

Our Mission

TO PRESERVE & PRESENT AREA HISTORY & ARCHITECTURE TO BUILD A STRONGER COMMUNITY



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HSL HISTORIC SARANAC LAKE



Museum Expansion Advances

Our project to establish a museum campus in downtown Saranac Lake is advancing smoothly. Construction at the former home and medical office of Dr. E. L. Trudeau is over 30% complete, and we expect the building to be fully rehabilitated by late this fall. We have raised \$5.5 million to support acquisition, design, and construction, including major repairs to the Saranac Laboratory. Pictured above, hard at work, is the crew from Bishop Beaudry Construction — Vinny, Stephen, and Site Superintendent, Chuck Pullan.

“The new museum promises to serve as an important cultural institution in the Adirondacks.”

— Garry B. Trudeau

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Letter from our Director

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the new version of our spring newsletter! Things have been very busy on the corner of Church and Main. Construction is in full gear, and the Trudeau Building will be complete in late fall of this year!

As the museum expansion moves forward, we continue to serve local residents and visitors with engaging exhibits and programs. Our new Program Coordinator Alex Krach is busy planning new events. I'm especially excited about a History Day on August 1 commemorating the 80th Anniversary of the death in Saranac Lake of the President of the Philippines, Manuel Quezon. Humanities NY is supporting this event with a Vision Grant.

My longtime colleague, Chessie Monks-Kelly, continues to lead the care of our museum collection, working with Emily Banach to manage several major collections projects.

In exciting preservation news, this spring, the State Historic Preservation Office will be reviewing our proposal to expand the boundaries of the Berkeley Green National Register District. Find out more on our website and register for the public meeting on May 9. We are pleased to be working to bring the benefits of the National Register to more historic downtown properties.

Looking ahead, our board of directors is excited about the second phase of the capital campaign to support the museum exhibits, a handicap lift addition here at the laboratory, and to grow the endowment fund. Generous lead gifts have been secured. We look forward to sharing more about the Three Pillars Campaign and inviting your participation!

2023 was an amazingly successful year at HSL, but it was a sad one for us too. Our dear friend and founding member of HSL, Mary Hotaling, passed away this fall. We also lost our board member and longtime supporter, Andy Rawdon. We miss Mary and Andy every day, and we are grateful for generous donations received in their memory.

As HSL's Architectural Historian, Mary understood that a lasting building is built on a strong foundation. Over thirty years, Mary built a foundation for HSL consisting of deep knowledge of our history and architecture, as well as strong relationships with people near and far who care about this place. Thanks Mary's work and thanks to your support, we are poised for exciting times ahead.

Thank you for being a part of the journey.



Amy



**Council on
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Made possible, in part, by the NY State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor & the NYS Legislature.

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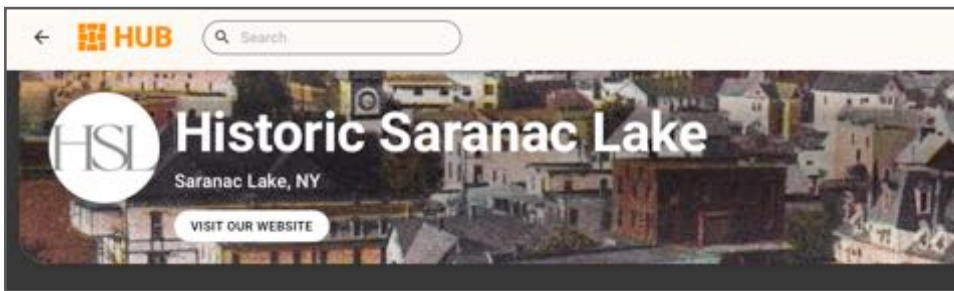
Collection News

Exciting Grant-Funded projects!

HSL has recently received several grants to preserve and improve access to the collections!

- Institute of Museum and Library Services two-year grant to support object cataloging and create a plan to move the collection to the Trudeau Building.
- Northern New York Library Network grant to digitize audiovisual material in partnership with George Blood, LP.
- Pomeroy Foundation matching grant to support the purchase of a large-format transparency/negative scanner.
- Lake Placid Education Foundation grant to support cataloging and rehousing journals, pamphlets, and reprints.
- National Network of the Library of Medicine grant to migrate HSL's wiki to a stable long-term hosting solution. Stay tuned for news on this project!
- Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation grant to support work on the John Black Room Library collection.

New Collections Database Now Online!



We have completed the transition to our new collections management system, CatalogIt! This new system allows collections staff to catalog, search, and manage the collection from any web browser, tablet, or smartphone. This greatly improves our capacity as we work to reconcile and rehouse our collections in preparation for moving the collection and opening our reading room in the Trudeau Building.

The new system is also available to the public online. It offers an improved user interface and easier searching! Newsletter subscribers are getting a sneak peek before the system is announced to the public.

Head to historicsaranaclake.org/collections or scan the QR code, at right. We already have more than 3,000 items in the system, and more are being added every day. Have a question about the new system? Email us at mail@historicsaranaclake.org.



New to the Collection



- Felt pennant from 1937 Veterans of Foreign Wars encampment at Saranac Lake. Gift in Memory of Ben Johnson.
- Ice harvesting pole retrieved from the bottom of Moody Pond. Gift of the Friends of Moody Pond.
- A growing collection of jewelry sold at Temming Art Studio. Gift of Ann Pecora Diamond.
- McClellan Family materials, including photographs by Katherine McClellan. Gift of Michael G. Wilmes in memory of Spencer McClellan Jewell, Jr.
- Photographs printed at Koller's Kodak Shop. Gift of Gus Dueben.



A Busy Fall & Winter



Special Events

It's been a very busy fall and winter! In October, we hosted a screening of our new introductory film created by Jordan Craig and featuring David Fadden and Ann Greene. Later that month, we hosted a special Halloween event, "Historic Scare-anac Lake" exploring the spooky side of local history. In December, we hosted our second "Chapel Lights" celebration at Baker Chapel. Special thanks to our sponsors: Bishop Beaudry Construction, a gift In Memory of Jane and Walt Webb, Ona Allen, Absolutely Adirondacks, Joan and Bill Grabe, Blue Moon Home Builders, Hudson Headwaters Health Network, Hyde Fuel, Landmark Consulting, North Woods Engineering, and Moody Tree Farm.

School Groups

Alex Krach has been busy leading programs for students of all ages! This fall, we led tours for students from the Clarkson University Occupational Therapy program, the Ogdensburg BOCES New Visions Program, the Wanakena Ranger School, and the University of Albany School of Public Health, (pictured above). We also hosted history tours of downtown and Pine Ridge Cemetery with Saranac Lake fifth graders.

Special Presentations

Recent presentations at the museum included a talk by Dr. Angelo Izzo on TB and several online presentations about the Trudeau Building project and historic preservation tax credits. Our fall Annual Meeting featured a talk by Amy Godine about her new book, *The Black Woods*.

Winter Carnival

Winter Carnival was busy with presentations to Petrova & Bloomingdale students, Cure Porch on Wheels activities at the Ice Palace, a Historic Scare-anac Lake museum event, ghost stories of Saranac Lake with Carolyn Greenberg, and button making at the museum.

Special Visitors



Ross Trudeau visited the museum and took this photo with four generations of the Trudeau family.



The Hotel Saranac is a key partner in the museum expansion. We enjoyed a recent visit with Fred B. Trudeau & his son, Fred Roedel

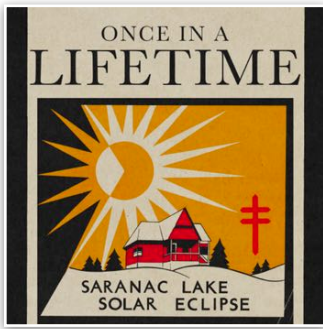


Dorothy and Jay Federman visited the Trudeau Building and posed with the restored windows they helped save.



Lydia Francis helped lead Historic Scare-anac Lake activities and rode in the parade! Thank you, Lydia!

Upcoming Events



Solar Eclipse Saturday, April 6 & Monday, April 8

Join us Saturday for family activities. Come back on Monday for the Total Solar Eclipse! Purchase this beautiful limited edition poster designed by Alex Krach, available in the museum store or on our website at www.historicsaranaclake.org



Museum Day Saturday, May 18

Free admission all day to celebrate International Museum Day! Join us for the reopening of the Cure Porch on Wheels, family activities, local treats, and more!



Exhibit Opening & Member Party Thursday, June 27

Members of Historic Saranac Lake are invited to a special reception to celebrate the opening of our new "North Country Neighbors" exhibit. Stay tuned for more information.

Mark Your Calendars!

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Thursday, May 9 | National Register Informational Meeting |
| Wednesday, June 26 | Trivia Night at Hotel Saranac |
| Monday, July 22 | Concert by Paul Meyers & Sebastian Buhts |
| Thursday, August 1 | Manuel Quezon History Day |
| Sunday, August 4 | Upper Saranac Lake Great Camp Tour |

Visit our [Events page](#) for details and to purchase tickets. Our spring & summer tour schedule will be announced soon! Visit the former Trudeau Sanatorium, Little Red & the Trudeau Statue, historic downtown, and the Bartók Cabin.

Oral History Project

We'll be starting up our Oral History project once again! If you're interested in helping with the project, let us know! In the meantime, visit www.hslstories.org for past recordings and additional information.

Blue Star Museums

We're once again partnering with the National Endowment for the Arts and Blue Star Families to offer free admission to the nation's active-duty military personnel and their families starting May 18.

Upcoming Exhibit: North Country Neighbors



The people who call the Saranac Lake area home are as varied as the landscapes and hamlets spread throughout the region. This spring, we will unveil a new exhibit, "North Country Neighbors." Come visit with present-day neighbors shaping their communities through traditional arts, crafts, and work.

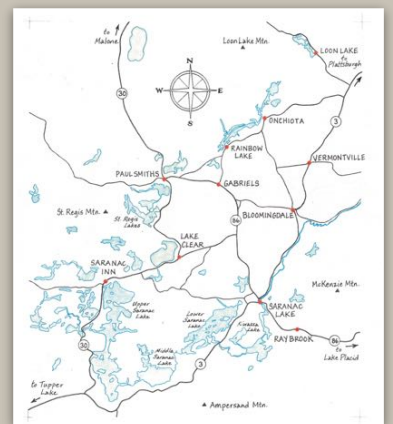


Photo of Tom Bartiss by Jordan Craig.
Map by Nancy Bernstein.

The Museum Expansion

(continued from page one)

Major progress has been made with masonry repairs, installing the elevator shaft, electrical, plumbing, and much more. Contractors have uncovered various artifacts that help tell the building's history. Pictured right is a beer bottle, recently found in the parlor ceiling. Pieces of dinnerware were found in the rubble under the front foundation. We suspect they might have been there since Trudeau's first home burned to the ground in 1894.



Dedicate a Paver!

There is still time to dedicate a paver at the new museum campus. To date, we have over 90 pavers dedicated. Visit the order form at www.historicsaranaclake.org/pavers to place your order for a 4x8 or 8x8 paver today!

Indigenous Exhibits

An Action Grant from Humanities NY is supporting a consultancy with Dave Kanietakeron Fadden to design exhibits that will introduce museum visitors to Indigenous history and culture in the region. (Rendering at right). We are thrilled with this collaboration with the Six Nations Iroquois Cultural Center, which is also undertaking a major expansion.



Special Thanks

During construction this winter, we noticed a water leak in the lot behind the laboratory. MJ Raymond was quickly on the scene to make the repair, and they let us know it was a donation to help the museum project! Thank you, MJ Raymond!



The Three Pillars Campaign



Phase one of the capital campaign for museum expansion is complete, with \$5.5 million raised for acquisition, design, construction, and exhibit planning. Phase two will build on this astonishing success. The Three Pillars Campaign will raise \$3 million to ensure the excellence, accessibility, and longevity of the museum campus.

- ◆ EXCELLENCE — \$1 million will install professional exhibits for the integrated museum campus.
- ◆ ACCESSIBILITY — \$1 million will build the handicap lift addition at the Saranac Laboratory.
- ◆ LONGEVITY — \$1 million will grow HSL's endowment fund at Adirondack Foundation to preserve the past for the future.

The campaign is off to a great start with generous lead gifts secured. Stay tuned for more news coming soon, and feel free to contact us with any questions or ideas!

Thank You, Members!

Your membership is good for 12 months from the date of donation and entitles you to member benefits! Memberships are distinct from our end-of-year annual fund or special fund drives. To renew your membership or to join us, use the form on the back of this newsletter or stay tuned for our summer membership mailing.

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If you made a recent donation that you would like to re-classify as a membership, we are happy to do so. We make every effort to ensure our lists are accurate. If your name is missing, we apologize profusely and will make a correction in our next publication. We look forward to thanking Annual Fund supporters and other donors in our Fall Annual Report. Thank you!

HISTORIC SARANAC LAKE

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- Family: \$65 Individual: \$35 Business: \$125
- Nonprofit: \$35



Members at the Historian level and above receive a new member gift —
special notecards designed by Alex Krach (image above).
All members can opt in to receive our new Newsletter for Kids!