

wallenpaupack Historical Society
October, 2011, Newsletter



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**NEXT MEETING- OCTOBER 19TH, 1:00 P.M. PPL-LC
PRESENTER: COULBY DUNN, GREENTOWN
HISTORIC DOCUMENTS REFRESHMENTS-
ALICE EHRHARDT AND GERT SCHLEIKER**

Work on Purdytown Cemetery draws to a close as the first phase is concluded. Chairman Bob Ammon and assistant, Dick Briden, finished straightening the last gravestone on Wednesday, October 5th.

The toughest job was to cut out the tree roots that meandered throughout the stones, remnants of the giant white pines that were taken down. Rolf Moeller helped with this at times while Barbara Smyth and Audrey Graybill supervised the work.



BEFORE WORK BEGAN

All but about seven gravestones were stones brought from the field and over the years, they had sunk into the ground and toppled from side to side. Each stone had to be lifted up, the hole packed with modified fill, and the stone tamped back into place.

The cemetery is now ready for the next phase which is laying a mesh between the rows and covering it with wood chips or small stones to eliminate the growth of weeds.



ONLY A FEW TO GO

The third phase is placing a fence around the perimeter. This would be a low fence of either stones or column and chain. The preference is for a dry stone wall which is estimated to cost \$6,000, if contracted.

Kudos to Bob, Dick, Rolf, and Jon for the work completed so far. Finished or not, the Purdytown Cemetery looks considerably better than it did. This is an appropriate project for the Society since it preserves the past and honors the early citizens of Paupack Township. Contributions are greatly appreciated.



FINISHING TOUCHES

TENTH ANNUAL PRESERVATION AWARDS PROGRAM

This year's program on Friday evening, September 30th, was a change from the usual Awards program but the general consensus seemed to be favorable. Die-hard auction lovers were no doubt disappointed, but music by the Young Geezers ended the evening on a high note. The awards and the honorees were given more prominence, justly deserved.

The first honoree was **Peter Becker**, Managing Editor of the News-Eagle, in recognition of his "creative use of media to preserve local history". Peter's articles and photographs have generated a great deal of attention from the readership. Peter says he has a lot more to write about and appreciates contributions from the public.

The second honoree was the **Hawley Silk Mill** in recognition of the preservation of the buildings and the adaptive re-use of the facilities. John Schuman accepted the award for the investor group. Nick Snyder, architect for the project, presented a power-point program of examples of the preservation and re-use of many materials within the Silk Mill, as well as the Cocoon and the Ledges, which demonstrated the developers' determination to preserve as much of the buildings as possible.

After the dessert and the business, the Young Geezers entertained with blue-grass, sea chanties, folk songs, and a number of toe-tapping tunes, culminating with a Good Night, Irene sing-along.



PETER BECKER, RECIPIENT, AUDREY GRAYBILL, WHS PRESIDENT, AND JOHN SCHUMAN, RECIPIENT- NEWS-EAGLE PHOTO



This annual event is the culmination of the Society's work for the year and it serves as the major fund raiser of the organization. Profits this year were lower than expected and the attendance at the event was lower than anticipated. Revenues have declined the last several years and this year the profit was slightly below last year's. As you can see from the list of sponsors, a small number of members contributed. This limits that which we can expect to accomplish next year, Remember that we are a non-profit organization which relies on membership dues and donations. Available funds and difficult economic times make lower profits a given. We appreciate whatever each of you can give and we thank you for your support.



OCTOBER IS MEMBERSHIP MONTH

Currently, we have one hundred eighty-eight members. Among these, we have 10 honorary members, three student members and eight corporate members. Our sponsors and friends receive newsletters as well so each month one hundred thirty-eight newsletters are mailed to members and friends. Six receive e-mail newsletters. WHS believes that the newsletters are an invaluable aid to our Society since it connects all of our members, from Washington State to the tip of Long Island. WHS has not raised the membership dues in many years. The paper, envelopes, ink, and postage use up much more than a single membership fee.

Members should understand that, from time to time, they will be called upon to give more than \$15.00 in order to meet our financial obligations. Please give what you can afford. It is much appreciated.

The form below should be used when returning your membership dues. Try to pay promptly. October and November are the collection months.

Thanks again for your continued support. It is very important to us.

Board of Directors

Please return this form with your check, payable to WHS, to WHS, PO Box 345, Paupack, PA 18451. If you joined anytime from June 2011 to the present, you do not have to pay additional dues. Honorary members pay no dues.

CIRCLE : Single: \$15.00 Family: \$25.00 Student: \$5.00 Corporate: \$50.00

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