



THE YEOMAN

Farmingdale-
Bethpage
Historical Society
www.fbhsli.org

Mildred Johnston, President

James McCullagh, Vice-President

LIRR 175th Anniversary Program Draws Large Attendance

Railroad historian David Morrison spoke to an audience of about 75 members and friends of the Society on Sunday, March 8 at the Farmingdale Public Library. Mr. Morrison's topic was the 175th anniversary of the Long Island Rail Road, and he used the theme of LIRR stations over the years in his illustrated presentation.

Hospitality Chair JoAnne Bihary employed a dual theme in her table decorations - railroading in recognition of the LIRR's 175th anniversary, and the Girl Scouts, in a salute to March as Girl Scout Month, including the cookies served!

Visit to Dominican Heritage Center Set For May 3

Society members and friends are encouraged to take advantage of the invitation to visit the Heritage Center of the Dominican Sisters of Amityville on Sunday, May 3, 2009 at 2 pm. Pre-registration is necessary, although there is no fee. A registration form with full information on the program that afternoon accompanies this issue of THE YEOMAN. Please send it in before the April 25 deadline! Don't miss out on an extraordinary opportunity to visit a nearby site on the National Register of Historic Places!

Saturday, April 25: A Busy Day For Historical Sessions

The last Saturday of April will be the meeting date for two historical sessions .

- * The Association of Suffolk County Historical Societies (ASCCHS) will be hosted by the Southampton Historical Museums and Research Center on April 25. The program will include tours of the Rogers Mansion and the Parrish Art Museum.
- * The Sunrise Trail Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society will sponsor a symposium focusing on the 175th anniversary of the Long Island Rail Road at the Hicksville Middle School on April 25 between 9 am and 4 pm.

FBHS members are invited to call 516-249-3099 if interested in further information on either of the sessions.

Executive Board Meeting Schedule

The next meeting of the officers and trustees of the Society will be on Thursday, May 7, 2009 at 7pm at the Farmingdale Public Library. Members are reminded that they are always welcome to sit in on meetings of the executive board and, with prior arrangement with the president, to address the Board on matters of concern.

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* **Mid-Spring** *
* **2009** *
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Tour of Civil War Veterans' Gravesites Planned for May 17



The registration form for the FBHS tour of gravesites of Civil War veterans of the Farmingdale area will accompany the next issue of THE YEOMAN. The tour is scheduled for Sunday afternoon, May 17. A suggested donation of \$10 per person will be requested in order to defray the cost of chartering a bus.

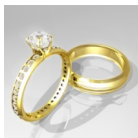
Patrick Looney, whose Eagle Scout project inspired this tour, and FBHS Trustee Serena Brochu, who has provided vital research assistance, will lead the tour. Only a limited number can be accommodated for this unique event, so don't procrastinate when registration opens.

Mildred Johnston Speaks on Local History in Victorian Era



FBHS President Mildred Johnston spoke on "The Victorian Era in Farmingdale" at a meeting of the St. Kilian Women's Guild on April 2. The theme of the meeting was on life in Victorian times (1837-1901), and Mrs. Johnston focused on the development of Farmingdale during those years. This period began with the renaming of Hardscrabble hamlet and the beginning of LIRR service, and ended with the incorporation of the Village in 1904.

Triple Celebration For Ed and Ann Ocker



Congratulations to longtime FBHS members Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Ocker! Ed and Ann each celebrated their respective 90th birthdays recently, as well as their 65th wedding anniversary. Their many friends in the Society congratulate and wish them good health and many more such happy occasions!

About Long Island: Mother's Day



Approaching Mother's Day, we remember Anna Symmes, a native Long Island mother, born in East Hampton. She was wed in 1795, to Captain William Henry Harrison, then in command of Fort Washington, Ohio. In 1840, when Mr. Harrison was elected the ninth President of the United States, Anna became the First Lady. But she was never to live in the White House. Anna was unable to travel to Washington for the Inauguration; her husband died after just one month in office. Anna Symmes Harrison lived to 89, residing finally with her son. He was the father of Anna's grandson, President Benjamin Harrison. Anna Symmes Harrison,... wife of one President.... grandmother of another... in two ways a "President's Lady"... She was born on Long Island long ago.

by Ray Adell

Farmingdale-Bethpage Historical Society VISIT TO DOMINICAN HERITAGE CENTER

The Dominican Sisters of Amityville have extended a special invitation to members and friends of the Farmingdale-Bethpage Historical Society for a program on Sunday afternoon, May 3 at 2pm at Rosary Hall, 555 Albany Avenue, North Amityville.

This religious community has a strong historical relationship with the Farmingdale area. After founding their Amityville site in 1876, the order endeavored to establish an orphanage for boys, which was successfully achieved with the opening of Nazareth Trade School in Farmingdale in 1900. A counterpart orphanage for girls, St. Rose Industrial School, was later opened in Melville. When St. Kilian Church started its parish school in 1926, it was the Dominicans of Amityville who provided the faculty. This long service continued until 1985.

Members and friends of the FBHS are invited to learn more about this largely unheralded phase of Farmingdale history by attending this program. The afternoon's events will include a talk by Sister M. Erica OP, the community's archivist and historian, a visit to the displays in the Dominican Heritage Center, and a tour of St. Albert Chapel.

The historical and architectural information which provided the background for a successful application for Rosary Hall's listing on the National Register of Historic Places is available by clicking on "Rosary Hall Now National Historic Register Site" at www.amityvilleop.org.

DIRECTIONS: The address of Rosary Hall is 555 Albany Avenue, North Amityville. One route from Farmingdale is to drive south on Main Street, which becomes Great Neck Road at the Route 110 intersection. Continue south for about 1.3 miles to the Albany Avenue intersection, which has a traffic signal. (Tutor Time Learning Center is on the NE corner.) Turn left and proceed north to the Dominican complex, which is on the east side of Albany Avenue. Park in the lot to the right (south) of Rosary Hall. Another option is to take Route 109 to New Highway, make a right (south) on New Highway to Albany Avenue. Proceed south on Albany Avenue to the complex.

Return to:

Mildred Johnston
President, FBHS
42 Sherman Road
Farmingdale, NY 11735-2235

I/We plan to attend the FBHS program and tour at the **Dominican Heritage Center**, 555 Albany Avenue, North Amityville on Sunday, May 3 at 2pm. I understand there is no charge. This form is requested by Saturday, April 25, 2009.

Name

____ I/We need a ride!

Street Address

____ I/We can provide a ride for
one or two people.

Town, State, Zip

Telephone

Others in Party:



**Farmingdale-Bethpage
Historical Society**

Box 500
Farmingdale, New York 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 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.

Executive Board

- Mildred Johnston —President; Membership
- James McCullagh—Vice President
- Gail Goldschrafe—Recording Secretary
- Jeanne M. Buck—Corresponding Secretary
- Frank Bondietti—Treasurer; Collections Committee
- JoAnne Bihary—Trustee; Hospitality; Collections Committee
- Serena Brochu—Trustee; Newsletter Editor; Collections Committee
- Nancy Cinque—Trustee
- Eric Goldschrafe—Trustee
- William J. Johnston—Trustee
- JoAnn Krapp—Trustee; Exhibits Coordinator
- Pierre Lehmuller—Trustee
- Dolores McAfee—Trustee
- Seymour Weinstein—Trustee; Website
- Nancy White—Trustee
- Maria Zito—Trustee
- Lawrence R. Jorgensen —Ex-Officio Immediate Past President

**Farmingdale-Bethpage Historical
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