

# THE HERITAGE NEWS

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF EAST ROCKAWAY & LYNBROOK

Volume 16 # 5

June - September 2014

## LET' TALK...

Yes, let us talk. It's another year. We are in our 19<sup>th</sup> year! Lots of things have happened.

The Board of Directors has been asked to give us some ideas on increasing membership. Indeed, two Directors have already put on their thinking caps and have come up with some good ones. Since the deadline is August 1<sup>st</sup> we will wait until then to share them with you. Are you off the hook? No, it is important that each and everyone feel a part of HSERL. That is what we are going to endeavor to do. Soooooo why don't you give membership expansion some thought and you will be able to give us some input. Don't cry. You can peel the onion while running cold water on it.>>>

## SPEAKING OF...

### ...A GREEN INTERCHANGE

Bob Sympson, Art Mattson and Mike D'Andrea met with Bob Guerriero, Manager of the Rockville Cemetery. Why? Nothing macabre, it will be just an exciting addition to our presence. Every year Art Mattson along with the Ancient Order of Hibernians holds a commemorative ceremony at the Rockville Cemetery. As you know the "**Bristol-Mexico**" monument there commemorates the burial of almost one hundred fifty immigrant passengers on the aforementioned ships who perished in two ship wrecks off the Rockaways in 1836 & 1837.

Mike will design a landscape plan which will be installed so that this monument may very well become the focal point of the cemetery. We think it is a very important part of the history of our communities and want to work with Mr. Guerriero to accomplish this. We keep the Cemetery in our scope and welcome ideas from you for another event there. Just let us know what you think and we all will work on it.

Art has put this commemorative on our calendar for November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 12 Noon. This idea was begun by Eddie O'Reilly and we have made it a yearly remembrance of these horrific shipwrecks.



**There we are>>> the Historical Society on parade!!**

### **...Memorial Day**

What did we do? Well, we were in the Lynbrook Memorial Day Parade. Art Mattson and Nori are chauffeured by Bob Sympton in his '59 Ford. Sometimes when you look at the old cars on display in Lynbrook and East Rockaway, don't you wonder how you ever drove such a monstrosity? Of course, the bigness is magnified by the fact that one maybe forty or fifty years older now...

Madeline was at the East Rockaway Memorial Day parade. Her curiosity was piqued by the fact that Mayor Francis Lenahan had mentioned that new things were happening at Memorial Park. He was right. Madeline reported that the War Memorials had been refurbished and that the band stand was being overhauled. It's exciting.

### ...A TOMBSTONE EVENT...

Last issue we told you about an idea which arose that sounded like lots of fun. Stephanie Maddalone and Mary Colway brought it up. That idea is called Letterboxing, geocaching, trigpointing and many other names. We would like to explore this. What is it? We will refresh your memory as well as that of the editor.

We visited Wikipedia for information on geocaching. This is an outdoor activity, in which the participants use a Global Positions System to hide containers called “geocaches.” There are many ways to make this a kind of hunt, an historical hunt or whatever we want to do with it. Perhaps when we meet at our Board meeting some of you will come so as to form a committee to design one, maybe around the Rockville Cemetery. Please put this in your memory bank. It sounds like it could a great fun event but this is one which will need lots of planning and lots of publicity. **WE NEED YOUR INPUT AND PARTICIPATION ON THIS.**

### ...TWO OCTOBER EVENTS >>> BACK TO BACK...

**Art Mattson** is also Lynbrook Village Historian and as such he attends conferences on behalf of Lynbrook. He came back from the last one with such enthusiasm that we just couldn't let it go by. Art and Nori had returned from the Lake George conference and came in to help with the breakdown of the Retro. Art was waxing such enthusiasm about the importance of the Battle of Plattsburgh that as he left, the library was asked for a series of dates. Voila, Art will speak at the Lynbrook Library on **Tuesday October 21<sup>st</sup>. Book the date.**

Our second speaker will be the **Hon. Carolyn McCarthy**. She will be our featured speaker **I Was There – Epic Events and Impressions 1997-2014** on **Tuesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>**. Now, what could she tell us? We have asked her to step back and give us an historical perspective of her time in Congress. We tend to think of her in her role as an anti-gun advocate. However, think she began her service in 1997. She won an election as a novice. She initially served in a Democratic Congress. What did it feel like to serve in an atmosphere where members worked together? She was in office at the time of 911. She was asked to make a decision about the Iraq War – decision implemented with little prior information. She served in the minority in Congress. How did that affect her thoughts on government? She served during the Great Recession. All of these events and surely others that you will think occurred during those tumultuous times... Come and hear her thoughts and impressions and her prognostications for the future. . Congresswoman McCarthy served during an important time in history and it will be preserved for future generations. Listen and Talk to her Come join us.

**We Welcome a New Member  
Frank Torre of East Rockaway**

**...Our Coming Events Calendar...**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
September TBA	Board Meeting	ER Senior Center All are welcome
October 21 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Art Mattson - The Battle Of Plattsburgh during The Second War for Independence</b>	Lynbrook Library 7:00 p.m.
October 28 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Hon. Carolyn McCarthy I Was There - Epic Events and Impressions 1997-2014</b>	
November 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b><i>"The Bristol Mexico"</i> Remembrance</b>	12 Noon
TBA	<b>Field Trip</b>	Pending

Ed. Patricia C. Sympson, PhD  
[psympson@optonline.net](mailto:psympson@optonline.net)

**Box 351  
East Rockaway, NY 11518**

**To the Membership**  
**Let's peel the onion:**



**Suggestions for:**

**More Membership**

**Interesting Programs**

**Scintillating Ideas**

**Exciting Adventures**

**We Await your INPUT**

**[psympson@optonline.net](mailto:psympson@optonline.net) 887-9094**

**[madelinevp@verizon.com](mailto:madelinevp@verizon.com) 593-5791**

