



NEWSLETTER, JUNE 2023

HSSM Board

At the Annual Meeting May 21st Marilyn Post and Larry Bell were elected to renewing terms, and Bill Schmitt was newly elected to the Board. We thank them and the other Board members as well as all volunteers for their service to the Museum. Also, our thanks to Susan Weisend for her three years service on the board.

The current officers were reelected to their positions at the June Board meeting. President Guy Garnsey, Vice-President Kirsten Gosch, Secretary Larry Bell and Treasurer Jackie Dickinson. Their dedication is also greatly appreciated.

We are a 100% volunteer organization and are achieving great things due to the contributions of all.

Reading and Discussion Group

Sponsored by Humanities New York, our reading and discussion sessions on the history of the Women's Suffrage movement in New York and the nation has completed the planned six sessions. Additionally, a seventh session was held as the forum was so well received by the participants that they wanted to study another book. The group was facilitated by Linda Post Van Buskirk.

PROGRAMS

Please visit our [webpage](#) for current listing of upcoming programs.

Our programs are also available by Zoom for those who can't attend in person, contact event@howlandstonestore.org to request the link for each.

FACILITIES

Work on the new parking lot north and sidewalk at Opendore by Vitale Construction is now complete! The off-road parking accommodates 15+ vehicles, as well as one handicapped accessible space adjacent to the building. The new drive on the north property line provides a much safer egress to Route 34B. The west side of the building by the highway is now seeded for grass and a new sidewalk runs around to the north to the parking area. Landscaping in the fall with historically appropriate plantings is being planned.

We thank the Emerson Foundation and Cayuga Community Foundation for their generous financial support of the project.



Asphalt Highway Approach being placed



Sidewalk Concrete being poured

The “Tuesday-Thursday-Saturday Gang” has been very active in May with the reconstruction of the historic Springhouse behind Opendore. The twelve-foot square brick structure which was in bad condition has been carefully rebuilt to its original design, using photographs and salvaged components as guides. With its pyramid roof and eave overhangs with sculpted rafter outlooks, the structure has a resemblance to an historic train station. Much of the material for the reconstruction was salvaged from the historic 1895 Carriage House at Opendore. Please stop by and walk out back to enjoy the “new” Springhouse.



Roof Framing with Scrolled Outlooks on Rafters



Roof planking salvaged from Carriage House



Larry Bell, Guy Garnsey and Gus Littlejohn
Installing shingles



Refabricated Historical Rafter Outlookers

HISTORIAN

Beginning June 11, there will be a New Exhibit in the Opendore Drawing Room: *Sherwood Quakers and the Civil War Refugee Crisis*, sponsored by the Delavan Foundation and the Cayuga County Tourism Board.

As the Union army pushed south, enslaved persons began to seek refuge with the army. Since the Confederates were using slaves to wage war against them, the Union army did not want to return the slaves to the South, which would have been the normal course of action before the war. General Butler of Fort Monroe, Virginia, declared them “contraband of war” so they could stay in the North and the enslavers could not claim legal ownership. At the Capital, many found work building forts and providing domestic labor. Word spread quickly, and many thousands fled enslavement and made their way to Washington. Most came with nothing but the clothes on their backs, creating a refugee crisis. At first, they were crowded into former Army barracks and stables. Disease was rampant. There were immediate needs for food, clothing, and healthcare, plus long-term needs for education, employment, and care for orphans and the elderly.

As staunch abolitionists, the Society of Friends became aware of this refugee crisis as it unfolded. They organized relief efforts, sent money, clothing, supplies, and volunteers. They publicized the needs and the conditions, eventually building a hospital, and a facility for orphans and the aged. Emily Howland and the citizens of Sherwood offered their services through their church, the Friends Meeting. They made several mission trips to refugee camps in Washington and Virginia, bringing boxes and barrels of supplies, heading up the relief effort, and teaching the three “Rs”, reading, writing, and arithmetic. This exhibit tells the story of their kindness, generosity, and courage.

HAZARD LIBRARY ADDITION OPENDORE

We continue our planning with the Library for an addition on the south side of Opendore to house library space. The Library has retained Holmes – King - Kallquist Architects for preliminary design of the facility, and analysis of the Library’s needs and code requirements is underway.



The Library is having a fund raising event at Opendore July 3rd and we hope you can attend.

OTHER NEWS

COMMUNITY

The Museum welcomes use of Opendore for community activities. Currently the Hazard Library is holding their Board Meetings and Book Club sessions at Opendore. If your organization would like to discuss usage, please contact us.

MUSEUM HOURS

The Stone Store Museum and Opendore are now open for regular weekly hours, Saturday and Sunday 1:00 – 4:00 PM. We welcome visitors to see our newest exhibits and learn about the history of Sherwood.

Appointments for visits can also be arranged by calling 315-303-2145 at least three days in advance.

We welcome group tours by organizations. Please contact us at the number above.

DOCENTS and VOLUNTEERS FOR 2023

The museum needs additional docents for the summer of 2023. We schedule two docents for each three-hour Saturday and Sunday day we are open. New docents are paired with experienced persons to “learn the ropes.”

Additionally, we seek volunteers to assist with facilities work, collections improvements, and other activities. It’s a fun way to work with interesting people from the community and help the museum improve. Give us a call, stop by or talk with any board member.



Volunteers enjoying lunch after grounds work session



Our youngest volunteers !!

MEMBERSHIP

So far for 2023 we have 148 renewing or new memberships. Our goal is 200 by year end.

If you have not sent in a membership request, please take a moment to do now, either using the form below or accessing at www.howlandstonestore.org/memberships

Benefits of membership include

- Support to museum
- Newsletter mailing hard copy if requested
- Reserved seating at programs if requested
- 10% discount on HSSM merchandise

HSSM now is on social media

- follow HSSM on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/HowlandStoneStoreMuseum>
- follow HSSM on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/howlandstonestoremuseum/>

MEMBERSHIP FORM – 2023 DUES

June 2023

YES! I/We would like to support the ongoing restoration/preservation and educational programming of the Howland Stone Store Museum.

Please print clearly !

Name: _____	_____ \$15 individual membership
Address: _____	_____ \$25 family membership
City/State _____	_____ HSSM donation
Phone: _____	_____ Opendore project donation
E-Mail _____	_____ TOTAL enclosed

Your contribution is greatly appreciated. THANK YOU!

Make checks payable to **Howland Stone Store Museum, PO Box 124, Aurora, NY 13026**

Note : memberships and donations can be made electronically thru **PayPal**

at our website <http://howlandstonestore.org> ... scroll down near bottom

Volunteer Opportunities—want to help?

_____ Assist with programs or displays	_____ Assist with grants/fund-raising
_____ Greet visitors Saturday or Sunday afternoons	_____ Assist with collection care
_____ Work on facilities	
_____ Other _____	

The Museum Board of Trustees appreciates your continued support!

Guy Garnsey, President	Kirsten Gosch, Vice-President	Larry Bell, Secretary
Jackie Dickinson, Treasurer	Marilyn Post	Andy Simkin
Lorrie Butcher	Karen Speck	Bill Schmitt