

THE VILLAGE PRESERVATION SOCIETY OF EAST HAMPTON

the Village
Preservation
Society of East Hampton

FALL NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2012

JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS!

SAVE the DATE! – October 13, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. at the Donald J. Bruckmann lecture room at the Nature Conservancy, Rt 114, East Hampton. The meeting will feature Village Historian, Hugh King, who will recount the story of the latest VPS grants project (see pg. 2). Please rsvp to 631-324-3524 or Kathy@VillagePreservationSociety.org.

VPS 30TH ANNIVERSARY FÊTE - HUGE SUCCESS!

It was a perfect summer's evening for the VPS cocktail party celebrating 30 years of service to the East Hampton community. Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, most of which were prepared by individual Board members, were served at the Tennis House. Trustee Wilson Stone played popular piano favorites for the over 250 guests assembled for the event. Large photos of some milestone VPS restoration projects over the years provided visual reminders of the Society's work. Mayor Rickenbach and the entire Village Board presented VPS Board Chair, Andy Goldstein with a plaque commemorating the Society's service to the Village. A wonderful time was had by all!



Photo credit Kathleen Cunningham



Pictured above and below left, members and guests enjoying the VPS 30th Anniversary Party at the Tennis House.

Photo credit Kathleen Cunningham

A FOUNDER'S REFLECTIONS - THE FIRST 30 YEARS

The Society began on May 8, 1982 at the home of Mr. F. Lawrence Wilkinson with John Kiser and Suzanne and John Cartier. Other early founders were Lionel S. Jackson, Averill Geus, Richard Hare, Joan Osborne, Lawrence Munson, Robert Loughead, Lyn Chase, Don Bruckmann and Edward Gorman. We were compelled by an announcement that the Village planned to purchase the 6-acre Gardiner Brown property to increase the central Village parking area. We fought this concept with a lawsuit, a march on Village hall, as well as a public campaign led by Suzanne Cartier, Gretchen Munson and Phyllis Wilkinson collecting 1400 signatures on a petition decrying this plan. Through much hard work and negotiation, the VPS brokered the sale of the Gardiner Brown House to the Ladies Village Improvement Society (LVIS) making this historic building its permanent home. A small parcel abutting the Gardiner Brown property was

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Please enroll me as a member of The Village Preservation Society of East Hampton for the Membership Year from January 1, 2013 - December 31, 2013.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail address: _____

Number of Members in this Membership (please circle one) 1 2 3

Other _____

For year round Newsletters and information, please print winter address

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Contributors of \$1000.00 will be listed as **Benefactor**
\$ 500.00 will be listed as **Patron**
\$ 250.00 will be listed as **Supporting Member**
\$ 100.00 will be listed as **Friend**
Regular Membership (\$50) _____

I would like to be active. My special interests are: _____

I (We) support VPS principles but do not wish to be listed as a member.

Enclosed is a contribution of \$ _____

VILLAGE ISSUES

REFLECTION, cont.

converted to parking as a compromise. These results galvanized the community giving the VPS great support among Village residents. Our next achievement was working with the Village to purchase the Beecher House to use as Village offices. This, too, was very successful and these two historic homesteads anchor both sides of Main Street at the edges of the Historic District.

The 30-year time period has gone by very quickly. My wife and I are still active with the VPS and see its mission of protecting historic structures, quality of life and the neighborhood character of the Village as more important than ever.

– by John G. Cartier



Photo credit Kyril Bromley

HOME SWEET HOME: A JAPANESE PERSPECTIVE

This year, the Grants Committee project was to fund a translation from Japanese to English of a book about Home Sweet Home written by T. Nishida, a Japanese scholar and author after his visit to the United States before WWII. Miyuki Shibasaki, a teacher's assistant in Montauk, worked on the translation this summer. While in the US, Mr. Nishida made a special effort to visit Home Sweet Home because, as a child, his mother often sang this song to lull him to sleep. This spring, his daughter, Toshiko, visited Home Sweet Home with her husband and was greeted by Mayor Rickenbach, Village Historian Hugh King and VPS Executive Director, Kathleen Cunningham. It was a very touching experience for all involved and we look forward to sharing what Mr. Nishida had to say about this beloved and well preserved East Hampton Village landmark. The book will be available for viewing at the Annual Meeting on October 13, 2012.

AIRCRAFT NOISE FORUM

An informational session on the impacts and effects of aircraft noise on human health, planning and public policy was presented on Thursday, August 9th at the Emergency Services Building on Cedar Street to over 50 participants. A panel discussion was held, moderated by VPS Chair Andy Goldstein. Panelists included Councilwoman Theresa Quigley representing the perspective and noise abatement initiatives to date of the Town of East Hampton, Dr. Bonnie Schnitta, acoustician and proprietor of East Hampton based SoundSense, a noise mitigation company, Bob DeLuca, President of the Group for the East End and VPS Board member and renowned planner, Peter Wolf. Discussion included: the serious health impacts of aircraft noise disturbances, particularly during sleep periods; the Town's attempts to mitigate noise; potential options for stakeholder participation including all perspectives as an approach to airport management; and placing the actual toll aircraft noise puts on the community more properly on airport users.

As Village residents experience more and more aircraft noise impacts, the Society will continue to monitor and participate in this important quality of life issue. The VPS continues to support the efforts of the Quiet Skies Coalition to insist the Town Board place a moratorium on accepting any further FAA funding which will again surrender the Town's right to limit access to the airport by entering into another 20 year contract with the FAA. Limiting access is the only true noise mitigation tool and that opportunity will become available to the Town on December 31, 2014, if it makes no further contract for funding (grants) from the FAA.



Photo credit Kathleen Cunningham

Please join our team! Keep your membership up to date! Stay current with all the news from the VPS via our newsletter and website!

We look forward to seeing you on October 13th.

631-324-3524

www.villagepreservationsociety.org