



# Spindle City Historic Society

Volume 14 Issue 3

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## HISTORIAN'S NOTEBOOK

## DID YOU KNOW

### Masons in Cohoes

The Spindle City Historic Society recently received a coin from 1858 for our collection from member Robert Van Valkinburgh. This item inspired research revealing that the coin was a Masonic "penny" given to all entry level members of the society. The tools used to manufacture the pennies included a hammer and a punch, which produced the imprints on the coin. One side of the coin had the Masonic square and compass and the letters HTSSTKS (signifying Hiram, Tyrian, Widow's Son, Sendeth to King Solomon), and the other side of the coin had the words Cohoes Chapter No. 168 R.A.M. (Royal Arch Masons), February 4<sup>th</sup>, 1858, Cohoes, N.Y. These pieces of information provided a good opportunity to investigate Masonry and its arrival and history in Cohoes.

The rituals of Free Masonry reflect an allegorical founding of the fraternity by the builders of King Solomon's Temple. There is little existing evidence on the true historical origins of Free Masonry, which has led to a great deal of speculation among historians from within and outside the fraternity. Some believe it evolved from the lodges of stonemasons in the Middle Ages, while others believe the use of the name for the organization is merely symbolic. The origin of the group has been attributed to King Solomon's construction of the Temple in Jerusalem, an offshoot of the ancient mystery schools, an institutional outgrowth of the medieval guilds of stonemasons, or descendance from the Knights Templar. The name "Freemason" may have been derived from "free man", that is, its members were not serfs or indentured workers and thus free to travel from one work location to another. Early development of Masonry included stage one or operative freemasonry, associated with the craft guilds and having simple ritual elements. As early as 1376, the term Freemason was referred to in records from one of the numerous craft guilds of London. In the late 16<sup>th</sup> and early 17<sup>th</sup> centuries a gentrification of the organization began, as evidenced by the notable and noble gentlemen among the membership. The first Grand Lodge of London, England was founded in 1717 by the joining of four lodges which met in London taverns. Freemasonry shifted from being an obscure private institution to one in the public eye, and its history from that time on became well documented. In 1723 James Anderson wrote and published *The Constitution of the Free Masons*, which was reprinted in Philadelphia in 1734 by Benjamin Franklin, who that year was elected Grand Master of the Masons of Philadelphia. In 1751, there was a schism among Masonic groups, which divided into two separate Grand Lodges, the Ancients and the Moderns, a split which lasted more than six decades.

(continued on p.6)

....that on August 18, 1898 Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, heroic leader of the Rough Riders and the charge up San Juan Hill, and Republican nominee for governor of N.Y. State, spoke at the Cohoes Depot on his way north? Five thousand people were at the depot to meet him as Slater's Band played "See the Conquering Hero Comes" and Mayor Mitchell gave an introductory speech.

.... that on October 18, 1899 Governor Theodore Roosevelt came to Cohoes to attend the opening of St. Bernard's Church Fair with his Secretary, Col. Treadwell, and Secretary of State John McDonough? There was a parade and ceremony at Larkin Hall, site of the fair.

.... that on September 28, 1898, Cohoes police raided several city saloons to find youth using nickel-in-the slot and penny-in-the slot machines?

....that on December 1, 1897 Cohoes police discovered young boys who should have been in school had hired a room in the Scott property (which later would be the site of the Cohoes Hospital) where they "gambled, smoked cigarettes and learned evil deeds"? The boys were from 8 to 12 years old.

....that on August 30, 1899 there was a ceremony to mark the laying of the cornerstone of the new Baptist Church at the site of the original church on Mohawk St.?

....that on September 3, 1898, prison evangelist Thomas Elgar told a meeting at the Silliman Memorial Church that the Cohoes jail was the darkest one he had ever visited?

.... that on December 27, 1899, a jailbreak was attempted by Hugh McCann and Archie Langher from the jail in the new City Hall? They were imprisoned for assault and attempted highway robbery and tried to dig out the mortar between the bricks and window. They were not successful.

....that on June 18, 1898, a ceiling lamp fell to the floor causing a fire that completely destroyed "The Museum of Anatomy, Detectives and Rogues Gallery", a wax works exhibition located at 77 Remsen St.? Smoke and water damaged space used by 3 tenants in the three story building managed by J.B. Gleason of Worcester, Massachusetts.

.... that on August 21, 1899 Thomas Vaughan, proprietor of the "Barrel of Blood" saloon on Congress St. between Schuyler and Olmstead Sts., attempted to murder Mame Monast Adey and then tried to commit suicide by shooting himself? He recovered and was charged with assault in the first degree and sentenced to five years in Dannemora.

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The Spindle City Historic Society welcomes new members *Brenda Hatch, Dan Hulchanski, Henry Kahn, John & Christina Madden, Dan O'Dell, Sr. Laura Palka, Robert Reed and Mark Thaler.*

## The Cohoes Home: Two Flats/One Family

By Susan Baird



*The house, being moved to North Mohawk Street in 1925.*

Our family's home in Cohoes was sold last year. Letting go was traumatic, especially for my mother. She had lived there for 65 of her 90 years. But she was no longer mobile, so staying there was not an option. This story is familiar to many families and it happens every day. But it is also unique in that the home was in the family since the 1880s. Sitting alone in the house, just before the sale, I could hear four generations, happy and sad — talking, yelling, crying. (We're Irish, so there was a lot of all three.)

The house, sitting on the corner of Manor Avenue and North Mohawk Streets, had an amazing view of the Cohoes Falls. From the second floor porch, you looked right over the Falls and down the Mohawk River to view the old textile mills of Cohoes, and Waterford on the other side of the river.

Many family hours were spent just sitting and staring at the view, solving not only our personal problems, but those of the world as well. The structure was similar to many other houses in Cohoes, a two-family with a separate flat on each floor. The house had its original woodwork and French doors, and over 30 windows, making it somewhat drafty during the winter. As was the case for many other Cohoes homes, members of our family lived on both floors for almost all of the 130 years that we owned the property. When we were growing up our grandparents lived downstairs, making the home into a somewhat weird one family, with open doors and daily exchanges with Nanny and Pop. They were always there, and we just assumed that this was a normal way of life for all families.

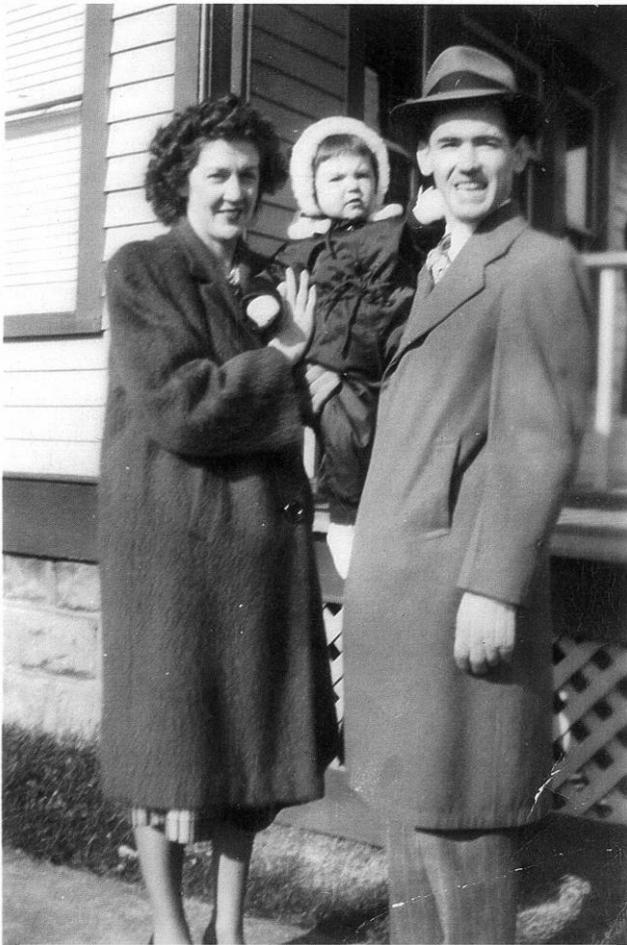
The home, which was built in the early 1880s, was first located at the top of a dirt road overlooking the Erie Canal. It was the first home of George and Mary Conboy, my great-grandparents. Both were of Irish descent; their parents had immigrated to Cohoes in the mid-1880s to work in the mills. (The street that the house sat on would eventually be known as Conboy Avenue.) The Conboys had 10 children and operated a grocery store/tavern/inn on the canal. When that section of the canal closed, they moved the house to a spot overlooking the Cohoes Falls on land that was purchased from Niagara Mohawk. This was in 1925, and at that time, moving houses was a common practice. In fact, several other houses were moved to the area at the same time, making a little hamlet of the former canal neighbors. These families included the Baileys, who lived next door, the Whites, and another McCarthy family. On North Erie Street, there were the Archambeaults and the Catalfamos. At the time, North Mohawk Street was a dirt road with little development.



*The Conboy Family in the 1920s*

George went to work at Niagara Mohawk and frequently, his job involved staffing the gatehouses that were located to the north and south of his home. For a time, he also served as alderman for the first ward. The house itself was always the center of activities. One of the Conboy daughters lived on the newly renovated second floor for a while; she later became despondent when her husband insisted they move to Waterford. Another daughter married Johnny Butler and moved to the top of Columbia Street across the street from where the Eddy Geriatric Center now sits. A third daughter moved to Watervliet. At the time, these were considered major moves. But the daughters and sons frequently visited the North Mohawk Street residence, and several of the sons also worked at Niagara Mohawk. My mother remembers her grandfather as severe and stern, and her grandmother as liking people and loving to dress up and take her daughters out to lunch.

Following the death of the Conboys (in 1943 and 1944), the house was transferred to my grandparents, Matthew and Theresa Conboy McCarthy. Following World War II, my parents (Ken and Alva McCarthy Baird) moved into the upstairs flat. My grandmother was known to all as Tessie. She had married when she was in her late twenties, old for those days. Prior to her marriage, she worked in the textile mills and told stories about the horrors and poor working conditions of that time. Late in her life, suffering from dementia, she frequently tore clothes apart so that she could repeat the motions of sewing as she did at the mills. My grandfather was from the other side of the hill (Bevan Street, near the present Cohoes Middle School). He was a meter reader for Niagara Mohawk and walked the streets of Cohoes and Troy for over 50 years, retiring in his late sixties. After that, he walked to the City every day and was still walking North Mohawk Street a few days before his death at the age of 93 in 1981. As a youth, he played in marching bands and baseball leagues that were sponsored by men's groups in Cohoes. He was a man of few words, especially when compared to his wife, who was very outgoing. But he was known for short, meaningful phrases. For example, he would tell you that he was born in 1888, "the year of the great blizzard". About his



*Alva and Ken Baird in 1947.*

walking, he would say "a lean horse for a long race". One of his favorites was "a man's home is his castle".

The McCarthys had three children: Mary, Alva and Matthew Jr. (known as Mack). In addition, they raised two of Tessie's nephews (John and Stan Conboy) after their parents died. There were no courts involved in the process. When Tessie's brother Stanley and his wife died, the Conboy siblings split up their four children and raised them as their own. Before moving to North Mohawk Street, the family had lived in several other locations in Cohoes, including a home about a block north on North Mohawk Street, on Church Street (in the area known as the Orchard) and on Congress Street in downtown Cohoes. But buying the family home was a major milestone for them. Although it seems modest now, it was their castle.

At that time, the front porch was enclosed by screens on the south side and had a lilac tree sitting on the north side. On summer evenings, you could sit on the glider and listen to the Falls and smell the lilacs while the adults talked in hushed tones. There was a large garden out back and in the fall the house would be full of the smells of canning, including my grandmother's famous chili sauce. Weekends and holidays brought visits from the remaining Conboy siblings and the McCarthy children, who were grown by the end of the World War II. It was a place that everyone returned to when they were sick or in crisis, so frequently there were relatives staying with my grandparents downstairs. This didn't seem unusual; it was just family.

One of the benefits of the family home was the extended care that was provided by families. My grandmother was in a hospital bed for several years prior to her death, with my grandfather and mother providing her care. My grandfather lived several years after her death, with my mother cooking his meals and taking care of his housework. I still remember him calling the grocery store that was  
*(continued on p. 7)*



## Off the Top...

Whenever the topic of World War II is discussed, studied or presented, most people can hear the voice of President

Franklin Delano Roosevelt in their heads:

"Yesterday, December 7, 1941—a date which will live in infamy—the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan."

This week, most people are remembering where they were on September 11, 2001 when the Twin Towers were hit and fell, when the Pentagon was hit, and when the plane crashed in Pennsylvania (I sit and write this in early September). This year also marks the 70th anniversary of that fateful day in 1941 that changed the course of United States history. However, the history and events in Cohoes from that time and memories of families in Cohoes of this attack that affected the world are quickly fading. As a past or present Cohoesier, how were you and your family members affected by Pearl Harbor Day, the "date which will live in infamy", and the wartime years that followed?

The Spindle City Historic Society would like your help in answering this question. We are planning a commemorative display that will run from late November through February in the Cohoes Visitor's Center. We need your help in getting those recollections and stories, both of major events as well as family memories that may not have made the press headlines and the history books.

Being born post-1941, I don't have any direct tales to tell. However, I have Dad's uniform, medals, photographs of his visits home and letters written between him and my mother and his parents. So I have a tie-in to that time and a small story to share. Please scratch your head, dig through the memories and share the stories of you and your family. We can help you copy any information you would like to share if you cannot lend us the originals for the exhibit.

Please help us share these stories. Our contact information is on page 4 of this newsletter.

Yours in history,

Paul D. Dunleavy  
President

## NYS Army National Guard Works along the Historic Erie Canal in Cohoes



In mid-June, a group of engineers from the New York Army National Guard worked at

Lock 15 of the enlarged Erie Canal and along the canal bed between Locks 14 and 15. About two dozen members of the 1156th Engineering Company based in Kingston and the 152nd Engineering Company based in Buffalo spent several days clearing trees, brush, and debris from the lock and adjacent sections of the historic canal. The group working on the canal sites expressed great interest in the city's history, and appreciation for the amazing engineering feats of the past in constructing the canal and building the industries of Cohoes.

The towpath along this section of canal is scheduled to be restored as a trail for pedestrians and bicycles, and will be part of the Cohoes Erie Canal Heritage Trail. The NYS National Guard's work on the canal is part of their mission to assist New York's residents and communities, while helping the Guard's engineers hone their skills and obtain additional experience using equipment. Many thanks to the Guard for their efforts in restoring one of our city's historic treasures.

## Collecting Images of Cohoes and Memories of WWII

If you have historic Cohoes postcards, trade cards, photos, or other items you would like to share for the Spindle City Historic Society's upcoming book, please contact us at [cohoes90@nycap.rr.com](mailto:cohoes90@nycap.rr.com) or at 518-237-5618. These items will be scanned and returned to their owners unless they wish to donate them to SCHS.

We are also seeking photos, memorabilia, recollections and accounts of those at war and at home during World War II for the exhibit opening in late November to commemorate the 70th anniversary of Pearl Harbor Day. If you have information or items you would like to donate or loan for the exhibit, please contact us at the phone number or e-mail address above.

## Exploring the Canals of Cohoes



On Friday, August 12 SCHS hosted a tour of historic canal and industrial sites in the Harmony Mills Historic District. The tour began in Power Canal Park, where Walter Lipka described the industrial beginnings of Cohoes, which took root because of Cohoes' location along transportation routes provided by the rivers and canals, proximity to abundant waterpower, and a flurry of invention and innovation. Among the notable innovators was Canvass White, who developed a waterproof cement that made construction of the Erie Canal feasible, and designed a system of power canals in Cohoes to optimally utilize the waterpower of the Mohawk to run the machinery of numerous mills. The industrial development of Cohoes was also spurred by the mechanical genius of David Wilkinson, one of the key inventors of water-powered knitting machines.

The canals and industrial development of Cohoes also depended on large numbers of workers, and Bernie Ouimet gave tour participants insight into the lives of Irish and French-Canadian laborers in Cohoes. Some workers and their families came to Cohoes to build the canals and stayed on, often finding employment in the mills, on the canals, or with various businesses that sprung up in the growing community. Other workers were specifically recruited as millhands for the Harmony Company or other mills. The tour also featured a visit to the turbine room of Harmony Mill #3, where some of the massive Boyden turbines that powered the mill still stand.

In keeping with the tour's title, the group explored the canals of Cohoes, visiting Locks 15, 16, 17 and 18 of the enlarged Erie Canal. The stop at Lock 15 included a walk along the towpath, following in the footsteps of mules and hogs, leading to a view of the area near the lock recently cleared by the NYS Army National Guard (see story above). The stop at Lock 16, located near the front

entrance of the original Harmony Mill, illustrated the important connections between the construction of the Erie Canal and the industrial rise of Cohoes. Many thanks to tour presenters Walter Lipka and Bernie Ouimet, and to Dennis Hogan at the Harmony Mills Lofts for arranging access to the turbine room for the tour group.



## SCHS Annual Raffle

The item for this year's SCHS annual raffle is a painting of a mastodon on a 12"x16" slate tile, painted by artist Pam McGivern. The slate was



originally used on the roof of a house that once stood on Bedford Street in Cohoes. The tile has a hanger for wall mounting. The raffle drawing will take place at the annual Christmas tree lighting in Cohoes on the Saturday after Thanksgiving. Raffle tickets will be mailed to

SCHS members in September; additional tickets (at a cost of cost of \$1 per ticket or 6 for \$5) can be purchased at SCHS meetings and events or by calling 518-237-5618 or e-mailing us at [cherniak@nycap.rr.com](mailto:cherniak@nycap.rr.com).

## Wanted: Your Stories for the SCHS Newsletter

If you have a story about people, places, or events in Cohoes history, the Spindle City Historic Society wants to hear from you. The Society is seeking articles for its quarterly newsletter. The newsletter staff welcomes written articles, as well as recollections of the past and information that can be used in newsletter articles or in the newsletter's "Did You Know" section. Contributors will be acknowledged. Please contact us by calling 518-237-5618 or by e-mailing us at [cherniak@nycap.rr.com](mailto:cherniak@nycap.rr.com).

*Historian's Notebook (continued from p.1):*

While Benjamin Franklin was in France in 1778, he was re-elected to office in the Moderns, but when he returned to America he found that his lodge had changed to Ancients, thus he was refused Masonic honors at his funeral. The impact of Freemasonry on the history of Europe and America in the 18<sup>th</sup> century was significant. Along with Franklin, many other people prominent in public life were members, including George Washington.

Freemasonry in the U.S. had had periods of ascendance and decline. In 1826 William Morgan disappeared from Batavia, N.Y. after threatening to expose secrets of Freemasonry, which led to the allegation that he had been murdered by Masons; however this was never proven. This event sparked a series of protests against the Masons in the U.S., and especially in New York State, resulting in a decline in membership for many years, but by the late 1850s the popularity of the organization had revived.



The history of masonry in Cohoes began with the formation of the Cohoes Lodge in 1846 by a group of prominent Masons. They initially met in a small room in a building at the corner of Factory and Remsen Streets. The group soon grew, with members from all walks of life in the city. Meetings were held in several different sites until a new temple was built in the 1890s. On August 21, 1895, the cornerstone of the new building was laid at 128-130 Remsen Street, and 8,000 Masons were on hand to assist in the ceremony. When the Temple, designed by Fielding and Mag, architects from Troy, was completed in 1896, there were 240 Masons in Cohoes. The building included a spacious banquet hall on the fourth floor, and businesses occupied the first floor storefronts. At this time Cohoes was the only Lodge in the state that owned its own temple.

The Cohoes Masons were an active group. On October 1909, they sponsored a "Clam Bake" at Brookside Park near Albia. 126 ladies and gentlemen traveled in chartered cars to the event, which also featured a baseball game. Many other activities were held over the years, including a 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on Halloween Night in 1906. A group of over 300 Masons attended a banquet with music, and speeches stressing equality.

Splendid decorations adorned the choir gallery around the great water-powered organ, which took up three floors on one side of the building. A celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the group was held in October 1946, with four days of festivities. Events began on October 20 with a service at the Reformed Church. The 21<sup>st</sup> featured a Veterans' Night, honoring those Masons who had served in the armed forces -- 51 members during WW I, with two losing their lives, and 34 who served in WW II. "Class Night" was observed on the October 22, with reminiscences of past classes, and lastly the Grand Masters Night was held on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. In 1963 an investiture ceremony was held in Cohoes for 18 area Masters of the Rensselaer-Schenectady district and another ceremony in 1968 for 18 new Masters-elect. In March of 1968, awards for long and faithful service were given to Thomas Demain for 60 years, John E. Taylor, Donald Scotland and Harry Calkins for 50 years; in 1969 a 50 year award was given to Morton T. Valley. The Cohoes Lodge 116, with its many years of activity in the community, was a tribute to the Grand Lodge of the State of New York as well as a mainstay and vital part of the Rensselaer-Schenectady Masonic District.

In 1997 the Cohoes Lodge celebrated its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The anniversary program booklet included the Lodge's officers in 1846: Ebenezer Wadsworth, Master; George Abbott, Senior Warden; John B. Harrison, Junior Warden; William Orlop, Jr., Secretary; Reuben White, Treasurer; George C. Griffen, Senior Deacon; Eldridge G. Mossey, Jr., Deacon. Officers in 1997 were: Earle Fridel, Master; Arthur DeVoe, Senior Warden; Chester D. Stone, Junior Warden; John V. Bennett, Secretary; and Robert E. Clark, Treasurer. It was at this 1997 anniversary celebration that the announcement was made that the Cohoes Lodge would consolidate with the Evening Star Lodge #75 of Latham.

In 2006, the Cohoes Local development Corporation obtained funds to restore the Masonic Temple building, with these applied to the construction of an elevator in the rear and restoration of the stone façade. The building continues to be used for businesses on the first floor; one of its recent notable tenants was the Bread and Jam Café. The second floor is currently leased to a company that provides software development and photography services; the building also houses offices for an ambulance service, a financial services company, private investigators and a medical billing company. The old water-powered organ is no longer in the building, but is in possession of the Cohoes LDC and housed in Harmony Mill #4. There are plans in the works to commission artists to create street art for the streets and parks of Cohoes using the organ's pipes.

*June Cherniak/staff*

*Many thanks to Robert Van Valkinburgh for his donation, and to Paul Kleinberger, Master, Evening Star Lodge #75 in Latham, for information that assisted in writing this article.*

*The Cohoes Home (continued from p. 3):*

located near the Falls, Marsolais' Market, with his weekly food order and walking down to the Hometown Bakery for his sweets. He broke his hip at the age of 88 and, because of the availability of family care, returned home, where he thrived for five more years.

My parents raised four children in the upstairs flat. It would have been very cramped without the expansion space provided by the space on the first floor. By this time, most men in the family worked outside of Cohoes, in Albany or Troy. My father sold cars in Albany, and traveled to and from Albany every day. My mother never worked after having children, and spent her days with her mother and sometimes her sister, aunts and uncles. She was active in community and church groups. And of course, she had four wild kids to care for. But like her mother and grandmother, my mother loved to shop and there were frequent bus trips to Troy to visit Frears, Denby's and Peerless. There were also occasional train excursions to Albany to visit Myers and Whitney's. I remember these trips vividly. My grandmother, with her big hats and purses, would visit stores, buy new things and then hide them in the back of the closet. She would then insist to my grandfather that her Sunday "go to church hat" was not new.

Throughout the years, St. Patrick's Church played an important role in this story. St. Patrick's was a small neighborhood church; its parishioners consisted mainly of Irish Catholic immigrant families, including the Arndts, Cooleys, Kennedys, Snays and McDonoughs. From our house, you could easily walk the one block to attend Sunday services, which we frequently did, especially during winter storms. There were church dinners, breakfasts and the annual bazaar. My parents co-chaired the fundraising to build a new school, which the four of us attended. Like the house, the church gave a sense of community and belonging. It was a place where we all felt safe.

At the time of my grandfather's death, only my youngest brother remained at home. So for a short time, my parents rented out the first floor flat. After my father passed away, my mother's youngest foster brother, Jack Conboy, decided he wanted to move back to the area and he wanted to return to the family home. So in 1989, Uncle Jack and his wife, Phyllis, moved into the first floor and the family tradition of two flats, one family continued. Uncle Jack died in 1999, and Aunt Phyllis and my mother remained in the house until 2010.

By the time we had to sell the house, my brothers, sister and I were all settled in our own homes and were not able to assume a second property. Yet there are regrets. The house was a safe haven that is no longer there, a home base. In the years before the sale, we frequently all ended up there on the weekend, having dessert or take-out, and feeling very much a unit. To a degree, that sense of security is gone. But the good memories will always remain.



## **Spindle City Historic Society Membership Application**

[www.spindlecit.net](http://www.spindlecit.net)

President - Paul Dunleavy

First Vice President - Daniele Cherniak    Second Vice President - Tor Shekerjian

Secretary - Linda C. Christopher    Treasurer - June Cherniak

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership	\$10.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Institutional Membership	\$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen Membership	\$ 5.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Contributing Membership	\$35.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Student Membership	\$ 5.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining Membership	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership	\$15.00		

*We have great things planned in our home in the Cohoes Visitor's Center! Please help if you can with an additional donation to support our upcoming programs:*     \$5.00     \$10.00     other  
 gift membership

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_  
TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form with membership fee, payable to Spindle City Historic Society, to:  
June Cherniak, Treasurer, 415 Vliet Boulevard, Cohoes, NY 12047

### ***Electronic Option for Delivery of the SCHS Newsletter***

The Spindle City Historic Society now offers its members electronic mailing of the newsletter. This assures faster receipt of your newsletter. To sign up for electronic delivery, please send your e-mail request to: [cherniak@nycap.rr.com](mailto:cherniak@nycap.rr.com) and provide the e-mail address for receipt of your newsletter. Otherwise, you will continue to receive the newsletter through regular mail.

### ***e-mail Notifications of SCHS News and Events***

If you would like to receive timely e-mail notices of upcoming Spindle City Historic Society events and other news, please e-mail us at [cherniak@nycap.rr.com](mailto:cherniak@nycap.rr.com).

### ***UPCOMING EVENTS***

**Wednesday, September 28** – The Capital District’s role in the Civil War – a presentation by Michael Aikey, Director of the NYS Military Museum. The Spindle City Historic Society’s regular 7 p.m. meeting at the Cohoes Visitor’s Center will precede this program.

**Wednesday, October 26** – Spindle City Historic Society meeting. 7 p.m., Cohoes Visitor’s Center.

**A Commemoration of Pearl Harbor Day** – An exhibit to commemorate the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Pearl Harbor Day, featuring photos, memorabilia, recollections and accounts of those at war and at home during World War II. Cohoes Visitor’s Center. The exhibit will open on November 26 (the day of the Cohoes Christmas Tree lighting ceremony) and remain up through February 2012.

**Wednesday, November 30** – Spindle City Historic Society meeting. 7 p.m., Cohoes Visitor’s Center.

**Wednesday, January 25** – A History of Industry and Innovation in Cohoes - A presentation by Walter Lipka. 7 p.m., Harmony Mills Lofts meeting room, 100 North Mohawk St. The Spindle City Historic Society’s regular monthly meeting will follow the presentation.

Photo credits this issue – Susan Baird, Walter Cherniak

☞ SCHS Newsletter Staff ☞

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Spindle City Historic Society

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