



Howland Stone Store Museum

2956 St. Rt. 34B in Sherwood
Box 124, Aurora, New York 13026
www.howlandstonestore.org

May 2018



Dear Members and Friends,

ANNUAL MEETING MAY 20, 2018: Please join us for our annual meeting and participate in the election of new trustees and other business of the organization. The short business meeting will be followed by a presentation by Beth Crawford of Crawford and Stearns Architects discussing Albert Brockway, the architect for the 1909 Opendore expansion project.

OPEN HOUSE JUNE 9, 1-4 PM, ALL INVITED: Mark your calendar for Saturday, June 9th and stop by to see what the building looks like on the inside and see plans for the completed project. The Stone Store will also be open. Our hope is to complete the project for occupancy by the time of the next annual meeting in May 2019. It will nice to be able to hold summer programs in the more spacious environs of a restored Opendore!

HSSM OPEN IN JUNE: The Museum Trustees and volunteers are busy readying the **Stone Store** for visitors starting in late May and planning the upcoming year's activities. Each year the displays on the Stone Store first floor are rotated and improved. We will be open Thursdays and Saturdays, 1:00-4:00, June through September. A slate of seven Sunday programs has been developed, please see attached brochure.

MEMBERSHIP: Please consider membership in the museum, either new or renewed. Doing so will keep you on our mailing list for future newsletters, program announcements and other events. At \$10 individual / \$15 family it's a bargain. As you renew your membership, please consider any funds that you can send to the OPENDORE Project of the HSSM. The 2018 Membership form is attached for you to continue your membership or make donations.

OPENDORE: There has been lots of work done at Opendore this past 12 months. Last fall, volunteers completed the installation and painting of the exterior siding and trim, as well as the restoration of many of the original windows. Recently, under a contract with Bouley Construction from Auburn, Saxton Electric, Lilly Plumbing and VanHee Mechanical installed Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing systems at Opendore.

Additionally, our construction volunteers continue to dedicate many hours doing work to support the contracted work. Next work will be insulation and interior drywall. Though we have hired the mechanical, electrical and plumbing work through contractors, most of the work at Opendore over the past two years has been performed by a wonderful crew of volunteers under the leadership of board member Guy Garnsey. Volunteer labor has become the core of our local contribution to the project. Over ,2500 hours have been donated since the fall of 2016 and many more will be needed this next year as we finish. Our hours are accepted by NYS Parks and acceptable as a match for our grant funds, which have been and will be used to purchase the materials needed.

If you can join us as we finish Opendore, we will gratefully welcome you, both for the work that you help us complete and for the hours which obtain matching funds from NYS. If you find a donation of money more convenient, that also will be much appreciated and will be matched by NYS. Please give us a hand in getting this project finished.....we are very close now! If what you see gives you pleasure, please support the completion of Opendore.



COLLECTIONS: The **Collections Committee** has wrapped up the major project of participating in the Cayuga Museum exhibit on women's suffrage. Both our system for organizing our posters and the paper trail essential for loaning to other museums are working well. Kirsten Wise, the very helpful Cayuga Museum curator, returned the materials they had borrowed, and everything is safely stowed away. The materials we have loaned to the New York State Museum in Albany are still on exhibit there until later this month, and in the meantime, we are tentatively planning to participate in the Equal Rights Cultural Center in Auburn.

Bradley Mitchell willed us a collection of glass. It is random pieces he liked, not something for our collection. He specified that the glass be sold, and the profit used for the museum. After exploring various possibilities, we arranged with Mapes Auctioneers and Appraisers to handle the sale. We boxed the collection (thirteen boxes of glass of all sizes, shapes, and purposes!) and carted them to Vestal for sale later this spring. We have organized more of our materials, including postcards from Brad and yearbooks. Improving record-keeping is ongoing. We have discussed possibilities for Opendore. We have received an additional \$1,200 grant from the Delavan Foundation to reproduce some of our posters so that we can take them to short-term locations without risking damaging our originals. And we are planning the next exhibit at the Museum— think spring and summer!

FUNDRAISING: Our fundraising activities continue to be a priority for Opendore. Westminster Presbyterian Church in Auburn held a special offering in April for the repair of six leaded glass windows on the front of Opendore and \$700 was raised. Estimated cost of the window restoration is \$1,000. Any funds received will be matched by a New York State historic preservation grant. An accompanying Adult Forum at Westminster on April 15 entitled "All (men) are created equal: Inspired social activism in Cayuga County" was presented by board secretary Larry Bell.

CALENDARS: The very stylish 2018 HSSM Calendar is available for purchase at the reduced price of \$12 if picked up or \$15.50 with postage. Contact Pat White at 315-364-5587. The calendars can also be ordered on our website at <http://howlandstonestore.org>.

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS: Current board members of the Howland Stone Store Museum are Larry Buffam, President; Pat White, Vice President; Larry Bell, Secretary; Guy Garnsey, Treasurer; Thomas Butcher, Carolyn Littlejohn, Marilyn Post, Hannah Richter and Barbara Taylor.

E-NEWSLETTERS: We would like to encourage the use of e-newsletters in the future of Howland Stone Store Museum. There are sound financial and ecological reasons for doing so. The museum will save several hundred dollars each year by eliminating mailings. The earth will welcome the saving of a few trees! We are sending this current newsletter both in hard copy and electronically to everyone we have e-mail address for. **IF IT IS ACCEPTABLE TO YOU TO RECEIVE FUTURE NEWSLETTERS SOLELY ONLINE, PLEASE RESPOND to the e-mail delivery advising so.** .

Thank you for all your support of the museum throughout the years!

MEMBERSHIP FORM - DUES (2018) (MN)

YES! I/We would like to support the ongoing restoration/preservation and educational programming of the Howland Stone Store Museum. (Since HSSM's total income is from donations and fundraisers, your contribution is really appreciated.) THANK YOU!

Name: _____ **\$10 individual**
Address: _____ **\$15 family**
City/State _____ **Additional donation**
Phone: _____ **Opendore donation**
E-Mail _____ **TOTAL enclosed**

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

Volunteer Opportunities—want to help?

- _____ volunteer for construction work at Opendore (all skills needed)
- _____ assist with programs or displays
- _____ assist with grants/fund-raising
- _____ greet visitors Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday
- _____ assist with collection care

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