



The YEOMAN

FARMINGDALE-
BETHPAGE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
www.fbhsli.org

Mildred Johnston, President

James McCullagh, Vice President

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

From the FBHS Executive Board

AN END-OF-YEAR APPEAL

The month of December is a traditional time for gift-giving. As you draw up your gift list, please also consider an end-of-year gift to the Farmingdale-Bethpage Historical Society. The officers and trustees conscientiously attempt to be careful stewards of the Society's funds, but membership dues are barely sufficient to to maintain even the ordinary costs of the annual program, not to mention the larger challenges of preserving the community's heritage. This past year, despite the generous contributions of members and friends, the Society subsidized from its treasury approximately half the cost of the long overdue Civil War Memorial for the Farmingdale Village Green.

Each year there are the ongoing expenses of providing programs, hospitality, publicity, printing, postage, the website, as well as history-related community events. The FBHS has an annual public program that is recognized in Nassau-Suffolk as one of very high quality, built on a record of almost five decades. We wish to continue to build on that record, especially with the Society's 50th anniversary approaching.

The preservation of the growing FBHS collection of archival materials is another major challenge which necessitates prompt action. This is a multi-year project of documenting, cataloging, and preserving these items under archival "best practices". This is not an inexpensive challenge. Likewise, the oral history collection, many of these recollections made on audio-cassettes by longtime residents twenty to forty years ago, must be transcribed into "hard copies" so that they can be made permanent and available to researchers. To wait much longer is to invite loss of these oral records.

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HOLIDAY 2011-2012 ISSUE

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APPEAL (Cont'd from page 1)

The officers and trustees thank our loyal members for their continuing support. We realize that some members cannot provide more than their membership dues, but for those who can, we ask that you make an end-of-year gift. Contributions should be made payable to the FBHS and mailed to P.O. Box 500, Farmingdale, NY 11735-0500. The Society is a not-for-profit educational corporation organized under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, making your donation fully deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

BILL BROCHU NAMED MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR OF FBHS

Trustee William (Bill) Brochu was named Membership Coordinator of the Society effective January 1, 2012, at a meeting of the Executive Board on November 3, 2011. Mr. Brochu will not only maintain membership records, but also intends to initiate a pro-active recruiting program to increase the number of members.

President Mildred Johnston will be relieved of membership duties, a role she has played many years before being once again elected President in 2008, and re-elected in 2010.. Mrs. Johnston had also served as President of the Society 1988-1992, as well as several terms as vice-president

The late John J. "Jack" Gifford Jr. set up the first computerized membership records of the Society in the early 1990's. Jack used a succession of two computers before transferring the records to Mrs. Johnston in 2001, when he moved to upstate New York. Mrs. Johnston's computers are the third, fourth, and fifth to carry the membership records.

The YEOMAN wishes Bill Brochu much success in his new role, and thanks Mildred for her many years of faithful service as Membership Chair.

SUFFOLK COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM PRESENTS WORKS OF LONG ISLAND PAINTER

The Suffolk County Historical Society will present an exhibition "Charles Henry Miller: Painter of Long Island" at its museum at 300 West Main Street, Riverhead, from Friday, December 2, 2011 through Saturday, February 11, 2012. This is a new exhibition featuring paintings, sketchbooks, and other historical memorabilia relating to the life and career of the noted Long Island painter Charles Henry Miller (1842-1922). The curator of the exhibit is Geoffrey Fleming, director of the Southold Historical Society. Mr. Fleming presented a program "Painters of Long Island's North Fork" to the Farmingdale-Bethpage Historical Society last March.

The SCHS Museum is open Tuesday through Saturday, 12:30 to 4:30 pm. For additional information, visit www.suffolkcountyhistoricalsociety.org or call 631-727-2881. Check the weather forecast, and if there is no snow in the immediate future, pleasure yourself with a trip to an excellent historical museum "out east".



FBHS REPRESENTED AT LIBRARY "SENIOR FAIR"

On Tuesday, November 15, the Farmingdale Public Library held a "Senior Fair" with presentations and displays staffed by representatives of organizations of special interest to older citizens of the community.

The Farmingdale-Bethpage Historical Society participated with an exhibit created by Trustee Eric Goldschrafe. The display included illustrated posters reflecting major achievements of the society over the years, membership brochures, fliers, and "bookmark" cards listing the 2011-2012 program. The display is portable and can easily be "recycled" for future community events in which the Society wishes to participate, as well as FBHS meetings.

A number of visitors took special note of the impressive record of contributions to the community's heritage over the organization's 48 years. These include the Quaker Meeting House restoration, the LIRR Station project, the rehabilitation of Bethpage Cemetery, the Civil War Monument, the Tricentennial Tree, and the Gazebo/Bandstand on Farmingdale's Village Green.

In addition to creating the exhibit, Mr. Goldschrafe staffed it throughout the event, with only a mid-day break provided by Mildred and Bill Johnston.





48th ANNUAL INSTALLATION DINNER ENJOYED BY ALL



The installation was performed by Deputy Mayor Pat Christiansen



Legis. Joe Belesi spoke briefly



FBHS Pres. Mildred Johnston opened the proceedings



Hospitality Chair JoAnne Bihary provided some great table decorations



There's always time for politics!



Guest speaker Dr. Aristides Scoufelis spoke on the history of Roosevelt Field and Lindbergh's flight to Paris in 1927



The Bella Napoli Restaurant provided excellent service and food, and our own personalized Anniversary cake!





The *Battle of Brooklyn* Farmingdale-Bethpage Historical Society

Presents

The Battle for New York



Author Barnet Schecter will tell the story of how New York City became the pivot on which the American Revolution turned. The battles in this area defined the strategies that both sides used to conduct the Revolutionary War from this point forward

THE BATTLE FOR
NEW YORK



THE CITY AT THE HEART OF THE
AMERICAN REVOLUTION
BARNET SCHECTER

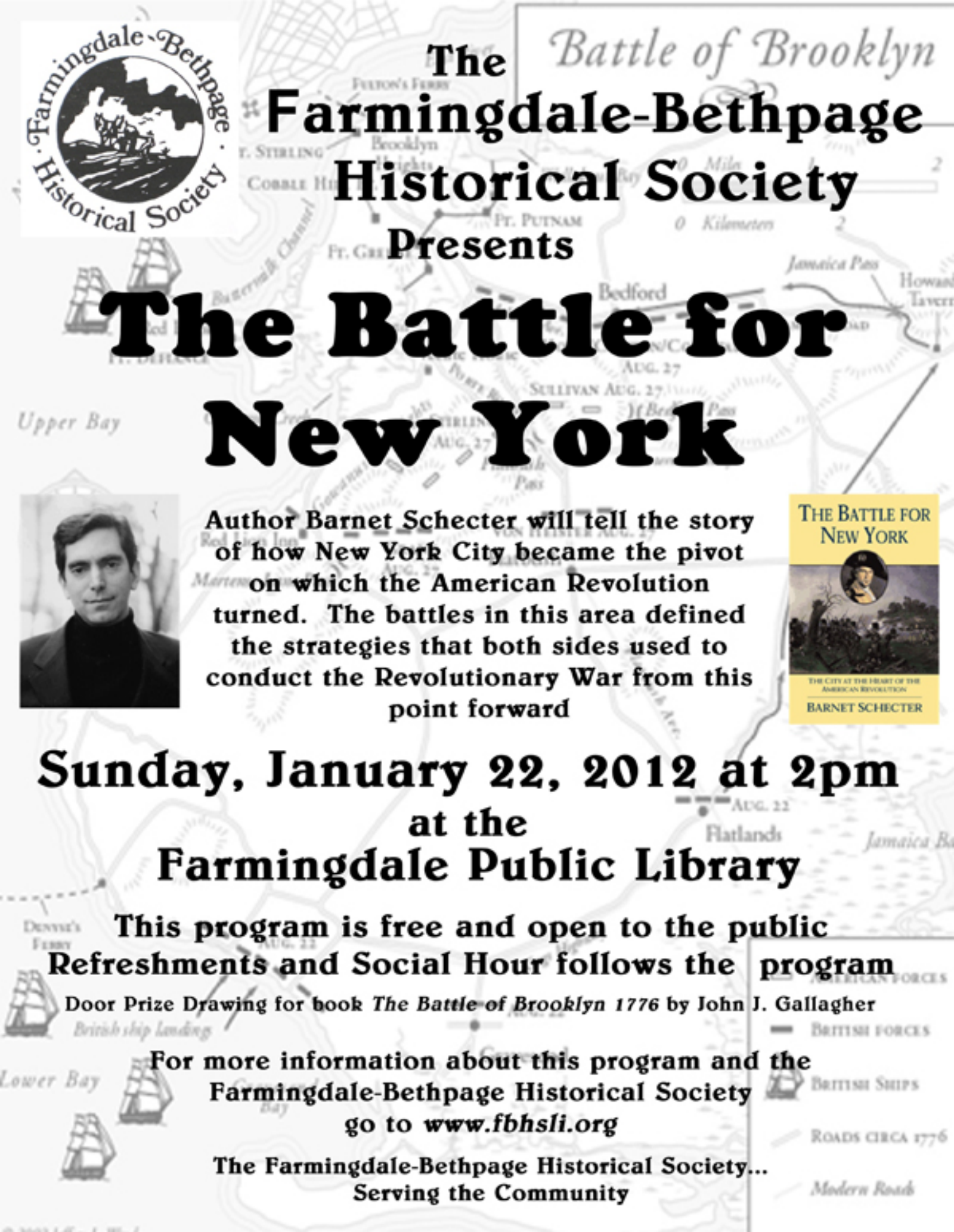
Sunday, January 22, 2012 at 2pm
at the
Farmingdale Public Library

This program is free and open to the public
Refreshments and Social Hour follows the program

Door Prize Drawing for book *The Battle of Brooklyn 1776* by John J. Gallagher

For more information about this program and the
Farmingdale-Bethpage Historical Society
go to www.fbhsli.org

The Farmingdale-Bethpage Historical Society...
Serving the Community





HARRISON HUNT AND SEYMOUR WEINSTEIN: A RECOGNITION OF SERVICE

Harrison (Terry) Hunt and Seymour Weinstein declined renomination as Trustees of the Society prior to the Annual Meeting last June. Their respective terms expired October 31. *The YEOMAN* wishes to thank both of these men for their significant service to the Society.

Terry Hunt began attending FBHS meetings when he was still a junior high school student some decades ago. He became more active as he grew older, and served as President 1973-1975. He pursued history and museum studies in his collegiate career, and eventually became chief curator of the Nassau County Division of Museums. Over the years, Terry continued to assist the Society in numerous ways. He gave several talks on Long Island's role in the Civil War, a favorite area of specialization for him. Only last Memorial Day, he was instrumental in having authentic Civil War re-enactors in the Farmingdale parade and dedication of the Civil War Memorial. As a native of Bethpage, he conducted in 2007 the Jack Gifford Memorial Walk, drawing on Jack's original tour script of 1988. He is wished much happiness at his new home in upstate New York.

Seymour Weinstein served only one term as Trustee, but his wealth of computer skills, incisive thinking and problem-solving ability were of great benefit to the Executive Board. Seymour is primarily responsible for creating the Society's website, a necessary medium of communication in this electronic age. The continuing development of this site will reinforce Seymour's goal of relating the rich history of the Bethpage Purchase area to the world. We all have benefited from his contributions to the work of the Society.

JOHN HAMMOND OPENS FALL-WINTER LECTURE SERIES

The Fall-Winter Lecture Series of the Farmingdale-Bethpage Historical Society opened on Sunday, November 13 at the Farmingdale Public Library. John E. Hammond delivered a most informative presentation on "Civil War Records of the Town of Oyster Bay", a topic with which he is thoroughly acquainted as Town Historian. Mr. Hammond related the stories of military leaders and units from the Town such as the Harris Light Cavalry during the discussion of the four-year conflict. At the conclusion of his talk, he distributed to each attendee a new publication he has prepared under Town auspices, *CIVIL WAR RECORDS: TOWN OF OYSTER BAY*. The book reveals that although the Town's population in the 1860 census numbered only 8000, 600 men answered the call to serve in the Union Army.

Trustee JoAnne Bihary, Hospitality Chair, presented a beautiful refreshment table reflecting the beauty of autumn after the program. In a drawing, Trustee Nancy White was awarded the volume *CIVIL WAR EXPERIENCE*.

Trustee Eric Goldschrafe, a master modeler, presented a display of Civil War figurines as an adjunct to the program which attracted considerable attention before and after the program.

The lecture series continues on Sunday, January 22, 2012.



Box 500, Farmingdale, NY 11735

www.fbhsli.org

"We hold fast to the elements that are dear to us"

Jesse Merritt

The Farmingdale-Bethpage Historical Society was founded at a meeting in the historic Powell House, Merritt Road, Farmingdale, on April 12, 1964. It is chartered as an incorporated non-profit educational and cultural organization by the University of the State of New York.

FBHS EXECUTIVE BOARD

Mildred Johnston - President, Membership

James McCullagh - Vice President

Gail Goldschrafe - Recording Secretary

Madeleine Bondiotti - Corresponding Secretary

Frank Bondiotti - Treasurer, Collections

JoAnne Bihary - Trustee, Hospitality, Collections Committee

Serena Brochu - Trustee, Collections Committee

William Brochu - Trustee, Membership Coordinator

Donald Christiansen - Trustee

Joseph Carosella, Sr. - Trustee

Eric Goldschrafe - Trustee, Newsletter Editor

William J. Johnston - Trustee

JoAnn Krapp - Trustee, Exhibits Coordinator

Pierre Lehmuller - Trustee

Nancy White - Trustee

Lawrence R. Jorgensen - Ex-Officio Immediate Past President

**Farmingdale - Bethpage
Historical Society**

BOX 500

Farmingdale, NY 11735

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