



THE YEOMAN

Farmingdale-
Bethpage
Historical Society
www.fbhsli.org

Mildred Johnston, President

James McCullagh, Vice-President

Tour of Civil War Veterans' Gravesites Set For May 17

The Society has completed plans for a special bus tour of gravesites of Civil War veterans from the Farmingdale area. It will be held on Sunday afternoon, May 17, 2009, beginning at 2:00 pm. The tour of the sites in Farmingdale, Bethpage, and Melville have grown out of the Eagle Scout project of Patrick Looney. FBHS trustee Serena Brochu has assisted Patrick with the genealogical research on a number of the twenty or so Union Army veterans. Patrick and Serena will conduct the tour.

Please note the registration form with this issue of THE YEOMAN. There is a requested donation to defray the cost of chartering the bus for the trip. Memorial Day, first known as Decoration Day, originated shortly after the end of the Civil War as a means of honoring those who gave their lives in that great conflict. Make your Memorial Day this year more meaningful by participating in this trip.

Founders' Day Dinner a Most Enjoyable Evening!

The Founders' Day Dinner celebrating the 45th anniversary of the Farmingdale-Bethpage Historical Society was deemed "a most enjoyable evening" by virtually all attendees. Palmer's American Grille hosted the annual event for the first time on Tuesday, April 21, in the restaurant's private dining room, which was filled to near capacity. Nancy White, Dinner Chair, was in charge of arrangements, assisted by JoAnne Bihary, Hospitality Chair.

After a welcome by FBHS President Mildred Johnston, the Barber Shop Quartet of Farmingdale High School, under the direction of Ms. Michelle Lindsley, began the evening with a delightful set of four selections. Vice-President James McCullagh provided a look at the Society's busy calendar in May and June, and former President Harrison "Terry" Hunt then delivered a brief but eloquent tribute to those who founded the Farmingdale-Bethpage Historical Society in April 1964.

Trustee Pierre Lehmuller introduced the keynote speaker, Dr. Peter Bales, history professor and humorist, who gave an impassioned presentation on the necessity of greater knowledge of American history for our citizenry, interspersed with amusing anecdotes about U.S. Presidents and other prominent historical figures through the years. Dr. Bales acknowledged that he was "preaching to the choir," as our members reflected an impressive knowledge of American history in response to his questions.

With an evening of fine food, good fellowship, and an enjoyable program, "a good time was had by all!"



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Mother's Day



Society to Participate in Memorial Day Parade



The Farmingdale Fire Department will continue a tradition of over a century, that of sponsorship of the Memorial Day Parade, which will be held Monday, May 25, beginning at 10am. The Society will have a delegation in the line of march, with Mildred Johnston coordinating our participation. Please call her at 516-249-3099 now to reserve your place in the parade. A limited number of seats for those requiring rides will be available for those unable to walk. Please keep in mind that Memorial Day is dedicated to those who, in President Lincoln's words, "gave the last full measure of devotion."

The FBHS delegation will meet at 9:45am on May 25. Mrs. Johnston will inform parade registrants of the meeting site on receipt of this information from the fire department.

Parade participants are reminded of the modified formal dress code for FBHS members that will be continued this year. It consists of a red, white and blue motif, reflecting the colors of "Old Glory." Recommended are navy blazers or jackets, white shirts/blouses, red ties/scarves, and dark slacks/skirts. This policy, adopted several years ago, is to provide greater respect to those in whose memory we gather, and to enhance the image of the Society. All participants are urged to remain at the conclusion of the parade for the memorial rites held at the war memorials on the Village Green.

Annual Meeting/Strawberry Festival on Sunday, June 14



The Annual Meeting/Strawberry Festival will be held Sunday afternoon, June 14 at the Kissam House, 434 Park Avenue, Huntington, a property of the Huntington Historical Society. Save the date now! The site is a fitting place to observe Flag Day, within sight of The Arsenal, used by Revolutionary militiamen.

The June issue of THE YEOMAN will carry registration information. The afternoon program will include a tour of the 1795 house, the Annual Meeting of the Society, and the traditional late spring dessert, the Strawberry Festival. Be sure to be part of it!

FBHS Nominating Committee Presents Slate

The Nominating Committee of the Society has adopted a proposed slate of candidates for officers and trustees whose terms expire on October 31, 2009.

The committee, chaired by Vice-President James McCullagh, consisted of Trustees Nancy White and Bill Johnston, and FBHS members Dorothy Rietheimer and Gladys McCullagh.

Recording Secretary Gail Goldschrafe and Corresponding Secretary Jeanne Buck were renominated to continue in their respective offices. Trustees JoAnne Bihary and JoAnn Krapp were also renominated to continue in their roles. Trustee Dolores McAfee declined renomination. Joseph Carosella Sr. was selected as a Trustee by the Nominating Committee.

The slate will be presented at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 14. The names of others may be placed in nomination from the floor at that time. FBHS officers' terms are for two years, and trustees', three years. Those elected at the Annual Meeting will be inducted at the annual Installation Dinner in late October.

Angie Fortunato Observes Ninetieth Birthday

Angela "Angie" Fortunato, a longtime Farmingdale resident, celebrated her 90th birthday on April 7, 2009 with her family. Angie has three sons, John, Anthony, and Rev. Fr. Vincent, and two grandchildren.

Although diminutive in stature, Angie is a tower of strength and energy. She is active in several service roles at St. Kilian Parish, some requiring weekly obligations. She also volunteers in her "spare time" at the Farmingdale Adult Day Care Program at the United Methodist Church and at the Dominican Sisters of Amityville.

THE YEOMAN congratulates Angie on reaching this significant milestone and wishes her many more birthdays in the years ahead!



Farmingdale-Bethpage Historical Society CIVIL WAR VETERANS' GRAVESITE BUS TOUR

The Farmingdale-Bethpage Historical Society will sponsor a tour of gravesites of Farmingdale area Civil War veterans on Sunday afternoon, May 17. The tour will be led by Patrick Looney and Serena Brochu. Their extensive research has made this tour possible. Patrick, along with help from fellow members of Troop 261, BSA, has also performed considerable work on upgrading the condition of these graves as part of his Eagle Scout project.

- REGISTRATION:** Participation in this tour requires advance registration, which is **due by Monday, May 11**. Registration may close earlier if the capacity of the bus is reached. A donation of at least ten dollars per person is requested to defray the bus charter expense. Again, registration is limited to bus capacity.
- PARKING:** Park in the Village parking field which lies between the Village Hall/Fire Department and LaSalle Regional School.
- BOARDING POINT:** The bus will be located on Rose Street, Farmingdale, behind the Gazebo/Bandstand on the Village Green. Boarding will begin about 1:50 pm under the direction of the leaders.
- CEMETERIES:** The tour route will visit the gravesites of the great majority of Farmingdale veterans who entered service in the Union Army after growing up in this area. Most are buried in cemeteries in Farmingdale, Bethpage, or Melville. Those interred elsewhere will also be acknowledged during the trip.
- NOTE:** Participants must be prepared to board and leave the bus several times during the tour, and be able to walk on mostly unpaved surfaces. It is highly suggested that participants dress comfortably and wear appropriate footwear. Also, there are no lavatory facilities at the cemeteries.
- WEATHER:** The trip will operate except in case of heavy rain and/or thunderstorms. If showers are forecast, prepare accordingly.
- QUESTIONS?** Call 516-249-3099 you have any questions about this FBHS program.

Return to:

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

Enclosed is a donation of (minimum \$10 each) \$_____ payable by check to the Farmingdale-Bethpage Historical Society for _____ persons for the tour of gravesites of Farmingdale area Civil War veterans to be held on Sunday, May 17, 2009.

Name

Street Address

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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