

THE NEW PORTICO

THE HUNTINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY SPRING 2010



ABOVE: A trio of sheep peep out from the Kissam Barn as they await their spring shearing. RIGHT: Dressed to the "nines" in period costume, volunteer **Kate Fais** shows a young attendee the finer points of weaving on a loom.



This Year's Sheep to Shawl Festival: Bigger and Better Than Ever!

Spring is in the air and you know what that means here at the Society: it's time for our annual Sheep to Shawl Festival - one of our most popular family events! This year the festival will be held on Sunday, May 2nd from 12 to 4 pm on the grounds of our Kissam House Museum and Barn.

Traditionally spring is the time for sheep to be sheared and shearing sheep is just what we plan to do. In addition to this time honored tradition, we will also present a myriad of textile demonstrations including spinning, weaving, rug hooking, embroidery, tatting, lace making, quilting and more. In addition to the sheep, other domesticated animals on display will include llamas, angora goats, a Cotswold heritage sheep

(incredible!), additional fiber sheep...and don't forget to meet Pansy the pot belly pig!

The back drop to the event is terrific, toe tapping-hand clapping music presented by the Long Island Traditional Music Association. Throughout the day children will have fun making all sorts of creative crafts, listening to a story teller and playing old fashioned games. Don't forget to stop by the Kissam House for a tour and enjoy freshly baked bread from our authentic bee hive oven! Inside the historic Kissam House the icing on the cake (or jam on the bread!) will be a beautiful exhibit of children's party clothes dating from the late 1800's.

A perennial family favorite, we look forward to seeing you there!

The Sheep to Shawl Festival is made possible in part with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts. In Suffolk County the Decentralization Program is administered by The Huntington Arts Council, Inc.

**SHEEP TO SHAWL
FESTIVAL**
Sunday, May 2: 12 to 4 pm

Kissam House Museum & Barn,
434 Park Avenue

*Demonstrations, refreshments, tours
of the Kissam House, live music,
games for children & more!*

Huntington Health Care Through History

From Leeches to Hematologists, House Calls to Hospitals, Our New Exhibit Highlights the Doctors Who Took Care of our Town

Huntington has certainly been one of Long Island's preeminent towns since its early beginnings in the 17th century, and this has also been true of the medical care its citizens have received from learned citizens such as the Reverend Joshua Hartt, to the earliest trained physician, Zophar Platt, who practiced before the Revolution, to the founding of Huntington Hospital in 1915. One of the most beloved of



MEDICAL HERO

Dr. Samuel Teich served as a Captain in the medical corps during World War II, receiving four battle stars and a bronze star for meritorious service

Huntington's doctors was Samuel Teich, the son of an immigrant Jewish family who lived in Huntington in the early 20th century. Sam attended the Huntington Schools,

then Cornell University for its pre-medical course and graduated from Long Island College

of Medicine in 1932. He returned to Huntington in 1933 and set up his practice which was affiliated with Huntington Hospital.

In 1940, Dr. Teich and his wife Beatrice, bought a house just north of the railroad station on the east side of New York Avenue and had it moved off the road and re-oriented to face south, adding a wing to serve as his office. He joined the army in 1942 and served as a Captain in the medical corps for three years in Europe, receiving four battle stars and a bronze star for meritorious service. In 1945, he returned to his new office and was a member of the attending staff at Huntington Hospital. Samuel and Beatrice raised three sons in their home/office in what was then the Village of Huntington Station. Dr. Teich retired from practice in the mid 1980's and died in 1995 after serving his community for more than 50 years.



SUBURBAN OFFICE (left) The examining room of Dr. Samuel Teich remains almost virtually unchanged from the day it was set up in 1940.

BELOW: Dr. Teich and his wife Beatrice had their house moved off of the road and added a wing to serve as his office. It still stands today on New York Avenue in what was then called the Village of Huntington Station.



A new exhibit in the Conklin House Gallery features the examination room Dr. Teich set up in his office in 1940 which remains virtually unchanged from the way it was for the nearly 50 years that Dr. Teich practiced medicine. It is a rare look into the past, and many former patients might remember the now antiquated examining table and cabinets which were set up in Dr. Teich's office before he went off to war.

Also featured is a timeline of doctors who have served the Huntington community throughout its history. This list includes Dr. Daniel Whitehead Kissam who had his "office/home" in the 1795 house on Park Avenue which today is the House Museum owned and operated by the Society. A large and rarely exhibited portrait by the Huntington artist James Long Scudder is another highlight

of the exhibit and depicts Dr. William D. Woodend, who served the Huntington community throughout most of the second half of the 19th century.

The story behind the community movement to found and build the Huntington Hospital in 1915 will also be told. Largely through the efforts of philanthropist Cornelia Prime and a committee of townspeople, including a retired police surgeon, Dr. Marsh, a site was chosen, money was raised and the hospital was built at its present location.

This comprehensive exhibit will provide a glimpse at the history of medical care in the Town of Huntington; one of the Town's proudest institutions, The Huntington Hospital; and the success of a 20th century immigrant family living in the Village of Huntington Station.

SPECIAL OPENING RECEPTION

Sunday, June 13th; 3 to 7 pm

Conklin House Museum, 2 High Street

Tour the exhibit and hear a special talk given by the Curators. Refreshments.

Spring Has Sprung!

We invite you to enjoy a multitude of events celebrating the history of Huntington

Fun and Fascinating....

SHEEP TO SHAWL FESTIVAL
Sunday, May 2: 12 to 4 pm
Kissam House Museum, 434 Park Ave.

A wonderful springtime event for the entire family featuring actual sheep shearing demonstrations, spinning, live traditional music, crafts and tours of the Kissam House. Free admission.



Dr. Frank Turano presents:
A HUNDRED YEARS ON
FIRE ISLAND 1850-1950

Thursday, May 20:
Refreshments 1:30, Lecture: 2 pm
Conklin Barn, 2 High Street
Huntington Village.

This interesting lecture focuses on the development and evolution of Fire Island through the use of fascinating archival photographs and documents.

Free to members; \$5 for the general public

To reserve: call (631) 427-7045, ext. 403 and leave your name, phone number and the number of reservations you are requesting.



THE FIDDLER ON
THE ROOF

Thursday, June 17th:
Reception: 6:30 pm;
Show: 8 pm

The John W. Engeman Theater
250 Main Street, Northport, NY

Enjoy a special reception and performance at the lovely Engeman Theater. Tickets are \$75 and include refreshments in the Theater's lobby. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Society. To order, call +27-7045, ext. 401.

One of Huntington's Best!
HERITAGE ANTIQUES SHOW
AT HUNTINGTON

Saturday, May 22: 10 am to 5 pm
Sunday, May 23: 11 am to 3 pm
Huntington High School
Corner of Oakwood and McKay Roads

Quality dealers in room-setting booths featuring everything from pottery to posters, furniture to fine porcelain, folk art, jewelry and more. One in a series of shows presented in cooperation with the Town of Huntington Historical Partnership. For more information call 631-427-7045, ext. 401

** Save the dates...*

ANNUAL MEETING
Sunday, June 6: 3 pm
Kissam House Museum, 434 Park Ave.

HERITAGE CRAFT FAIR
Saturday, August 21
Kissam House Museum, 434 Park Ave.

ANNUAL WINE TASTING
Friday, September 10
Kissam House Museum, 434 Park Ave.

Passport to the Past Summer Camp

With summer just around the corner, it's time to register your children and grandchildren for our incredible *Passport To The Past* summer camp. Your children will take a trip back in time and discover such time honored favorites as dancing around the maypole, making ice cream from scratch, cooking over an open fire, candle dipping, Revolutionary War drill re-enactment and more. Campers will weave beautiful cloth, churn fresh butter, hear traditional music, enjoy home baked bread from our very own bee hive oven, and play all sorts of old fashioned games. This year we are excited and pleased to offer even more ingredients to the fun! (Stone Soup pun intended!)

This unique program fills up quickly, so don't delay. Please call the main office at 631-427-7045, ext. 401 or ext. 404, to register your children, their friends, their cousins - the whole gang! We look forward to seeing you this summer!



Session I June 29 to July 9
Session II July 12 to July 23
Session III July 26 to August 6

Hours: 9:30 am until 12 noon
When: Monday through Friday
Where: Dr. Daniel Kissam House,
 434 Park Avenue, Huntington

Fees for each two week session:
 \$285 for Society members*
 \$350 for non-members

** If you are currently not a member, take this wonderful discount opportunity to join! Enjoy the benefits of HHS membership while your children enjoy the experience of learning and appreciating Huntington's local heritage.*



The Huntington Historical Society gratefully acknowledges the Town of Huntington for its financial support.

Many Ways to Experience & Enjoy History

Huntington's Museum Challenge

Saturday, April 17th and Sunday, April 18th

We invite you to meet the Challenge! From 11 am to 4 pm on Saturday, April 17th and Sunday, the 18th, follow the Challenge Map (which provides you with directions and acts as a ticket for entry into the museums) to the ten historic sites designated on the map. These range from the Walt Whitman Birthplace in Melville, to the Soldiers and



Sailors Memorial Building in Huntington, to the Henry Lloyd Manor in Lloyd Harbor. Maps will be available for \$10 at any of the participating museums the day of the event, or in advance (by calling Maria DeLeo at 427-7045, ext.401). Finish the Challenge and you'll receive a copy of the limited edition video, *Our Town Huntington*.

Fiddler on the Roof Fundraiser

Thursday, June 17th: 6:30 reception, 8 pm show

L'chaimto life! The Huntington Historical Society invites you to a special presentation of the musical *Fiddler on the Roof*, winner of nine Tony Awards including; Best Musical, Score, Book, Direction, and Choreography. Set in tsarist Russia in 1905, this nostalgic favorite and enormously beloved story centers on Tevye, the father of five daughters and his attempts to maintain



his family and religious traditions while outside influences encroach upon their lives. Join us on June 17th at The John W. Engeman Theater, 250 Main Street, Northport, as the Society hosts a special reception with refreshments

in the Theater's attractive lobby. The reception will begin at 6:30 pm followed by the performance at 8 pm. Tickets are \$75 and a portion of the proceeds will benefit the Huntington Historical Society. For ticket information please call Maria De Leo at 631-427-7045, ext. 401 or visit our website at www.HuntingtonHistoricalSociety.org.

Our Heritage Antiques Show

Saturday, May 22nd; 10am to 5pm

Sunday, May 23rd; 11 am to 5 pm

Oh, the fun of an Antiques Show... the anticipation of "the find!" One never knows. Will it be a windmill for the garden, an oil painting to brighten a room, or a lovely Roseville pottery for a birthday gift? Discover your treasure at the Society's annual Heritage Antiques



Show held at Huntington High School on Saturday, May 22nd, and Sunday, the 23rd. Browse nearly 50 dealers for beautiful furniture, vintage posters, quilts, jewelry and so much more. The Show is one of several quality shows presented in part with the Town of Huntington Historical Partnership. Refreshments by Big Bear Pizzelli. Tickets are \$7 but if you clip this article or download a discount card from our webpage, we'll admit two for \$6.00 each.

**** Admission is \$7.00 Clip this article and we'll admit 2 at \$6.00 each! ****

Toast the Society in September

Friday, September 10th: 7 to 11 pm

The 20th annual Wine Tasting event, *An Evening of Wine Under the Stars*, is one of the Society's most anticipated and successful fund raising events. Fine wines, delectable delights, live music and fantastic raffle items are just a few of the reasons you won't want to miss this special evening. Our special Honoree this year is Mary Alice Meinersman of Bon Bons Chocolatier. Join us on Friday, September 10th, and toast the start of the autumn season under the stars and on the grounds of our Kissam House Museum. Tickets are \$50 for members, \$60 non-members and \$75 at the door.



PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY, MARGARET NORTON! How many people are there who have written a book at age 97? How many have helped to manage a store at the age of 100? There is only one such person and she just happens to be our own Margaret ("Maggie") Norton. Margaret is a treasured volunteer of the Society who for 35 years, has been one of a small team of dedicated volunteers who accept and sell antiques and collectibles for the Society's Museum Shop. Margaret has greeted consignors every Tuesday morning, for years, reviewing and pricing their items and then completing the paper work for them. The sales at the Museum Shop have been and continue to be an important source of revenue for the Society. In addition to Margaret's work at the shop, she somehow found time to author a book, published in 2007, entitled *Maggie's Memories...A View of Cold Spring Harbor*. Through her personal recollections she has been

able to bring local history alive to those of us who never witnessed horses and carriages driving on dirt roads. So, thank you, Margaret Norton, for all you have done for the Huntington Historical Society and for all those students whose lives you have touched over the years. And, Happy 100th!

CLAUDIA FORTUNATO

HONORED Yes, our own Claudia was selected as one of "Long Island's Thirty Professionals under 30" by the Huntington Township Chamber of Commerce. Claudia, who works in the Town Historian's office and for the Historical Society, is the founder and organizer of the Clio Circle, a professional group which meets for wine



and cheese at a different historic site every month. In October, she participated in an "Over the Edge for Charity" event and raised \$2,200 for Long Islanders with autism and other special needs. She received her award at the

Crest Hollow Country Club on Wednesday, March 10th.

EAGLE SCOUTS THANKED AT CONKLIN BARN



Eagle Scouts (from left to right): John Battistelli, Charlie Prince and Salvatore Spadaro.

"Eagle Football Sunday" was held on January 24th at the Conklin Barn to honor the Eagle Scouts who improved the Conklin property in 2009 with their various projects. Thanks to Peter Demidovich for arranging the event, Robert Hughes and Larry Leek for their help throughout the day and special recognition goes to volunteer Alice Link who spent most of the afternoon with a house full of visitors in the Conklin Museum. Thanks also to Kevin Nathan of Appliance World for loaning the grills for the event and to Fred Kaplan of Sound Insight who generously lent us a big screen TV.

OUR 20TH ANNUAL WINE TASTING HONOREE

Mary Alice Meinersman of Bon Bons Chocolatier to be honored on September 10th



The committee for this year's "An Evening of Wine Under the Stars" is excited to announce that Mary Alice Meinersman, owner and President of Bon Bons Chocolatier, will be the honoree for this year's wine tasting. A Huntington resident since childhood, Mary Alice sits on the Board of Directors of the Retail Confectioners International Candy Organization and is President of the Huntington Business Improvement District. She has also served as President of the Huntington Business and Professional Women's Club, and is a member of the Huntington Chamber of Commerce and a long time member and supporter of the Huntington Historical Society. When Mary Alice and her husband started in the business they never thought that they would become so much a part of the community. But they certainly have, by giving back in so many different ways including their continuous, generous support of the Huntington Historical Society. The chocolate sheep at the Sheep to Shawl Festival, the candy apples for the Apple Festival, and the incredible chocolate reproduction of the Kissam House at last year's Wine Tasting, are all examples of their continued commitment to Huntington and its preservation.



209 Main Street
Huntington, NY 11743-6993

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

Our town was founded in 1653, during the interregnum of the English Protector, Oliver Cromwell. The Huntington Historical Society was founded in 1903, the year of the first announced "World Series" between the Boston Americans and the Pittsburgh Pirates. Regardless of all usurpers, whether of royal or athletic hue, our extraordinary town has grown, persevered and reached a preeminence we all acknowledge. Our Society, dedicated to the celebration of Huntington history, should be cherished in this same fashion. The Annual Meeting of The Huntington Historical Society will be held at the Dr. Daniel W. Kissam House at 434 Park Avenue on June 6th at 3 pm.

We are asking all supporters of the Society to attend. Please come out for a report on all facets of the progress of the Society, and especially, to meet the new Board Members. We will be having the usual delectable diversions, and returning to an old tradition, a surprise Guest Speaker.

As always, we look for and thank you for your continuing support.

Sincerely yours,

Carl M. Lawrence
President,
Huntington Historical Society
Board of Trustees



Call us by phone: 631 - 427 - 7045, ext. 401