

# HISTORIC SARANAC LAKE

*at the Saranac Laboratory Museum*



## Season Opening July 1



To commemorate the 100 year anniversary of the start of the first World War, we will reinstall the exhibit, "The Great War: World War I in Saranac Lake." Members will be invited to a July 1 reception. We will also unveil new exhibit items including the original manuscript of the Trudeau Autobiography, outdoor panels telling the history of laboratory animal science at Trudeau, and a new section of the patient memorial wall.

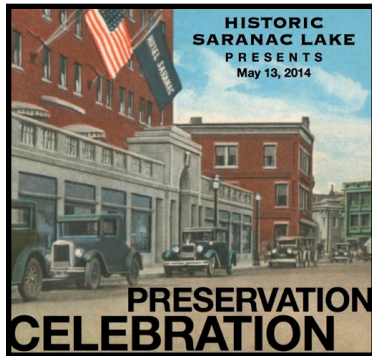
*Photo: John Baxter Black, courtesy of John Black II.*

## Upcoming Trudeau Book



First subscribers for the new Trudeau biography gathered for a book launch party last fall at Trudeau Institute. Author Mary Hotaling unwrapped the original manuscript for Trudeau's *Autobiography*. The new book, titled *A Rare Romance in Medicine*, will be released in 2015. Early subscriptions and lead donors have raised over \$17,000 toward the \$41,000 goal to produce the book. Please use the card on the back of this newsletter to pre-order your copy and support the project!

## Preservation Celebration Scheduled for May 13



In May, HSL will host a day-long forum on architectural preservation featuring two workshops and a tour of the Hotel Saranac restoration project. Jack Alvarez of Landmark Consulting, LLC will lead a morning session on window restoration, giving a how-to demonstration and explaining why restoring wood windows is the energy efficient, environmentally sustainable, and economically sound choice. In the afternoon, Murray Gould of Port City Preservation LLC will present a session titled "Reviving Main Street." Mr. Gould will describe funding sources and strategies for downtown

restoration, with a focus on the commercial rehabilitation tax credit. The final program is a hard hat tour of the Hotel Saranac led by Kim Alvarez of Landmark Consulting. Ms. Alvarez has been working with Roedel Companies to nominate the hotel to the National Register of Historic Places and to define the restoration plan. Ms. Alvarez will share history about the hotel and details about the restoration. Admission to each workshop session is \$5. The window workshop is free to contractors. The hotel tour is free of charge but open only to attendees of one or both workshops. Space is limited and reservations must be made by calling HSL at 518-891-4606.

### Coming Events

- ◆ May 1: Daffest Walking Tour to the Bartok Cabin
- ◆ Thursdays in May: History Matters Speaker Series
- ◆ May 13: "Preservation Celebration" workshops and tour of Hotel Saranac
- ◆ July 1: Season Opening: "WWI in Saranac Lake."
- ◆ September 14: Reception & Tours at White Pine Camp

See page 3 for more information. Visit [www.historicsaranaclake.org](http://www.historicsaranaclake.org) for a complete schedule of events & weekly Thursday tours, June-Columbus Day.

### Our Mission

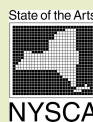
Historic Saranac Lake is a not-for-profit architectural preservation organization that captures and presents local history from our center at the Saranac Laboratory Museum.

### Board of Directors

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### Staff

Amy Catania, Executive Director  
Todd Bailey, Museum Coordinator



Made possible in part by the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency

# WINTER HAPPENINGS

## ARTIST GUILD SHOW



In February, the Adirondack Artists' Guild hosted "My Kinda Town," a benefit show for HSL, with works created by the gallery's thirteen members. HSL received 75% of the proceeds from the silent auction -- almost \$1,800! Thank you to the artists and everyone who purchased one of the lovely pieces.

## WINTER CARNIVAL FUN



This year's Celtic winter carnival theme inspired a float with Trudeau Institute celebrating Saranac Lake's history of curling and the many doctors and scientists who played the sport. Thank you to all the volunteers that came together to recreate curling at Pontiac Bay, to Pendragon Theatre for helping with costumes, and especially to driver extraordinaire, Earl Gardner.

## PBS AMERICAN EXPERIENCE FILM

A new documentary on TB is being produced by the PBS history series, *American Experience*. The film's examination of the disease and its societal impact in the U.S. will include Dr. Trudeau's work in Saranac Lake. Filming began in March in Saranac Lake, with interviews of Mary Hotaling and Dr. Andrea Cooper. Stay tuned for news about the broadcast premiere.

## ORAL HISTORY PROJECT



This fall, Prof. Eric Holmlund's Paul Smith's College students conducted oral history interviews. In the spring, seniors will conduct interviews for their capstone projects with Prof. Joe Dadey. Interviews will be posted online. HSL continues to write "Living History" columns for the *Adirondack Daily Enterprise*.

## SPECIAL VISITS



HSL hosted many notable visitors this past fall and winter. Pictured are special guests from Canada, author Martha Brooks with Brian Jeanes, left, and Dr. Bill Jeanes. We met with poet Anne Kaier, who shared her mother's diary from her time curing. We gave a tour to Fred Roedel, the new owner of the Hotel Saranac. Fred's grandparents cured in Saranac Lake and have bricks dedicated to them at the Saranac Laboratory.

## NATIONAL REGISTER

Our consultants at AARCH are working to nominate Helen Hill as a National Register District. We expect the project to be completed in the very near future. Supported by a Preserve NY grant, the project will make the Preservation Tax Credit available to homeowners to support rehabilitation of their properties. Call HSL for more information.

## SCHOOL OUTREACH



In February, HSL presented a slideshow on winter carnival history to Bloomingdale and Petrova Elementary 5th graders. We look forward to making this a regular part of our school outreach. This winter we hosted a tour for Prof. Jamie Savage's students from the Wanakena Ranger's School. In the spring we led the third annual photo and drama project in collaboration with Pendragon Theatre, Mark Kurtz, and Liza Frenette, reaching 115 area 7th graders. We look forward to a visit from Tupper Lake 5th graders in May.

## EXHIBIT: "WWII HOLDOUTS"

In April, Museum Coordinator Todd Bailey mounted a fascinating John Black Room exhibition entitled, "Japanese Holdouts of WWII: Honor, Culture or Self Preservation." The exhibit of photos, artifacts and stories was the culminating project of Todd's master's program in museum studies.

## RECENT GRANTS RECEIVED

### Education Program:

Stewart's Shops, Knox Family Foundation, New York State Council on the Arts, The Ralph Kelley Fund established by Kay and Marvin Best, J. M. McDonald Foundation

### Museum Exhibits:

New York Humanities Council, Peck Stacpoole Foundation

### Other projects / general operations:

Exxon Mobil Foundation, UBS Matching Gift Fund, Johnson & Johnson Matching Gift, The Evergreen Fund at the Adirondack Foundation, Essex County Arts Council, New York State Council on the Arts

## UPCOMING EVENTS & PROJECTS



### HISTORY MATTERS SPEAKER SERIES

In May we will host our third annual "History Matters" free speaker series four Thursdays in May at 7pm in the John Black Room. Scheduled talks are:

**May 8:** "World War I: 100 Years Later" Brian Mann of North Country Public Radio will lead a discussion, a lead-in to the reopening of our WWI exhibit on July 1.

**May 15:** "Images of America: Saranac Lake" Neil Surprenant will conduct a book signing and new presentation of images from his book.

**May 22:** "Frankenstein Lives! The Continuing Relevance of Mary Shelley's Novel" by Dr. Tim Madigan, Associate Professor of Philosophy, St. John Fisher College. A lead-in to the 2015 "Medical Marvels" exhibit, the talk explores our ongoing fascination with the mysteries of scientific invention.

**May 29:** "The American Arts and Crafts Movement in New York State" by Dr. Bruce Austin, Chairman and Professor of Communication at Rochester Institute of Technology. The talk is hosted in collaboration with the Lake Placid-North Elba Historical Society.

*The last 2 programs are made possible through the support of the NY Council for the Humanities' Speakers in the Humanities program. Center Arts and Crafts photo by A. Sue Weisler: Frederick Walrath, ceramic candlesticks, c. 1911; Mechanics Institute student vase, c. 1915.*

### HISTORIC SITES ON SMARTPHONE

HSL is assisting Stacey Allott of Geomatics Land Surveying with a project of the Local Development Corporation to make information about area sites available on smartphones. A new application based on GIS technology will allow visitors to find out about local sites of interest including historic sites throughout the village.

### PATIENT MEMORIAL WALL

Soon we will unveil a newly revamped patient memorial wall at the laboratory museum. Since the memorial wall was created, almost 100 bricks have been dedicated to patients who cured in Saranac Lake. Funds have supported lab cabinet replicas and building repairs. With the main section of the wall filled, we are opening the surrounding areas for patient names. Donations of \$100 are now being accepted for new brick dedications. A new informational brochure will be available soon.



### 2015 EXHIBIT: "MEDICAL MARVELS"

Work has begun on a new exhibit in collaboration with the Ripley's Museum and the Dittrick Medical History Center of Case Western Reserve University. A New York Council on the Humanities grant will support consultation with Dittrick Chief Curator, James Edmonson, Ph.D. and design and exhibit planning assistance of Karen Davidson of Davidson Designs. Peter MacIntyre, an HSL member who recently retired from the Ripley's Museum, helped to arrange the loan of 25 artifacts from the Ripley's Museum.

*Pictured above: headache skullcap, courtesy of the Ripley's Museum.*

### WHITE PINE CAMP RECEPTION AND TOURS

On Sunday, September 14, from 2:00-5:30pm, the public is invited to take a guided tour of President Coolidge's summer home and to enjoy a wine reception featuring foods that were favorites of many presidents. Tickets, on sale now, are \$20/person to support HSL and White Pine Camp. Space is limited. Contact HSL to purchase tickets.

### SUMMER BARTOK CONCERTS

Our friends at Cobble Spring Farm are thinking ahead to the summer and considering possibilities for concerts. We will keep you informed with a postcard as decisions are made, and please stay tuned to our website for news!

### UPDATE ON RAILROAD CORRIDOR: The Trails and Rails Solution

The Trails and Rails Action Committee (TRAC) is a group supporting implementation of a rail with trail plan for the Adirondack Railroad, as outlined in the State's adopted 1996 Unit Management Plan. The goal is to establish a Park wide community-based trail system with the rails in place. TRAC has surveyed and designed prototype rail-with-trail cross sections and other aspects of a combined system. The approach aligns with New York's forward-looking policy of recognizing the value of existing infrastructure systems, and the need to build on them rather than demolish them. The HSL Board of Directors has stated its support for the preservation of the Adirondack Remsen to Lake Placid Railroad Corridor as a National Register resource. Documented contributing features of this designation include the rails, rail bed, buildings, and the equipment along the line. The board supports TRAC's positive solution to the current debate.

### Please Join Us

Your contribution helps preserve our history for the future. Thank you!

#### MEMBERSHIP

Become a member of Historic Saranac Lake or renew your membership at one of these levels:

- Benefactor: \$1,000 or more
- Patron: \$500 or more
- Friend: \$250 or more
- Historian: \$100 or more
- Family: \$50 or more
- Individual: \$35
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

#### ENDOWMENT

I would like to learn more about making a gift to the Historic Saranac Lake fund at the Adirondack Community Trust

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

Make your check payable to Historic Saranac Lake or donate by credit card:

- Visa  M/C  AMEX  Discover

Card No. \_\_\_\_\_

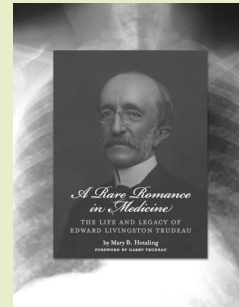
Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ security code \_ \_ \_ \_

Name as appears on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

You may also give online at <http://www.historicsaranaclake.org/donate>

#### BOOK SUBSCRIPTION



\$100 Book Subscription (preorders one copy of the limited edition book)

Other donation to support the book project: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for volunteers to help as museum docents, tour guides, event planners, history researchers, office support staff, and more!

Please contact me about volunteer opportunities.



**Historic Saranac Lake is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Dues and other contributions are tax deductible as provided by law.**

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