenance and operation of such lights shall be assumed by Cohoes, Waterford or jointly."

The exact date for the opening of the bridge was set at November 15, 1932, six months ahead of schedule. By November 12th, the only work that needed to be done was the wiring of the 16 ornamental light fixtures bearing 20 bulbs each, and installation of part of the railing. (I remember those light fixtures. They looked like fancy candelabra.) On Nov. 15, 1932, several thousand people gathered for the opening ceremony. The bridge was decorated in red, white and blue bunting furnished by G.A. Trahan for the occasion. There was a parade of city, county and state dignitaries from city hall to THE BRIDGE!!! It had been hoped that president-elect Roosevelt would attend the ceremony but he was sick in bed with the flu at the executive mansion in Albany. (He had won the election Nov. 8.)

The program opened with an invocation by Rev. Louis A. Lavigne of St. Joseph's church. School children from both sides of the river sang a few selections. Mayor Foley named the bridge The Roosevelt Bridge. After all the speeches, two school girls, Gertrude Blackburn of Cohoes and Elaine Clute of Northside, wearing Colonial costumes, met in the middle of the bridge and exchanged bouquets as a symbol of friendship between the two communities. After this, Miss Elizabeth Weir of Cohoes cut the ribbon, which extended across the bridge. From the Northside shore came the old Waterford stagecoach, driven by William Conroy who had operated a similar vehicle over local routes 50 years before. From Cohoes and Northside came the United Traction Co. buses which would operate over the new bus line. The first automobile to cross the bridge was that of Michael T. Smith, Cohoes Democratic leader.

Flowers used in the bouquets were provided by Hickey's flower shop. The ribbon used in the cutting ceremony was provided by F.W. Woolworth's five and ten cent store. The stand for the speakers was loaned by St. Bernard's church and the chairs by the First Methodist church. Cohoes Mill and Lumber Co. donated the lumber for the platform in front of the stand. After the exercises, the ribbon was cut in to small pieces and distributed to several hundred persons as souvenirs of the day.

Compiler's note: While doing research for this article, I read every front page of the Cohoes American for 1932 on microfilm. Looking for "bridge" articles was a refresher course in history, both world and local. World history showed Hitler's rise to power and the Japanese invasion of Manchuria. It was also the year of the Lindbergh baby kidnapping. Al Capone was sent to prison. The most popular movie of the year was War Babies starring Shirley Temple. The song, "As Time Goes By", which was immortalized in the movie Casablanca, was originally recorded in 1932 by Binnie Hale. On the local scene, efforts were focused on relief programs for the unemployed, such as work programs and food distribution to the needy. The "wets" and the "drys" expended much energy regarding Prohibition.



Off the Top...

The Spindle City Historic Society has celebrated the history of Cohoes in many ways. This celebration included publishing two books with historic photographs of Cohoes.

The first book, *Images of America: Cohoes*, released in 2001, covered the history of Cohoes by grouping topics by subject. These topics included transportation, industry, business, worship, education, public service, leisure, people, and street views.

The book was very well received and more photographs surfaced. When we collected enough, *Images of America: Cohoes Revisited*, was published. This time the history of Cohoes was presented chronologically, and the story was told by a series of letters from one sister who stayed in Cohoes, to one who left. If you do not own one or either of these books, please contact us to purchase one.

Now that the summer has come to a close and we are moving into fall, the Spindle City Historic Society is moving towards our next publication, this time looking at Cohoes through postcards that were produced to capture its visual history. Some of the postcards carried rather mundane messages, the usual "the weather is fine" or "wish you were here." Others move into the more unusual, such as the old Cohoes Hospital postcard, showing it when it was on Lincoln Avenue (where the Price Chopper supermarket stands today). The sender writes, "Dear May- What do you think of our hospital. They "kill-em-quick" here. Write soon. March '06 Frank.'"

In this column, I have often made requests of our readers and this one is no exception. Several of our members have great collections of Cohoes postcards and we are using those as the foundation of our next book. However, we know there are more postcards out there that have subjects we do not have represented. We are not asking for a donation, but a loan (and you will receive credit in the book if you so desire). All we need to do is scan your postcard(s), and then we return them to you. Please contact us so that we end up with a postcard book that will help others recapture the history of Cohoes.

Help the Spindle City Historic Society celebrate Cohoes by remembering its history, one book at a time!

Paul D. Dunleavy
President



Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadrcentennial Events

June 6



Throughout the day, Native American interpreter Glenn Bentz gave lively and informative presentations on the history of the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois), weaponry, tools, clothing, and storytelling, along with demonstrations of fire making and cooking at the Native American encampment he set up on the grounds of the Van Schaick Mansion. Visitors had the opportunity to look at and touch artifacts replicating traditional tools and clothing, and obtain insight into the daily lives of some of the area's first settlers.

On the same afternoon, Kay Olan (Ionataiewas), Mohawk educator and storyteller (shown here in traditional Mohawk dress), related the legend of the Peacemaker, who brought the message of peace and unity to the nations that became known as the Haudenosaunee,



also called the Iroquois Confederacy. The Cohoes Falls is of great importance in this legend, and remains a sacred site for the Haudenosaunee. See page 6 of this issue for Kay's retelling of this compelling story. The ideas brought forth by the Peacemaker had broad repercussions, as Benjamin

Franklin and other founding fathers of the United States studied and borrowed many of these ideas in drafting the United States Constitution.

Following Kay Olan's presentation, SCHS member Bob Addis provided a brief account of the life and work of muralist David Cunningham Lithgow as prelude to a visit to view Lithgow's murals in the former Cohoes Savings Bank building.

August 8



On August 8, SCHS led a tour of industrial and canal sites in the Harmony Mills Historic District. The afternoon's events began with a "virtual tour" of the Erie Canal in Cohoes, with historic photographs and postcard views of the canal in its heyday. This was followed by a walk through sections of the enlarged and original Erie Canals, views of some of the massive mill buildings that made Cohoes an industrial center, a stop to see the Boyden turbines that once powered Harmony Mill #3, and a visit to the Cohoes Falls.

Upcoming Events

The events on the weekend of September 18-19, focusing on the Dutch influence in the region, are the last in the series of events sponsored by the Cohoes 400 – Hudson-Fulton Celebration Committee to commemorate the Quadricentennial. The Van Schaick Mansion will host NYS Assemblyman, author and historian Jack McEneny on Friday, September 18 at 7:30 p.m. He will present a lively talk about the Dutch influence in Albany and the state of New York, with anecdotes that give life to the early Dutch residents of Albany. On Saturday September 19 at 4 p.m. at the Van Schaick Mansion, author and Dutch historian Janni Venema will present research that is being conducted by the New Netherlands Project. This project explores the early influences of Dutch settlers in the Capital District and their contributions to American history and culture. At 1 p.m. at the Cohoes Visitor's Center on the same afternoon, Don Rittner, historian,

archeologist, educator, author, and Schenectady city and county historian, will describe the building of the replica Dutch ship *Onrust*, constructed using 17th century shipbuilding techniques. This re-creation of the first decked ship built in America is a floating educational vessel for the year-long Quadricentennial.

Schuyler Society Children of the American Revolution Named 2009 2nd Most Outstanding Society in the Nation



Lexi Zerrillo (right) receives the award for the 2009 2nd Most Outstanding Society.

The Annual National Convention of the Children of the American Revolution was held in Arlington, Virginia on April 17-19. Lexi Zerrillo, President of the Schuyler Society, attended the convention and served as the New York State Flag Bearer.

During the convention, Schuyler Society received the Gold National Merit Award and was named 2nd most outstanding society in the nation for 2009. This year, over 125 societies from across the nation submitted entries for the 2009 National Merit Award Contest to be eligible for the Outstanding Society Awards. Schuyler Society also received 9 additional 2009 National Awards, including 1st Place for the National President's Best Program on the Second Virginia Convention; and 1st Place for the National Second Vice President's Best Program on Patrick Henry.

The Schuyler Society Children of the American Revolution is a local C.A.R. society that is sponsored by the Gen. Peter Gansevoort Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution, Saratoga Battle Chapter Sons of the American Revolution and the Lawrence I. and Blanche H. Rhodes Memorial Fund. Schuyler Society reorganized in September of 2003 and currently has 44 members, many of whom live in the Capital District. The Schuyler Society is headquartered at the Van Schaick Mansion.

The C.A.R is the oldest patriotic youth organization in the United States. Membership is open to anyone under the age of 21 who is a lineal descendant of a person who rendered aid to the cause of American Independence. *For further information, contact Mrs. Sandra Zerrillo, Senior Society President, 29 Erie Drive, Slingerlands, New York 12159, or call 518-489-5160.*

The Story of the Peacemaker

as told by Kay Olan (Ionataiewas)

Some say it was a thousand years ago. Some say that it was two thousand years ago when there was a dark period in the history of The People. The Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga and Seneca Nations were at war with one another. It was a terrible time of cruelty, bloodshed and mourning. But then a Huron man, referred to as the Peacemaker, canoed from the western shore of Lake Ontario. He brought with him a message of peace and unity.

The first individual to accept his message of peace was a Seneca woman named Jigonsaseh. Because it was a woman who was the first individual to accept his message of peace, the Peacemaker promised to give women an important role in the new confederacy that was soon to be formed.

The first nation to accept the Peacemaker's message was the Kanienkehaka or the Mohawk Nation. The Peacemaker traveled east and camped near Cohoes Falls. He made a campfire so that the Mohawks in the nearby village would see the smoke and know that he was there and that he wished to confer with them. Mohawk runners came to his campsite to ask who he was and to find out what he wanted. The Peacemaker said that he was the one they were waiting for. He was the one who was carrying a message of Peace. The Mohawks were uncertain as to whether they should trust this stranger or not and so they said that he would have to pass a test to prove that he had the power to carry such an important message. They said that he would have to climb a tree that was growing next to Cohoes Falls. The Mohawks would then cut the tree down and if he survived the fall, then they would know that he had the power to carry such an important message and they would listen to his words. The Peacemaker agreed to participate in the test. He climbed the tree. The tree was cut down, he fell into the water and he disappeared over the falls. The Mohawks waited and waited, but there was no sign of the visitor emerging from the water. The Mohawks were disappointed and went back to their village. The next morning, a thin wisp of white smoke was seen in the distance. Upon investigation, it was discovered that the Peacemaker had made this campfire and that he was alive and well. He was waiting to be invited to enter the village. It was in that village that he met Ayonwatha, the one who would travel with him to convince the five nations to stop fighting and unify.

It took many years, but eventually, the Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga and Seneca Nations unified and formed a peace league. The English referred to it as "The Five Nations." Later, they called it "The Six Nations" because the Tuscarora people came north from the Carolinas in the early 1700s to join. The French called the league "The Iroquois Confederacy." The real name is the "Haudenosaunee" meaning "The People of the Longhouse" which refers to the traditional long, bark-covered houses in which the Haudenosaunee lived. Longhouse is also a metaphor for the new social, political and spiritual structure that was put into place by the Peacemaker. Five Nations, Six Nations, Iroquois Confederacy and Haudenosaunee are different names for the same United Nations. The Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga, Seneca and Tuscarora Nations are distinct and separate nations that belong to the Haudenosaunee.

The Peacemaker put into place a constitution called The Great Law. It is documented that Benjamin Franklin met on many occasions with the Haudenosaunee to learn about The Great Law. It is not surprising that many of the ideals, symbols and some of the structure of the Great Law was borrowed and incorporated into what was to become the Constitution of the United States of America.

The Peacemaker remembered that Jigonsaseh was the first individual to accept The Great Law and so Clan Mothers were appointed and given the responsibility to nominate new Chiefs whenever a former Chief passed away. The women would assist the Chiefs and warn them to change their ways if they forgot to consider the welfare of the people they represented. The women could remove a Chief from office if he did not heed the three warnings that the women would send if a Chief was not fulfilling his duties. The Clan Mothers keep track of the names of the children and work with the Chiefs to uphold The Great Law, and the Chiefs, Clan Mothers, Faithkeepers and Sub-Chiefs still meet today in Grand Council to uphold The Great Law.

Kay Olan (Ionataiewas) is a Mohawk educator and storyteller. She taught elementary school for over 33 years, and during that time gave cultural presentations about the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) to various community, school and college groups. Upon retiring from teaching, she moved to Kanatsiohareke, a traditional Mohawk Community located in central New York State, where she coordinated and promoted cultural lectures, workshops and programs including the Kanatsiohareke Mohawk Language Program. Now based in Saratoga Springs, she continues to share the culture and stories of the Haudenosaunee.

Historian's Notebook (continued from p.1)

Philip Sousa, Tony Pastor, P.T. Barnum's baby elephant named Hunky Punky, General Tom Thumb and his wife, and Pat Rooney. La Petite Adelaide, who was born in Cohoes, appeared in the hall several times, as early as 1893. Over the next few years the shows at the Music Hall received lower attendance, and there was a high tenant turnover. Continuing business vacancies resulted in a financial loss for the building's owners, causing Mr. Masten to sell his share of the hall to Mary Acheson in 1882, leaving him with 25 cents in cash from his \$30,000 investment. On July 13, 1882, The National Bank of Cohoes leased the first floor, and took over complete ownership of the building in 1905.

Due to its dangerous condition the Music Hall was closed on January 13, 1877. It was reopened in May of that year, only to be closed again in 1879. It was again reopened by popular demand in 1883, and during this time it was rented for community "sings" and dances, temperance gatherings, and lectures by prominent speakers. For the safety of the public, the bank closed the Music Hall in 1905 after 27 years of use when a roof truss gave way. It was not to be reopened again for many, many years. In 1899, the "new" Cohoes Opera House at 132 Remsen St. was opened, providing entertainment for 60 years.

The National Bank of Cohoes merged with Marine Midland of Troy in 1968. The bank moved out of the building and ceded it to the City of Cohoes for \$100. Under Mayor Jay McDonald's leadership and the vision of city Historian Dr. Edward Vandercar, plans were developed to restore and reopen the Music Hall after 50 years of disuse. The city applied for grants and in July of 1969 federal, state, Model Cities, and community development funds totaling \$1,019,987 were awarded for the restoration project, which would take five years. Renovations included repainting using guidelines from historical records from the hall, converting gas lit chandeliers to electricity, and modifying seating to modern standards while retaining its original appearance. Reconstruction of the ceiling and stage paintings was done by artist David Hill of France, and his drop curtain depicted the Cohoes Falls.

The theater was reopened on March 7, 1975 with a performance of *London Assurance*, the same play that had been performed at the hall's original opening in 1874. The Hall was received with enthusiasm by Cohoesiers glad to see their theater "back to life." The 1975-1976 season drew an attendance of 42,000, and featured a notable performance by Cohoesier and character actor Mike Mazurki as Lenny in *Of Mice and Men*. Since its re-opening, the Hall has hosted a variety of resident groups including Heritage Artists and the Eighth Step. C-R Productions, in its seventh season of musical theater and other productions, is the current resident company. The hall has also been the site of musical and dramatic performances by community groups, lectures, a Victorian fashion show, and even an appearance by Abraham Lincoln (noted Lincoln impersonator Phil Jessen) in 2002.

The Music Hall remains an architectural jewel and is one of the oldest professional theaters operating in the country. It is a living link to 19th century Cohoes and asset for the future.

June Cherniak/Paul Dunleavy

References: *Cohoes Cataract*, *Cohoes Daily News*, *Masten's History of Cohoes (1877)*, *A History of Cohoes Music Hall by John Cestara and Pamela Palat*, *The Urban Industrial Environment: A Short History of the Performing Arts in 19th Century Cohoes by S.M. Halloran and Russell Paul Cateriniccio*

Photo credits this issue: Bob Addis, Walter Cherniak, Sandy Zerrillo

Spindle City Historic Society Membership Application

www.spindlecitynet

	President - Paul Dunleavy		
First Vice President - Daniele Cherniak		Second Vice President - Tor Shekerjian	
Secretary - Linda C. Christopher		Treasurer - June Cherniak	
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership	\$10.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Institutional Membership	\$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen Membership	\$ 5.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Contributing Membership	\$35.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Student Membership	\$ 5.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining Membership	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership	\$15.00		

*We have great things planned in our home in the Cohoes Visitor's Center!
Please help if you can with an additional donation to support our upcoming programs:*

\$5.00 \$10.00 other
 gift membership

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____
TELEPHONE _____ E-mail _____

Mail completed form with membership fee, payable to Spindle City Historic Society, to:
June Cherniak, Treasurer, 415 Vliet Boulevard, Cohoes, NY 12047

Wanted - Historic Postcards

The Spindle City Historic Society is beginning work on its next book, a collection of historic postcards of Cohoes. If you have historic postcards you would like to share for the book, please contact us at cohoes90@nycap.rr.com or at 518-237-5618. Postcards will be scanned and returned to their owners unless they wish to donate them to SCHS.

SCHS Annual Raffle

This year's raffle item is a fabric wall hanging created by Karen Grant to commemorate the Hudson-Fulton quadricentennial. The 25" x 19" wall hanging depicts the arrival of Henry Hudson's crew in September 1609. SCHS members are being sent a mailing in September with raffle tickets; tickets can also be obtained at SCHS events and meetings, or by calling 518-237-5618. Raffle tickets are \$1.00 each, or 6 for \$5.00. The raffle drawing will be at the Cohoes Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony the weekend after Thanksgiving.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, September 18 - Saturday, September 19 - A series of events that celebrate the Dutch influence on the Capital District and commemorate the Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial, sponsored by the Cohoes 400 - Hudson/Fulton Celebration Committee.

Friday, September 18, 7:30 p.m., Van Schaick Mansion - Talk by Assemblyman Jack McEneny on the Dutch influence in Albany and the region.

Saturday, September 19:

1:00 p.m., Cohoes Visitor's Center - Presentation by Don Rittner on the building of the replica ship *Onrust*.

4:00 p.m., Van Schaick Mansion - Talk by Janni Venema on the New Netherlands Project.

Wednesday, September 30 - Spindle City Historic Society meeting. 7 p.m., Cohoes Visitor's Center.

Wednesday, October 28 - Spindle City Historic Society meeting. 7 p.m., Cohoes Visitor's Center.

Wednesday, December 2 - Spindle City Historic Society meeting. 7 p.m., Cohoes Visitor's Center. Note special date for the combined November/December meeting. In January, we will return to our usual meeting date on the last Wednesday of the month.

Wednesday, January 27, 2010 - Spindle City Historic Society meeting. 7 p.m., Cohoes Visitor's Center.

☞ SCHS Newsletter Staff ☜

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Spindle City Historic Society

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