

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE TOWN OF WARWICK



WINTER NOTES

Calendar

Subject to change

Concert : March 21st

3 -5 \$20. (BT)

Bake Sale: Apr.24th

Lower Main Street

Bridal Trail May 1st

Annual Meeting: May 15

OSBMH/BT

Wine, Cheese & Jazz :

June 6 admission (LP)

George Washington Day

Birthday and barbecue

July 24th admission (LP)

Under the Tent: Aug.28th

6 - 9 admission (LP)

Fall Tavern Night:

Oct 23rd

7- 10 admission (BT)

Harvest to Holly

date to be announced

Wassail Party Dec. 5th

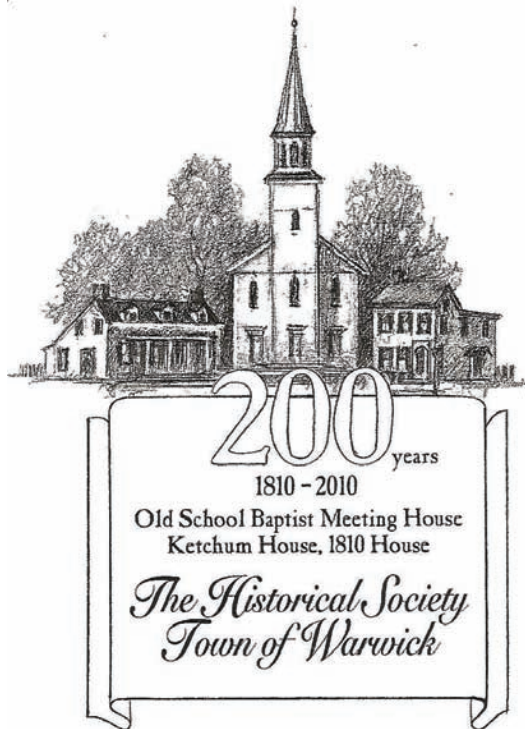
4 - 6 admission (BT)

(BT) - Baird's Tavern

(LP) - Lewis Park

(OSBMH) -Meeting House

2010 is the bicentennial year for three of our buildings: the Old School Baptist Meeting House, the Ketchum House, and the 1810 House. We asked the community at large to submit a design for a logo to be used during the year. There were six excellent entries which made the selection process difficult as each one was totally different. Below is the logo the committee chose.
Designed by **Robert Fletcher.**



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Have we as a society that cares for the preservation of historic structures and is responsible for the education of the public about preservation and restoration ever spoken at a meeting either at the town or village level about our concerns?

For example, the community is involved in a debate concerning the land located on Route 94 south. Before construction began on the supermarket, a historic house called Blaine was torn down. We were fortunate enough to have been given permission to remove several important elements like the fireplace mantel.

Here's the question: Should we become more involved in municipal decisions? Should we have spoken out on the new Grand Street apartments? Individually we can voice our opinion but as the main historic organization should we voice our opinion and at the very least take part in the discussions?

Patricia McConnell

patsy2009@warwick.net

A brief description of the three bicentennial buildings we are celebrating

The Old School Baptist Meeting House (OSBMH) was built in 1810. It remained a consecrated church until 1952 when the last two surviving members gave it to the Historical Society. Today it is used primarily for weddings and concerts. We will be adding heat and air-conditioning this year.

The 1810 House was donated to the Society in 1957 by Elizabeth Sanford Lewis Van Leer. It holds our extensive archive and costume collection as well as a museum in the front room which has a collection of Frank Forester mementos. The Herb Garden in the rear of the building is a work project of the Garden Club of Orange and Dutchess.

Azariah Ketchum one of the builders of the OSBMH, built his own house in 1810 on Church Street. It has high ceilings and elaborate fireplace mantels. It was donated to the Society by Grace Pelton Bennett and today is the private home of our curator.

All three buildings are open to the public during the summer and will have special events in celebration of their anniversary.



Pip Klein donates valuable quilt top from her mother's collection to the Society

The late Phyllis Klein had an incredible quilt collection . Many were her original designs. Others she finished and quilted. She was the founding force behind the Warwick Valley Quilters Guild.

Pip has donated to the Society a quilt topper which had been made in Warwick by a member of the Knapp family. The name is "Blue Grandma's Garden". It is believed to have been done between 1920 and 1930. The Historical Society is delighted to have it. Pip has many other quilts which she is selling. You may e-mail her for information about the collection. pipklein@warwick.net

Update on the two churches

Have you noticed how beautiful the Old School Baptist Meeting House looks? Barron Morgan, a master carpenter, has replaced some rotted wood, put railings inside going up the stairs, and plugged holes around the building besides working on the steeple. Next, CertaPro painted the building. The job manager was Brendan McManus who got married in the OSBMH last summer and also had his reception in Lewis Park. The next item is heat and air. It will happen!

Very soon we are going to begin the structural work on the old United African Methodist Episcopal church. David Brandt, our designer, has drawn up plans for a handicap bathroom, pantry kitchen and storage room. First, we are replacing a beam, tearing down the siding and replacing that with cedar shingles as it was in the 1910 picture here. A bell tower was added later and we will replace that as well. Of course the amount it will cost far exceeds the grants we have so several fundraisers will have to take place. Perhaps even a telethon again. Upon completion, the building will house a permanent exhibit of African American history and culture and we are beginning to collect material. If anyone has photos or other memorabilia please contact Sue Gardner, our Archivist. The e-dress is: info@warwickhistoricalsociety.org



" Upon This Rock" - The History of the Episcopal Community in Warwick

This book tells the story of the growth of a church community, a town, and of the spiritual growth of a family, with love, humor and compassion. It combines history, adventure and spirituality. The author moves from researcher to archeologist, from genealogist to historian. Clues are laid out for the reader to discover in the documents shown. This book is not a dry recitation of facts, but, puts flesh on the bones of those who lived the story and demonstrates what has been taken from the past into the present.

Ivy M. Jordan Tulin is the author. She is a retired Spanish teacher whose hobby has always been history. She and her family moved to Warwick over 23 years ago and when Christ Church opened the time capsule which was dated 1866, she became totally involved in writing this book. Ivy is an assistant archivist for the Warwick Historical Society.

To Order: Call Christ Church at 845 986-3440. The cost is \$18.95 plus \$3.00 for shipping.

Tavern Night a huge success!

On February 6th we had a wonderful evening. The prediction was for snow but we were so lucky - not one flake fell in and around Baird's Tavern!

David Sherfey, our master brewer, made six different varieties of ale - Saison, Belgian Triple with chocolate and orange, Moon Pie Mardi Gras Imperial Stout, Dryhop Pale Ale, Small Beer and Double IPA. David was featured in the Fall issue of Orange Magazine which brought quite a few new people to our popular event.

Restaurants and others donated food: Yesterdays, Charlotte's Tea Room, Blarney House, Noble Pies, Caterer Ed Fava, plus members Cathie Heimbach, Candy Ahrenholz, Sheila Warner, Jane Glzman, Sybil Skinner, Joy Benedetto, Shelly Sherfey, Doug Stage and Jo Hull.

Over 100 people came - young and old mingled together drinking, eating and enjoying each other's company. Jim Quinlan provided the music for the evening - playing show tunes and romantic songs on our piano. Jim is an English teacher in Pine Bush and has an incredible talent on the piano.

Because most of the food was donated, the Society netted \$2000 which goes into operating funds.

We thank everyone who participated in the evening. It was a rousing success!

[The Halcyon Days: The Historic Homes of Warwick and the Families that Breathed Life into Them](#)

Since this beautiful book came out in November, we have sold over 140 copies. It truly is a masterpiece, conceived and published by Silvio Galterio and written by Jean Beattie May with over 200 pages filled with photos, paintings and descriptions of people, houses, barns. It took Silvio and Jean over five years to put it together and if you haven't seen the book or got your copy, stop by the Gift Shop. Right now the price of the hardbound book is \$100 plus handling, tax and shipping. In June it will be \$125 plus handling, tax and shipping.

Call the office to reserve yours at 845 986-3236 or send an e-mail to: whs@warwick.net.

[Recalling Warwick's Golden Era of Railroading](#)

March 8, 1860 represented an important turning point in our town's history. On that day 150 years ago a number of our local citizens pooled their resources along with some outside capital and incorporated the Warwick Valley Railroad. The first train of the recently formed corporation (later reorganized as the Lehigh and Hudson River Railway) steamed into Warwick village on April 1, 1862 opening a golden era of rail transportation. Within a generation, our community was utterly transformed. The agricultural sector, particularly our dairy industry, mushroomed and became the engine that drove us into a period of unprecedented prosperity. Homes and barns were enlarged, lumberyards proliferated, locally-owned banks were established, schools were built, small industries emerged, hotels were opened, and in every respect the quality of life greatly improved for most. By 1900, Main Street in Warwick village was vibrating with commercial life. By the later part of the 1920s autos and trucks began to compete with the railroad and in 1939 passenger service was discontinued. However, freight traffic continued to grow and our tiny railroad flourished until the mid 1960s with the advent of the interstate highway networks and the demise of the great Pennsylvania and Grand Central Rail systems. Within a few years the Lehigh and Hudson River Railway fell into bankruptcy and receivership and died in 1982. Its corporate successors continue to use the rail line for long distance freight but only a handful of local businesses still benefit.

You can learn more about the fascinating saga of the L&HRR at the Albert Wisner Public Library which will host an exhibition in March to celebrate its history and contributions to our community's development.

MEMBERSHIP

We will be sending out dues notices in another month or so but if you haven't been a member for a while here are the categories:

Student:	\$10
Individual:	\$50
Family/Dual	\$100
Senior Individual:	\$35
Senior Dual:	\$50
Teacher:	\$35
Business/Contributor:	\$150
Donor:	\$200
Patron:	\$500
Benefactor:	\$1000

Make check payable to:
Warwick Historical Society
And mail to: PO Box 353, Warwick, NY 10990

If you would like to pay by card:
E-mail: whs@warwick.net

The Historical Society of the Town of Warwick is a 501c3 not for profit organization which receives most of its funding from membership, events and grants. It owns nine buildings, a cemetery and a park.

As this year is the bicentennial of three of our buildings, we are seeking sponsors for several events which are in the planning stage. There are some exciting things we are organizing. A birthday party and barbecue, a summer tea party, and concerts to name a few. If you are interested in any of these, contact Jo Hull at :845 986-3236 or send an email to : whs@warwick.net

WHS COOKBOOK

Have some old tried, true and tasty recipes? The Society is still looking for more. The deadline is May 1. Please contact the office or send an e-mail. Publication in September 2010. Dolores Simon is the Editor.

The Lycian Centre in Sugar Loaf supports the Warwick Historical Society. We hope you will enjoy what they have to offer. Call the box office at 845-469-2287 or go to their web site at: www.LycianCentre.com

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