

# FORT EDWARD HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 106, 29 BROADWAY, FORT EDWARD, NY 12828

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WWW.OLDFORTHOUSEMUSEUM.COM

SERVING FORT EDWARD, HUDSON FALLS, KINGSBURY & SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

Spring 2024

DEAR MEMBERS & FRIENDS:

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Last year, we celebrated the beginning of the Old Fort House as a museum, having opened to the public on July 12, 1953. This occurred as the Old Fort House itself began its 250th year of existence. Patt Smyth built the house from salvaged material saved when he and his brother demolished Fort Edward. One of the structures was constructed near State Street and Broadway and the other was the Old Fort House. This began a full year of celebrations for us. We are approaching the 100th Anniversary of the founding of the Historical Association in 2025 to as well.

Our celebration for the founding of our country is approaching soon. In 1775, the Trek of the Cannons from Fort Ticonderoga under Henry Knox's direction passed through Fort Edward and Fort Miller. We are working with our local 250th Anniversary Committee to celebrate this occasion. We are hoping to help make this occasion a big success.

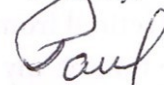
One of the first events For the season will be two program committee meetings held in conjunction with the Fort Edward Free Library on Thursday, March 28th at 7 pm. We will discuss the cache of Dynamite discovered when the Dewatering Facility was built on the West side of the Champlain Barge Canal in 2007. The dynamite was discovered during the cleanup for construction of the Facility. On Thursday, April 25th at 7:00 pm, we will take a look at Broadway from Liberty St to Harrison St before it was paved. A collection of photos saved by Frank H Cronkhite, former Village Attorney from 1912, from the road building project will be shown.

In May, we will host Colonial Days on May 18th and 19th with reenactors, displays, outdoor exhibits, and a small yard sale. Some refreshments will be available. It will run from 9:00 am—3:00 pm Saturday and Sunday with some events and displays at Rogers Island Visitors Center. This will be in conjunction with our Washington County 250th Committee.

Please review our Calendar of Events included in this mailing. You will also notice that we will be celebrating Jane McCrea Day on July 27. Yes, we will have an Auction, but we will have to screen items and will accept good antiques and quality collectibles. Members may donate items which will be reviewed by the Committee. Contributions may be made by contacting the Office at 518-747-9600.

We thank you for your continued support. We hope to see you this year. Please come out to participate in our programs, events, or visit the museum.

Sincerely,



R. Paul McCarty  
Executive Director



## ENDOWMENT MEMORIALS

**Daniel J. Argay**

J. Liza Argay

**Shirley Caruso**

R. Paul and Kathleen McCarty

**Mary Jane Ellis**

Sharon O’Toole

**Phoebe Gannon**

R. Paul and Kathleen McCarty  
JoAnn and Bernard Taylor

**Lucille Pickett**

Christine Pickett Hardin

**Horst “Fred” Wehner**

Mary Ellen Russo  
Norman & Lisa Wehner

IN FONDEST MEMORY OF OUR MEMBERS  
AND FRIENDS WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY  
SINCE OUR SPRING 2023 NEWSLETTER,  
AND NOT PREVIOUSLY LISTED

**William Cimo**

**Shirley Caruso**

**Mary Jane Ellis**

**Paul Henry**

**Dorothy V.  
Hughes**

**Richard ‘Dick’  
Mercier**

**Jeannine Rich**

**Bruce Solenski**

**Leo Williams**

Endowment Memorials or Honorariums may be made to the Fort Edward Historical Association at any time! The donors are acknowledged and the family of the deceased is provided a list of donor names and addresses.

### 2024 Officers, Trustees, and Staff

**2024 Officers:**

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Elizabeth O’Leary

**Vice President**

Tina Ovitt

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JoAnn Taylor

**Note from the President**

Now that I’ve retired from my position as Deputy Town Clerk in January, I am very pleased to be spending a lot more time at ‘my happy place’. There are so many things going on this year that we are planning! Right now, I am helping scan some of the 20,000 negatives from the Stone Collection. We will be participating in Colonial Day at Hudson Falls Intermediate School. I’m looking forward to participating again. We are gearing up for school fieldtrips, always a favorite of mine. On July 27, we will be having our Jane McCrea Day and Auction. This is our first auction since 2019! It will be different than our others, so please read about it in the rest of the newsletter. I hope to see you at some of our functions this season!

Elizabeth

## 2023 - 2024 ANNUAL APPEAL DONORS

WE GRATEFULLY THANK ALL LISTED BELOW FOR THEIR GENEROUS DONATION

|                            |                       |                              |                                |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
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| Kate Crotty                | Lynda Karig Hohmann   | Carol Mullen                 |                                |

FEHA membership is based on the calendar year, which means 2023 dues are now payable. Members receive free admission for tours of the museum campus, as well as all association mailings and invitations to all special programs and events. Addi-

## 2024 FEHA BUDGET

| <u>INCOME</u>     | <u>ACTUAL 2023</u>  | <u>PROPOSED 2024</u> | <u>EXPENSES</u>    | <u>ACTUAL 2023</u>  | <u>PROPOSED 2024</u> |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Endowment         | \$44,500.00         | \$46,800.00          | Building & Grounds | \$13,400.00         | \$12,900.00          |
| Fundraising       | \$14,000.00         | \$17,000.00          | Insurance & Taxes  | \$15,900.00         | \$16,600.00          |
| Municipal Funding | \$14,500.00         | \$14,500.00          | Utilities          | \$8,770.00          | \$8,375.00           |
| Dues              | \$10,000.00         | \$11,000.00          | Education          | \$400.00            | \$650.00             |
| Museum            | \$11,400.00         | \$12,957.00          | Museum Collection  | \$3,430.00          | \$3,430.00           |
| Art Center Awards | \$3,000.00          | \$3,000.00           | Art Center Awards  | \$3,100.00          | \$3,100.00           |
| Education         | \$3,500.00          | \$3,500.00           | Office             | \$11,500.00         | \$11,700.00          |
| Administrative    | \$100.00            | \$500.00             | Personnel          | \$44,500.00         | \$52,502.00          |
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>\$101,000.00</b> | <b>\$109,257.00</b>  | <b>Total</b>       | <b>\$101,000.00</b> | <b>\$109,257.00</b>  |

### BUDGET NOTES

Our Annual Appeal Fund Drive occurs at the end of each year. Funds generated from this appeal are held over until the next fiscal year for the various projects covered.

Our budget has increased over the years, finally breaking the \$100,000 mark. However, expenses have increased especially with utilities. Since we are considered a business, we pay a commercial rate for our utilities. Additionally, we have several of our furnaces which are aging out. Fortunately, we are able to replace them with a more energy efficient model which should save us money in the end, as well as our utility provider compensates us with a rebate. We will continue to maintain our buildings in a prudent manner, probably for the foreseeable future as we demonstrate our Scottish Heritage of frugality.

## 2024 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Wednesdays, 9:00 am-12:00 pm** year-round . **The John P. Burke Research Center, 22 Broadway, Fort Edward.** Open to the public for research on a wide variety of local historic topics. Appointments are available. Call 518-747-9600 for details.

**March 28, 7:00 pm, Images of Dynamite at the Fort Edward Free Library.** During the Construction of the Dewatering Facility for the processing of the river sludge, an area along the Champlain Barge Canal was excavated revealing a large quantity of dynamite which appeared to have been hidden in that era. During World War 1, the Federal Government took over the running of the Canal and a branch of our National Guard was stationed throughout Fort Edward. Join us for an illustrated talk with slides from World War 1 lead by Executive Director, Paul McCarty. For more information, please contact the Fort Edward Free Library at 518-747-6743.

**April 11, 7:00 pm, Senior Art Show and Scholarship Competition at the Sandy Hill Art Center.** Presentation of Scholarship Awards at the Sandy Hill Art Center. Reception opens at 6:30 pm, awards begin at 7pm.

**April 24, 1 pm—3 pm, ACC Rogers Island Walking Tour.** Join us for a walking tour of the site of the island barracks, monuments and graveyard, and tour the Visitors Center exhibits and collection. For reservations and more information, please contact the Department of Continuing Education at ACC. Reservations are required.

**April 25, 7:00 pm, Images of Broadway before paving at the Fort Edward Free Library.** We will review the preconstruction photos taken of the Broadway Hill about 1913. We will start at the top of the Hill at Harrison St. through to Lower Broadway **at the Methodist Church.** Join us for a talk from Executive Director, Paul McCarty. For more information, please contact the Fort Edward Free Library at 518-747-6743

**May 3 - 5, Antique Fair and Flea Market.** Join us at the Washington County Fairgrounds for an Antique Fair and Flea Market. Early Buyer Admission \$10, Weekend Admission \$5 (each day). Friday 7am-4pm, Sat. 8am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm.

**May 8, 1 pm—3 pm, ACC Bakers Falls Walking Tour** Join us for a walking tour of the hamlet of Bakers Falls. We will tour historic Baker Cemetery and the immediate John Street neighborhood and industrial neighborhoods. Meet at the stone wall in front of 50 Main St, HF, north of John St corner. For reservations and more information, please contact the Department of Continuing Education at ACC. Reservations are required.

**May 18-19, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm Colonial Encampment and Spring Garage Sale , 25 & 29 Broadway, Fort Edward.** Demonstrations by artisans, reenactments, original and replica tools and innovations, interactive learning exhibits related to Colonial Life.

**June 1-July 31, Old Fort House MUSEUM Campus & Gift Shop OPENS for tours 1:00 pm daily, closed July 4, 29 Broadway, Fort Edward.** General Admission: Adults \$10.00; Children ages 13-18 \$3.00; Families \$20.00; Children under 13 & members FREE. Also, Sr. & Military Discounts **Last tour begins at 4:00 pm. Reservations are encouraged. Please call 518-747-9600.**

**June 6, Thursday, Riverside School Bell Awards Ceremony & Reception for Outstanding Retired Area Educators, 29 Broadway, Fort Edward.** Campus opens at 4:00pm, Awards at 5:00pm. Public Welcome-Admission \$10.00. Call 518-747-9600 for Reservations.

**July 27, Jane McCrea Day and Auction, 29 Broadway, US Rte 4** Arts & crafts, antiques & collectibles, vendors, books, plants, garage sale, 9:00 am-3:00 pm.

The museum Gift Shop will be open. Refreshments available, as well as tours of the museum campus. **Auction begins at 10:00 am.** (preview 9:00 am). **Auction will be around 1.5 hours in length.** Bring a chair. Call 518.747.9600 or visit our website for more information.

**August 1-31, Old Fort House Museum Campus & Gift Shop Open for tours 1:00 pm Daily, 29 Broadway, Fort Edward.** General Admission: Adults \$10.00; Children ages 13-18 \$3.00; Families \$20.00; Children under 13 & members FREE. **Last tour begins at 4:00 pm. Reservations are encouraged. Please call 518-747-9600.**

**September 1-October 10, Old Fort House Museum & Gift Shop open 1:00 pm daily, closed National Holidays and Mondays, 29 Broadway, Fort Edward.** General Admission: Adults \$10.00; Children ages 13-18 \$3.00; Families \$20.00; Children under 13 & members FREE. Last tour begins at 4:00 pm. **Reservations are encouraged. Please call 518-747-9600.**

**October 12, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm Garage Sale, 25 & 29 Broadway, Fort Edward.** We have many items from local estates. The gift shop will be open with a special on most china & glassware.

**October 18—20, Antique Fair and Flea Market.** Join us at the Washington County Fairgrounds for an Antique Fair and Flea Market. Early Buyer Admission \$10, Weekend Admission \$5 (each day). Friday 7am-4pm, Sat. 8am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm.

**November TBD, Saturday, Annual Meeting of Fort Edward Historical Association.** Luncheon at the Art Center Building, 83 Broadway, 12:00 pm. Please call for reservations, 518-747-9600.

### Fort Edward Historical Association Membership Application

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ circle if applicable

GIFT: Y / N

Address \_\_\_\_\_ ANONYMOUS: Y / N

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

#### Individual

\_\_\_ \$1,000.00 Life Membership (Single)

\_\_\_ \$ 500.00 Sustaining Member

\_\_\_ \$ 250.00 Supporting Member

\_\_\_ \$ 100.00 Contributing Member

\_\_\_ \$ 50.00 Patron

\_\_\_ \$ 35.00 Family (# \_\_\_)

\_\_\_ \$ 25.00 Individual Membership

\_\_\_ \$ 20.00 Student/Senior Membership

#### Corporate

\_\_\_ \$5,000.00 Platinum Sponsor

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\_\_\_ \$ 500.00 Sustaining

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\_\_\_ \$ 200.00 Contributing

\_\_\_ \$ 100.00 Corporate Patron

\_\_\_ \$ 1-99.00 Friend

\$ \_\_\_ **ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION**

As a publically sponsored institution under Section 501©(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code, the Fort Edward Historical Association is classified as a non-profit organization, to which contributions are deductible for Federal estate, gift, and income tax purposes. **Please make checks payable to: FORT EDWARD HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION.**

### **Volunteer Workshop—June 12th at 3:00 pm**

Every year we depend on Volunteers for help with many different areas of Museum needs. Our collections need constant work, we need guides for fieldtrips, docents (guides) for in-season tours of the Museum Campus, volunteers for fundraising events and hall sitters for Museum security. We will train, you can work in any position!

We will be holding a Volunteer Workshop for these positions on **Wednesday, June 12th at 3:00 pm at the Old Fort House Museum** for anyone who is interested in becoming a volunteer. If this date and time doesn't work for your schedule, don't worry! We can fit you in based on your schedule. For any further information, please call 518-747-9600 or email us at [oldfort@albany.twcbc.com](mailto:oldfort@albany.twcbc.com).

**We are also looking for large planters (plastic, ceramic, metal, etc) that we can use to display plants.**

**We are very grateful for the assistance and support of Watkin's Greenhouse and Nursery!**

# 2023 MEMBERSHIP

SPRING 2024

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|                                  |                                |                                  |   |
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| *Thomas Eastwood IV              | *Sydney Mae McCarty            | Joseph Vernon                    | Ye Olde Fort Diner                        |
| Deborah Bascom Eberhart          | *Timothy McCarty               | *Adam Wait                       | <b><u>Membership Database Updated</u></b> |
| Mansir "Mac" J. Edwards          | Cathy Caprood McEneny          | *Alexander Wait                  | We recently updated our computer-         |
| Joan Ells                        | R Bruce. McGregor              | *Alexandra Unjo Wait             | ized membership database. If the          |
| *Mary Enhorning                  | Marie McHugh-LaClair           | **Charles V. & Candace Wait      | name or address that appears on your      |
| Ellen Ernst                      | Alice Meager                   | *Charles V. Wait Jr.             | mailing label needs to be changed,        |
| *Marcia Etu                      | Carol & Richard Mercier        | *Christopher Wait                | please contact the museum office at       |
| Gary & Kaaren Evens              | Mary Joy Mosher                | *Jane A. Wait                    | 518-747-9600 or by email at:              |
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