



NEWSLETTER, MARCH 2023

**MONTHLY PROGRAMS**

**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 continues this spring. We are utilizing resources provided by Humanities NY and our own archives, interspersing material on Sherwood’s important contributions to the Movement. The group is facilitated by Linda Post Van Buskirk, and books are available for loan. Sherwood materials will also be provided from letters and journals, and from the Museum archives.

Three of six sessions are now complete. Upcoming sessions are :

April 2: Read book by Lori D. Ginzberg, *Elizabeth Cady Stanton: An American Life*; read chapter 3 of *Votes for Women*

April 23: Read book by Marge Piercy, *Sex Wars: A Novel of Gilded Age New York*; read chapter 4 of *Votes for Women*

May 14: Read book by Mary Walton, *A Woman’s Crusade: Alice Paul and the Battle for the Ballot*; read chapters 5 - 6 of *Votes for Women*



*Reading and Discussion Group*

**Temperance, Prohibition, and the Problem of Intoxication**

**Sunday, March 26, 2023 4:00-5:00PM**

Opendore will open for visitors at 3:00PM before the program.

Excessive consumption of alcohol was a huge problem in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Progressive reformers such as Susan B. Anthony and Emily Howland, in addition to fighting for women’s suffrage, also advocated for temperance, since women were often the victims of alcohol-fueled violence.

As a result of their efforts, the amendment for prohibition was passed in 1919, one year before women gained the right to vote.

On the occasion of her one hundredth birthday in 1927, Emily Howland said that everything she had fought for had been won. Of course, we now know that prohibition did not solve the problem of alcoholism, just as constitutional amendments did not guarantee persons of color the right to vote.

Join us as we revisit the history of this complex issue with HSSM Historian, Larry Bell.

**Frances Seward’s part in the early efforts toward suffrage**

**Saturday, April 29 at 4:00PM by Kate Grindstaff from the Seward House**

**Erie Canal Program**

**Sunday, May 21, 2023 7:30-8:30PM**

Following our annual meeting, Derrick Pratt of the Erie Canal Museum in Syracuse will present a program on the canal and its relationship to Sherwood and the Howland enterprises.

Our programs are also available by Zoom for those who can’t attend in person, contact [event@howlandstonestore.org](mailto:event@howlandstonestore.org) to request the link for each.

**FACILITIES**

Work on the new parking lot north of Opendore is well underway by Vitale Construction, with the stone surface now in place and in use. Work will be completed in the spring with asphalt approaches off Rt 34B and a sidewalk to the front entrance. The off road parking accommodates 10+ vehicles and with a new drive on the north property line provides a much safer egress to Route 34B.

Landscaping in the fall with historically appropriate plantings is being planned



*Grading and Stone Fill*



*Parking in Use !!*

## COLLECTIONS

We continue moving archival boxes from the Stone Store up to Opendore. This is slow methodical boring work for the most part. We go through the boxes, look through each ledger, assign a number to each book, enter the data into the database, and include anything significant. These are daybooks in which Slocum or William entered every single transaction, kind of like a hand written cash register receipt for a whole year. B-o-r-i-n-g. Except—in the back, where there is an accounting of sheep pelts, cattle hides, and boat loads of salt delivered to Levanna. AND—we just happened to find a payment that Slocum made toward James Hart’s independence! AND—the names of those who paid into a lecturer’s fund for the many abolitionist and equal rights lecturers who came to the North Street Meeting. AND—the wooden pieces necessary to make a Jethro Wood plow. AND—the number of plows sold in 1840! AND—who knows what will turn up this week?



*Carolyn Littlejohn, Marilyn Post  
and Ann Mathieson working on ledger boxes*

## HISTORIAN

We continue to receive regular historical queries. Example: Was Dr. Robert J. Howland of Seneca Falls related to the Sherwood Howlands? Answer: Probably not, unless it was a very distant relationship. Robert J. Howland was born in Denver in 1905, son of James Albert Howland and Cordena Smith.

Here is another: When was the first kindergarten class taught at the Sherwood school? Answer: A kindergarten classroom is shown on the floor plan of the 1948 addition to the 1936 brick building. That is the first mention in a written record. Do any of you know of an earlier kindergarten? If so, let us know.

## 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 is currently soliciting Architectural services for design of the facility. The planning will be discussed at the Library Annual Meeting at Opendore Monday April 24<sup>th</sup> 6:30PM if you would like to learn more.

## **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 will not have regular open hours in the winter. Appointments for visits can be arranged by calling 315-303-3145 at least three days in advance.

We are reopening for regular weekly hours Saturday and Sunday 1:00 – 4:00PM starting April 29<sup>th</sup>.

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”. **A docent orientation session is scheduled for Thursday March 30<sup>th</sup> 9:00-11:00AM.** Please come join us if you are willing to help with this important activity

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.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

So far for 2023 we have 125 renewing or new memberships. Our goal is 200 by year end.

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

March 2023

**YES! I/We would like to support the ongoing restoration/preservation and educational programming of the Howland Stone Store Museum. Your contribution is really appreciated. THANK YOU!**

*Please print clearly !*

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

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	Lorrie Butcher
Susan Weisend	Andy Simkin	Karen Speck