



ROMAN GOD, JANUS

WALLENPAUPACK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

JANUARY 2012 NEWSLETTER

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***OUR MISSION: TO PRESERVE THE HISTORY OF THE
WALLENPAUPACK AREA ALIVE AND ACCESSIBLE TO
PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS***

The Romans characterized their deity for the first month of the new year as having two faces-one looking back into the past and one looking ahead into the future. WHS could adopt Janus as their mascot because we, too, look to keep secure the treasures from the past and preserve them for the future.

Are you doing your part? January is a wonderful month to get out all those unlabeled photographs, sit in front of the fire, and record your memories for your grandchildren. It's a great time to scrapbook or to finish hand-crafts, once discarded, to pass on.

In keeping with that idea, bring a TREASURE to the January Meeting and share with the others your special story. We'll do this after the business meeting while we enjoy our refreshments.

**NEXT MEETING: JAN.18, 2012
1:00 P.M. PPL LEARNING CTR**

The January meeting is the Annual Meeting of WHS at which new officers and directors will be elected and the annual budget will be presented. At the December meeting, the slate of officers, offered by the Nomination Committee, was announced. There being no additional nominations from the floor, a motion was made and passed to close the nominations. The new slate of officers is presented here: President-Rolf Moeller, Vice President-Bobby Morgan, Secretary and Ass't Treasurer- Jon Tandy, Treasurer and Ass't Secretary- Jim Pellington.

There are no recommended changes to the Board of Directors at this time. Interested members should make their interest known to the President.

A list of the Refreshment Committee for 2012 appears elsewhere in this newsletter.

A REMINDER THAT, DURING THE WINTER MONTHS, WHS WILL OPERATE ON THE WALLENPAUPACK AREA SCHOOL SCHEDULE. IF SCHOOL IS CLOSED ON A MEETING DAY, DUE TO BAD WEATHER, THE MEETING WILL BE HELD THE FOLLOWING DAY AT THE SCHEDULED TIME.

The Board has begun a new round of planning for the future of the Society. In order to better serve you, the members of the Society, we need to know what you want from the Society. Please take a few minutes to answer these questions. If you prefer not to answer in writing, a volunteer will be contacting you in a few weeks.

Our mission: to keep the history of the Wallenpaupack area alive and accessible to present and future generations.

Is that an appropriate mission? (Yes / No) How would you change it? (in comments)

What motivated you to join the Wallenpaupack Historical Society (check all that apply)?

- Interest in local history
- To receive newsletter
- Business advantages
- Social interaction
- Other _____

Given your interest in the Society, what additional activities would you support with more time?

- Service on the board
- Service on a committee (circle all that apply):
 - Collections Facilities Historic Preservation Easement
 - Finance Newsletter Program Publicity
 - Research and Oral History Publishing School Partnership
 - Cemeteries Awards and Banquet
- Ticket sales, solicitations...
- Presentations on history
- Historical arts and crafts
- Other _____

Would you renew your membership to the Society if the annual dues were raised to \$20 (individual) and \$30 (family)? Yes/No

The fall Awards dinner has been the centerpiece of our fundraising efforts for about ten years. However, the last few years have seen a drop in attendance. We need to know what we can do to improve the Awards dinner, both as a major program and as a fund raising event.

Have you attended the fall Awards dinner before 2011? Yes/No

Did you attend the fall Awards dinner this year? Yes/No

If you attended in the past, but not this year, why (in comments)?

Would you be more or less likely to attend the fall Awards banquet if:

- The ticket price was \$35 per person (with the expectation you would spend at auctions)?
- The ticket price was \$40 per person (with the expectation you would spend at auctions)?
- The ticket price was \$45 per person (with no auction)?
- The ticket price was \$50 per person (with no auction)?

Would you be more or less likely to attend the fall Awards banquet if:

- There was a live auction?
- There was a silent auction?
- There was a program about local history in addition to the awards?
- There was an entertainment program in addition to the awards?
- There were no activities other than the awards?

Do you regularly attend the May banquet? Yes/No

One of our efforts is to produce educational programs for the membership as well as the public. Most of those programs take place at the monthly membership meetings. We would like to know what we can do to improve those meetings and increase member participation.

How often do you attend membership meetings? _____

Would you be more or less likely to attend membership meetings if (check all that apply):

- There was a short business meeting with reports from committees
- There was no business conducted
- Refreshments are not served
- There was more opportunity for social interaction
- There were more programs on local history
- There was more opportunity to talk with experts on local history
- The meetings were held in early afternoon
- The meetings were held in the evening
- The meetings were held in the morning
- The meetings were held on weekends
- The meetings were on a different day of the week (specify good days _____)
- You knew more people
- You were personally invited

The single largest expense for the Society is the maintenance and repair of the Williams House.

Have you been to the Williams House (check all that apply)?

- To a regular meeting
- To a program
- To visit during when the house was "open"
- To work

How much do you think it would cost to operate the Williams House per year? \$_____

Part of our efforts include letting people know about the Society's work. Help us improve our public relations by rating our efforts.

Where is the Society's home and center of operations? _____

Have you ever visited the Society's website www.wallenzaupackhistorical.org? Yes/No

What information does the website not have that you would find useful?

Do you read the newsletter? Yes/No

What do you like about the newsletter and what would you like to see added to it?

Have you ever purchased one of the books published by the Society? Yes/No

What topics would you like to see published by the Society?

Do you know who our corporate sponsors and members are? Yes/No

Do you patronize them? Yes/No

Additional Comments:

DID YOU WIN THE QUILT? NO? TRY AGAIN NEXT YEAR.



THE WINNER IS MICHELE ROJAS OF HAWLEY SEEN HERE WITH C. RICHARD BRIDEN, QUILT RAFFLE CHAIR AND BARBARA BRIDEN, REPRESENTING “*THE FRIENDS WITH A HEART*” QUILTING GROUP

MICHELE AND HER HUSBAND ARE THE RECIPIENTS OF A WHS PRESERVATION AWARD FOR THEIR RESTORATION OF THE ACADEMY STREET BED AND BREAKFAST, HAWLEY, PA

“Friends with a Heart” who created and donated the quilt to WHS, as they have done for many years, deserves our great appreciation for their gift. The 2011 Quilt brought in more than \$2,800 to the WHS—a great help in continuing our mission. Special recognition goes to Dick Briden for his stewardship of the raffle process. Dick and his band of volunteers gave up much of their time this summer, selling tickets. Our members who also purchased raffle tickets helped put us over the top. Great Work! By the way, the 2012 Quilt is well under way. It will be a stunner!

HOLIDAY PARTY

The WASD High School Chamber Choir visited our holiday party in December and once again, they performed beautiful music for our enjoyment. Members



look forward to the sounds and sights of the afternoon. A table filled with sweet delights pleased both the students and the members. There were many opportunities to graze. We thank all those who provided refreshments for this occasion and especially, through-out the year.

DID YOU PAY YOUR DUES?

THE DUES COLLECTING PERIOD IS OVER IN THE END OF JANUARY. WE WANT YOU TO REMAIN AS MEMBERS SO PLEASE SEND IN YOUR DUES NOW. \$15 SINGLE; \$ 25 FAMILY \$5.00 STUDENT \$ 50 CORPORATE.

MAIL TO WHS, PO BOX 345
PAUPACK, PA 18451

WILLIAMS HOUSE UPDATE

After careful consideration of all the pros and cons, it was decided to turn the heat and water off in the Williams House this winter. In the spring, we will evaluate any damages to the house or to the collection.

The only disturbing things so far are the nocturnal scavenger hunts through the collections on a too-frequent basis and the line item in the budget for DECON.



WILLIAMS HOUSE ENDOWMENT FUND

When the Williams House Endowment Fund was established, funds were designated to the upkeep and maintenance of the museum. A modest amount was collected for the first year of the venture.

We must not forget, however, that the need for funding continues. As the structure ages, the scope of the needed paint and spouting renovations only gets worse.

Please remember the Endowment Fund when you are planning your contributions or your estate.

2012 REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE

IF YOU DO WANT TO SERVE ON THE REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE, PLEASE CALL NANCY GUMBLE 226-6596
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CHANGE THE MONTH, PLEASE CONTACT SOMEONE ON THE LIST AND SWITCH

JANUARY

*SHIRLEY COUTTS
BOBBY MORGAN*

APRIL

*NANCY GUMBLE
THOMAS KENNEDY*

JULY

PICNIC

OCTOBER

*JANE PELLINGTON
BARBARA BRIDEN*

FEBRUARY

*ALICE EHRHARDT
ETHEL PATTISON*

MAY

*SALLY LOVE
LIZ LO PUE*

AUGUST

*EDNA HEMSLEY
BRUCE TAYLOR*

NOVEMBER

*GERT SCHLEIKER
ANN WIEDENMAN*

MARCH

*DOTTIE VOLLMER
JANET STRAUSS*

JUNE

*THELMA DEWAR
SALLY THOMSON*

SEPTEMBER

AWARDS DINNER

DECEMBER

EVERYONE

FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO THE MEMBERSHIP

Periodically, the Board of Directors puts aside some time to devote to long-range planning and evaluating the Society, its strengths and weaknesses. Since the membership is the greatest source of feedback, the Board is asking you for your opinions in a survey which is included in this newsletter.

Please take a moment to fill out the enclosed survey.

While the goals of the Wallenpaupack Historical Society include serving the general public, we first serve you, our members. We need to know how we can better serve you. The survey is intended to provide you with a means to let us know how we are doing, and what we can do to improve. It will also let us know how well we are communicating on the broad scope of issues facing the Society.

If we don't hear from you in a few weeks, you should expect a call from one of the committee members to follow up. It should take only a few minutes of your time to answer the questions whether in writing or on the phone. If you don't want to get the phone call, please return the survey (with at least your name), or leave us a phone message at 570 226-8980, or an e-mail at president@wallenpaupackhistorical.org.

Thank you for your cooperation.