



## SAVE THE DATE

### Tavern Night

Saturday,  
February 9  
7 to 9 pm

### Board Meeting

Saturday  
January 19,  
9:30 - 11 am



### Baird's Tavern

#### Gift Shop

#### Hours

Wednesday  
10 am to 2 pm  
Saturday  
10 am to 2 pm

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### Tours of Baird's Tavern

Saturdays in  
January  
10 am to 2 pm

#### Office Hours

T, W & Th  
9 am to 1 pm

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### 1810 Archives Office

Tuesdays 9 to 12  
By appointment  
986-5987

## GRANT AWARDED FOR SHINGLE HOUSE:

We have been awarded \$25,000 by the Warwick Savings Foundation for the Shingle House Restoration Project. The funding will be applied to the first steps in the project: [1] shore up basement support, [2] eliminate the moisture in the house, and [3] control the environment.

A grant application was submitted to the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation this past June for the Shingle House Restoration Project. Although we will not receive any funding from this effort, this was not unexpected since our project was not one of the funding priorities listed for this year's Historic Preservation Grant Program. However, all effort was not in vain since this submission can be used as a template for a similar submission next spring.

A grant application for \$37,375 was submitted in December to Senator Thomas P. Morahan. This amount, if granted, combined with the Warwick Savings Foundation grant, would cover the estimated cost of the three steps listed above.

Two grant requests to support the Baird Tavern Education Center were also submitted during December. The first went to the Orange County Historian for \$922.29 to cover the cost of supplies necessary for the 2008 educational program. The second grant application was sent to the Provident Bank Charitable Foundation for \$2,600 to hire a teacher for the 2008 programs and to purchase four benches.

Leslie Wood and Sybil Skinner have organized the grant application files. In addition, Sybil has prepared a data base of all our grant applications. This will allow us to coordinate grant applications to avoid multiple submissions to the same source at the same time.

Most of our grant requests are short and not complex. If you might be interested in grant writing, please contact Leslie Wood at 845-987-1705. The Society can use your help, especially now as we embark on the Shingle House Restoration Project.

Leslie Wood, Recording Stationary

## GIFT SHOP NEWS

The Gift Shop at Baird's Tavern with its many donations and patrons will have a tally of \$6,000 plus for the year 2007. Thanks to the efforts of Candy Ahrenholz and crew the shop will remain open for the month of January from 10 to 2:00 on Saturdays. This winter the main floor of Baird's Tavern will be open for tours also. January's featured collection is a display of historical clothing.

## UNDER THE TENT PARTIES A SUCCESS

Three catered social events that were auctioned off at last summer's Under the Tent Party were held over the holidays. Host and guest agreed that all three were great successes.

**The Hurd – Kurtz Tavern Party** was held December 1 at Baird's Tavern. Their 25 plus guests were treated to a chili bar with all the fixings prepared by Jo Hull and ale produced by David Sherfey. Thanks Betty, Doug, Mark and Sandy for your financial support of the Society. Thanks Sandy and Jane Glazman, Jo Hull, Debbie and Bill Iurato, Shelly and David Sherfey for the donations of food, spirits, organization and serving that helped make this evening a success. I hear the bidding is going to be higher next year.

**The Candlelight Dinner at the Baird Tavern** was a great success. This event was auctioned off at the Under the Tent Party, and the lucky winners enjoyed a fabulous dinner featuring choices of hot and cold hors d'oeuvres, filet mignon with all the trimmings and a yummy dessert all accompanied by a selection of fine wines. Servers were officers and trustees of the Society.

**Helen and John Lee** reported the Cocktail Party provided by "Celebrations" and "Eve's Catering" was fantastic. Their 22 guests were thrilled with the cocktail buffet, which included hot and cold hors d'oeuvres followed by a horseradish crusted filet of beef and various cheeses and breads provided by Bobolink Dairy. The ambiance with Christmas decorations provided by "Celebrations" was the perfect touch to warm the hearts of their guests. Jane Gyulivary planned every aspect of the party, from sending the invitations to making sure all the guests' needs were taken care of. Definitely There is going to be a bidding war for our parties at Under the Tent 2008 on August 23.

## SERVICE OF REVOLUTIONARY WAR VETERANS BEING UNCOVERED

In December 2006, the Society honored its Revolutionary War veterans with a plaque inscribed with their names which was installed in Warwick Town Hall. Many questions came in about the men, but little information was available at the time. A new resource is now available, and over the past several weeks, the Society's archivist has been combing through Footnote.com's database of federal records, looking for the pension applications of local Revolutionary veterans.

These first person accounts of the men who filed for pensions are yielding a picture of just what local men were up to during the war, in far more detail than was previously available. The service of Azariah Ketchum, builder of our Ketchum House museum, is among them, and a transcription of his recollections has been made and posted on the Warwick History blog (<http://warwickhistory.blogspot.com>).

What is most striking in these records is the desperation of the veterans, who were elderly and near destitute in the early 1800's, and how many of them lacked written proof of their service or sufficient living witnesses to testify—resulting in their pensions being denied. The letters are a poignant reminder that even during the early years of our country the sacrifices of some were overlooked.

Anyone who would like to help transcribe even just one of the veterans' accounts can contact Sue Gardner; the file can be emailed to you. You may be the first person since the early 1800's to read their story. (Email [sgardner@rcls.org](mailto:sgardner@rcls.org), or leave a message at the archive office, 986-5987).

Sue Gardner, Local History Librarian, Archivist for the Historical Society

## IF YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT IS TRULY HAPPENING WITHIN THE SOCIETY YOU ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THE BOARD MEETINGS:

Sat., Jan. 19, 9:30 am  
Sat., Feb. 16, 9:30 am  
Sat., March 15, 9:30 am  
Sat., April 19, 9:30 am

Th., May 15, 7:00 pm  
Th., June 19, 7:00 pm  
Th., July 17, 7:00 pm  
Th., August 21, 7:00 pm

Th., Sept. 18, 7:00 pm  
Sat., Oct. 18, 9:30 am  
Sat., Dec. 13, 9:30 am

## MUSIC THEME OF HARVEST TO HOLLY

Harvest to Holly 2007 took on a new twist with three distinctive performances in late November at the Old School Baptist Meeting House. Saturday's event was a bit chilly; however, the Chamber Trio warmed the hearts of all the patrons attending. And Sunday the Jubilate Singers created a sound that echoed thrillingly in the small church. They were followed by the AME Gospel Choir, whose voices rang loud and clear through the rafters.

Jo Hull pulled together an array of tavern foods that allowed Harvest to Holly to become a tasty social occasion as well. The History Club did a fantastic job serving, taking coats and assuring that all the guests' needs were taken care of.

The decorating committee outdid themselves by bringing locally donated produce from the fields of Edwards Nursery Incorporated, Emmerich Greenhouses, Grammy's Garden, High Meadow Farm, Ochs Orchard and Penning's Orchard to produce decorations rivaling those of colonial Williamsburg. Thanks to Gary Randall, the Baird's Tavern exterior, with its apple display, caught the eye of many travelers throughout the holiday season. David and Shelly Sherfey lit up Lewis Park with garlands and swags adorned with gourds. The Old School Baptist Meeting House had its beautiful brass chandelier polished by Bobbi Stubeck. What a wonderful crew we had working together on this project. The decorating committee members and helpers included Candy Ahrenholz, Judy Harney, Fran Holler, Doug Hurd, Jane Glazman, Christine Krahulik, Gary Randall, David and Shelly Sherfey, Bobbi Stubeck, Simonee Tierney, Rich White and Sharon Williamson.

The costume committee also brought a new direction to the Historical Society by having the recently restored "Lincoln Dress" on display in the upstairs ballroom. Thanks, Candy Ahrenholz, Judy Harney, Betty Hurd, Nancy Owen and Rosella Schaefer, for your weekly contributions to this important collection. This and the other items of clothing that were part of Harvest to Holly will remain on display throughout January, on Saturdays from 10 to 2 on the main floor.

And some thank you that might be overlooked are for the removal of the decorations from the Old School Baptist Meeting House, the Lewis Park fence, and the Tavern façade and lamppost. This post-party work was done by Will and Elizabeth Skinner. Their mom really appreciated the help and hopes other Society members appreciate the youth of our world too. And to Dolores Simon for editing everything that goes out of the office. She has a wonderful talent for thanking others and she deserves a BIG thank you.

If you did not make it to Harvest to Holly 2007, or if you did and would like to look at the building decorations a bit closer, please go to the web site at [www.warwickhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.warwickhistoricalsociety.org) to see how a lot of people working together can make something magical happen.

Sybil H. Skinner, Harvest to Holly event chair

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES SETS 2008 SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

Please mark your calendar and make plans to attend:

Tavern Night ~ February 9, 2008 ~ 7-9 pm  
Membership Campaign ~ March, ask a friend to join  
Annual Meeting/Dinner ~ April 26, TBA  
Wine & Cheese Party ~ June 1, 4-6, Lewis Park  
Garden/Docent Gathering ~ July 11, TBA

George Washington Day ~ July 26, 6-9, Lewis Park  
Under the Tent ~ August 23, Lewis Park  
Annual Yard Sale ~ September 20, Lewis Park  
Fourth Grade Day ~ October, TBA  
Harvest to Holly ~ November 22 – 23, TBA  
Wassail Party ~ December 7, Baird's Tavern



Robert Fletcher

*~ Eat, Drink and Be Merry ~*

## *Tavern Night at Baird's Tavern*

*Sponsored by the Historical Society of the  
Town of Warwick  
Featuring beverages and a sampling of tavern food  
typical of Colonial times*

*Date: February 9, 2008*

*Time: 7 to 9 pm*

*Place: Baird's Tavern*

*Admission at the door ~ \$18.00 members ~ \$20.00 per person non members  
For more information call 845-986-3236 or visit the Society's web site at  
[www.warwickhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.warwickhistoricalsociety.org)*

### **The Historical Society of the Town of Warwick**

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845-986-3236

[www.warwickhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.warwickhistoricalsociety.org)

*Together we will educate and engage our community to preserve our legacy.*

