



Telling the Story of Our City's Rich Ethnic & Industrial Heritage As a City Located on the Historic Erie Canal & Mighty Niagara River

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NORTH TONAWANDA HISTORY MUSEUM

ANNUAL REPORT

JUNE 2008

For the year 2007

Issued

**4th Annual Dinner & Meeting
June 19, 2008 – PANE'S RESTAURANT**

ENTERING OUR FIFTH YEAR

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE HELPED US TO
GET ESTABLISHED, DEVELOP, AND PREPARE FOR
THE "FUTURE OF OUR PAST":
THE LUMBER CITY HISTORY CENTER & GATEWAY CITIES WELCOME CENTER!!!!**

Accomplishments of the North Tonawanda History Museum September 2003 through April 2008

Our accomplishments since September 10, 2003, have been our response to requests from the community, students and teachers, and those participating in Museum activities, presenting or creating programming to fulfill the existing needs and desires of our local community for historical programming and increasing access to local history in usable form.

1. Established the legal format and initial operating procedures and job descriptions for necessary eventual paid staff, filling them totally with volunteers under the direction of an originally-intended full-time volunteer Director.
2. Established an Advisory Committee of community leaders, almost all of whom have remained active in that role since October 2003, many putting in more time in providing advice to the volunteer Director in the museum development than actual members of the Board of Trustees. Most of these individuals are committed to multiple community organizations and municipal organizations, lacking sufficient free time to commit to the role of Trustee. Their advice and support from the beginning has been a key to our solid growth and development as a new organization seeking to fill existing needs rather than to duplicate existing services.
3. Enthusiastic response from the public and people around the world has encouraged the volunteer Director to put in more than double time continuously since September 10, 2003; and an original volunteer staff and technological assistant who became a full-time volunteer webmaster in February 2005.
4. North Tonawanda History Museum On-line at www.nthistorymuseum.org, was established on October 15, 2003, in response to early suggestions. Reaches interested individuals around the world and providing students and others with a valuable resource on local history available 24/7. Has had hundreds of thousands of visits during its existence, many regular visitors who no longer live in the area and many who do not read local newspapers, whose only contact with us is our newsletter and our online museum.
5. Recruited and trained part-time volunteer administrative and museum staff, replacing them as necessary due to turnover; recruited, trained, and supervised hundreds of volunteers for general purposes and events during this period. The volunteers under the direction of the volunteer Director have researched and studied and then put into action the results of their research and studies in creating our operating format, hampered only by our lack of adequate facilities in which to operate.
6. Initiated programs, events, and activities in response to suggestions and requests from the community, educators, and former residents.
7. Received a Provisional Charter from the Regents of the State University of New York on April 20, 2004, and our 501(c)(3) retroactive to that date in 2004.
8. Operated from the home of the volunteer Director until summer 2004 when a member donated the use of facilities in a vacant storefront at 314 Oliver Street, assuming the heat and electric expenses. Recruited and supervised volunteers in the cleaning, repairing, and painting of the facilities.
9. Purchased computer system and other necessary equipment and PastPerfect Software in 2004 with a grant from Senator George D. Maziarz. Installed a telephone and DSL service in December 2004 after having used the volunteer Director's phone and internet service to that point. Continue using webmaster donated AOL service and online museum is maintained and updated on his personal equipment.
10. Began accepting donations of items for the collections in November 2004. Facilitated offsite storage for larger collections and items and furnishings and equipment as needed from November 2004 to the present.
11. Went from operating in donated facilities to being rent-paying tenants on the sale of the property at 314 Oliver Street as of September 1, 2005. Received a grant from Senator George D. Maziarz to assist with occupancy expenses in our development phase. Transitioned by spring of 2006 to raising all operating expenses. Have had over 4,500 visitors since December 2004 in spite of size (500 square feet of usable space), inadequate parking, and poor location. Jessica Johnson of the Amherst Museum visited us to present de-accessioned items in the fall of 2006 and commented, "I can't believe you are accomplishing all you are doing from HERE!"
12. Endured a major crisis in 2006, created by the lack of facilities requiring many events to be planned in donated use or free facilities. Inclement weather during a weekend event in July 2006 and a planned 3-week event in October, both intended to be educational and cultural events with fundraising potential, created financial losses, due mainly to having done our first paid advertising of significance for those events.
13. Additional crisis developed in the latter half of 2006 with the pending and eventual sale of a school district owned building in which we had been storing collections items and other museum possessions since 2004.

14. Collections – Although our inadequate facilities limit our ability to properly showcase our growing collections, a reality that has led to our focusing on taking the history out to the people through the online museum, in publications, and through our events in the community, our collections have grown, in spite of not officially having asked people for their donations yet, to the point where a CAP (Conservation Assessment Program) grant was requested and granted in 2006, providing us with a CAP report of importance to our future plans for the creation of the ideal collections storage facilities in a permanent museum home. Our collections include a tremendous variety of types of items, including but not limited to:

1. Artifacts
 - i. Furniture and appliances
 - ii. Manufacturing memorabilia
 - iii. Lumber related memorabilia
 - iv. Antique toys
 - v. Ceramic, glass, plastic, metal, wooden items of all kinds
 - vi. Other
2. Textiles and related materials
 - i. Cotton
 - ii. Silk
 - iii. Rayon
 - iv. Nylon
 - v. Leather
 - vi. Furs
 - vii. Beaded items
 - viii. Quilts and lace
 - ix. Other
3. Books and other printed materials
 - i. Local histories from the past
 - ii. City Directories
 - iii. School yearbooks and other publications
 - iv. Reference books, biographies, autobiographies
 - v. Religious books and Bibles from the 1800s in various languages
 - vi. Other
4. Archival materials
 - i. Newspapers and newspaper clippings
 - ii. Magazine and other industrial advertising
 - iii. Maps
 - iv. Blueprints and other drawings
 - v. Catalogs of businesses
 - vi. Church histories
 - vii. Baptismal, confirmation, high school graduation, and recognition certificates
 - viii. Family genealogical histories
 - ix. Property searches and historical deeds and other records
 - x. Posters
 - xi. Other
5. Photographs
 - i. Of various types of photographic methods from early 1800s to present
 1. Black and white and color
 2. Framed and mounted and unframed and unmounted
 3. Mounted in scrapbooks
 4. Individual and groups
 5. Postcards
 - ii. Digital

6. Digital materials, stored on
 - i. Online museum collection
 - ii. CDs
 - iii. DVDs
 - iv. Museum computers
7. Audio-recorded materials
 - i. Records, 45s, 78s, 33-1/3s
 - ii. Audio tapes
8. Video-recorded materials
 - i. VHS tapes
 - ii. Older version films
 - iii. Mini-cassettes (camcorder)
 - iv. CDs
 - v. DVDs

15. Publications:

1. "North Tonawanda Ethnic Heritage Cookbook" – January 2005
2. 1st Annual Report – June 2005
3. "Historic Gardens Tour" guide – June 2005
4. "Historic Treasures Tour" guidebook – August 2005
5. "North Tonawanda: The First 100 Years – 1797 – 1897" – April 2006
6. "North Tonawanda: The Lumber City – a self-guided walking/driving tour" – May 2006 – produced with a \$5,000 grant from the New York Council for the Humanities
7. "The Rand Family Left a Lasting Imprint on North Tonawanda and the World" – May 2006
8. "Historic Gardens Tour" guidebook – June 2006
9. Annual Report 2006 – The First Two Years – June 2006
10. "North Tonawanda: A Celebration of Our Diversity!" – October 2006
11. "Historic Gardens Tour 2007" guidebook
12. "Historic Treasures Tour 2007" guidebook
13. Annual Report 2007
14. "North Tonawanda Families & Their Favorite Recipes"
15. "North Tonawanda: The Lumber City" (a 428-page hardcover book, September 28, 2007)
16. "North Tonawanda Sweet Treasures" (December 2007)
17. Newsletters – March, September, and December annually; mailing list grew from 79 in September 2003 to 2,330 in March 2007, 3,800 in September 2007.
18. "Remembering Yesteryear" weekly column in Tonawanda News, begun March 29, 2004, through December 3, 2007
 - i. Reprints of columns in other publications:
 1. "Growing Up Polish in North Tonawanda" by Steve Litwin, April 12, 2004, column, reprinted in Polish-American Journal in July 2004 issue
 2. "NT's Polish community played role in Haller's Army: Three from North Tonawanda who made a difference in World War I" December 11, 2006, column, reprinted in Polonez, a national Polish Canadian publication out of Toronto in 2007

16. Programming and Activities

1. Regular Programming Established -History Nights or Events
 In donated or rented facilities due to our own lack of facilities:
 October 2003 to March 2003 – Buffalo Suzuki Strings Musical Arts Center
 April 2004 to December 2005 – DeGraff Community Center
 2004, 2005, 2006 – 16 weeks of history walks on city streets each year
 July 2005 – Pine Woods Park; October 2005 – North Tonawanda Botanical Gardens
 January 2006 to December 2006 – North Tonawanda Senior Center
 July 2006 – Gratwick-Riverside Park; October 2006 – North Tonawanda Botanical Gardens

- October 2006 – Sportsplex Family Entertainment Complex (rented)
 February 2007 – Riviera Theater (rented)
 February 2007 to continuing – DeGraff Community Center – Board meeting location
 April 2007 – Elks Lodge #860, September through December 2007 – Sutherland Lodge.
 2006, 2007 – monthly programs at DeGraff Skilled Nursing Facility, Northgate Healthcare, and
 Alterra Sterling House, occasional programs at DeGraff Adult Day Care.
 2007 – monthly programs at the Elks Lodge and Sutherland Lodge
2. Ethnic Heritage Programs
 October 2004 - Polish, March 2005 - Irish, October 2005 – Polish, March 2006 – German;
 October events are part of State Humanities Month focus; February 2007 – “Simple Gifts”
 ethnic folk music concert; October 2008 – Italian American
 Ethnic Christmas – December 2004 – Polish; December 2005 – Italian; December 2006 – German;
 December 2006 – Polish; December 2007 – Dutch. December 2008 – Celtic
 3. Industrial Heritage Programs
 February 2006 – Ascension Industries factory tour; September 2006 – Richardson Boat Co. presentation;
 February 2008 – Wurlitzer pipe organ program at the former Wurlitzer factory
 4. Military Heritage Programs
 November 2004 – WWII and Haller’s Army/WWI; November 2005 – WWII and War of 1812;
 November 2006 – Safe Haven/WWII
 5. North Tonawanda’s Birthday Party celebrations
 April 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007 - also celebrates appropriate anniversaries of businesses and organizations
 and the Museum’s anniversary; 2007 celebrated 150 years of shared history with the Towns of
 Wheatfield and Tonawanda and the City of Tonawanda; 2008 – celebrated Niagara County Bicentennial,
 Town of Cambria Bicentennial, Town of Wheatfield 132nd, City of North Tonawanda’s 111th anniversary
 6. Preservation Month Bus Tours
 Annual bus tour in May since 2004 – of regional historical sites and museums, in 2005 presented alone to
 Niagara County Historical Society campus in Lockport; in 2006 presented in collaboration with
 Historical Society of North German Settlements in Western New York (HSNGS) and the Sanborn Area
 Historical Society (SAHS), touring Holland Land Office Museum in Batavia and LeRoy House and Jello
 Gallery in Leroy; in 2007 presented in collaboration with HSNGS, SAHS, and the Historical Association
 of Lewiston, touring the Cobblestone Museum in Childs and the Medina Railroad Museum.; 2008 along
 Niagara Historic Trail: Erie Canal Discovery Center and First Presbyterian Church windows tours in
 Lockport; Basket Factory restaurant in Middleport; The Winery at Marjim Manor in Appleton; Hrovoll
 House in Newfane.
 7. Historic Treasures Tour – bi-annual all-day tour of historic homes and sites since 2005
 8. Historic Treasures Recognition Program – a cast bronze plaque program has been developed for
 recognizing properties of historical significance – initiated in 2006.
 9. History Walks – guided 90-minute walks, for individuals, groups, or as field trips – begun in 2004
 10. Historic Gardens Contest & Tour – annual 2-1/2 month tour and contest 2005 – 2007; 2-day tour 2008
 11. Ethnic Heritage Festival – bi-annual all-day festival since 2006
 Included over 650 participants, and Service learning projects (2) developed with Buffalo State College
 Sociology Dept. under Dr. Amitra Hodge, and community service project developed with North
 Tonawanda High School Academy of International Studies
 12. Haunted Gardens on the EEEEErie Canal

Annual 3-week October program since 2005 combining history and Halloween in a format created to provide community service and other volunteer service opportunities for high school, middle school, elementary school, and college students; also includes adult volunteers. We've been told by youth group leaders that we are the only organization offering such a project in this part of the state.

13. Annual Dinner & Meeting

June 2005 in the Elks Lodge #860 ballroom
June 2006 in the Hiway Grill Banquet Room
June 2007 at Pane's Restaurant Banquet Room
June 2008 at Pane's Restaurant Banquet Room

14. Senior Citizen programming - monthly programs at

Alterra Sterling House assisted living center in Wheatfield
DeGraff Skilled Nursing Facility
Northgate Healthcare Center in Wheatfield
Occasional programs at DeGraff Adult Day Care Center

15. Other Programming Established

✓ History Weekend July 2006 in Gratwick-Riverside Park

to be further developed and repeated regularly in the future once we are in a permanent facility

✓ Other events:

- Open House at 314 Oliver – Winter Walk December 2004, 2005
- Open House at 314 Oliver Street – Doors Open Niagara 2005, 2006
- Open House at 314 Oliver Street – Canal Fest Week 2005
- May 15, 2004 – participated with RealtyUSA in an open house of a historic home
- May 22, 2004 – presented an all-day antique appraisal, auction, and concert in the Buffalo Suzuki Strings Musical Arts Center
- October 2005 – presented a concert on multiculturalism in the DeGraff Community Center
- February 19, 2007 – presented an ethnic folk music concert in the Riviera Theater.
- Polish Dozynski (Harvest) Festival – Lancaster - 2005
- Annual participation in
 - Winter Walk of the Tonawandas – 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, and part of its planning committee 2005, 2006, 2007
 - Canal Fest of the Tonawandas 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007
 - Community Fair at Tonawanda High School – 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008
 - Annual Boy Scout Jamboree – 2006
 - Oliver Street Art Show – August 2005, April 2006, August 2006
 - Antique & Classic Boat Society annual show at Buffalo Launch Club – 2005, 2006, 2007
 - September exhibit at North Tonawanda Public Library – 2005, 2006, 2007

16. Museum Director and members of Museum helped City create a local historic preservation ordinance, leading to the establishment of a historic preservation commission. Museum Director and Trustee Neal served on Commission August 2005 to January 2008; Trustee Lasky, and Trustee Emeritus Cheeley serve on the Historic Preservation Commission.

17. Participated in the Bi-National Tourism Alliance's Doors Open Niagara – October 2005, October 2006, as community lead for North Tonawanda, City of Tonawanda, Wheatfield, and the Town of Tonawanda.

18. Sponsored a logo design contest for area students in the spring of 2004 and one open to the general public in 2005.

19. Haunted history ghost walks – one season of ghost walks in 2005

20. Internship projects – SUNYAB School of Architecture & Planning – 2006 – 2 individual projects; 2007 – 2 group projects

21. Learning Service projects – Buffalo State College – 2006 with Sociology Class/Ethnic Heritage festival and book; 2007 with Sociology/geriatrics class/oral history program with nursing homes; 2008 with Marketing Class
22. Oral History Program – developed as our first internship project with a D’Youville College student, it utilizes college students doing intergenerational interviews of senior citizens and also recording of Museum programming for future use, and has included individual college students from all area colleges, and a service learning project developed with Buffalo State College Social Work Dept. under Dr. Hilarski in 2007.
23. Research – Although initially it was anticipated that we would only collect artifacts, with no emphasis on archival materials, requests for research assistance and our own requirements for research materials in order to create the requested publications and events and adequately describe our collection items, led to the early realization that a reference library was a necessity for the museum itself. Actual users of the museum and individuals who contact us by phone and over the internet have created the reference library with their requests and our response to them.
24. Exhibits:
 - February 2004 - Tonawanda News Open House – general history exhibit
 - February 2005 – T-NT Expo – general history exhibit
 - August 2005 – Antique & Classic Boat Society Annual Show – Richardson Boat & Bison Shipyard exhibit
 - October 2005 – Polish Dozynki (Harvest) Festival – North Tonawanda Polish heritage exhibit
 - September 2005 – North Tonawanda Public Library – ethnic & industrial heritage
 - October 29, 2005- January 29, 2006 –a treadle sewing machine from our collection was included in “The Wall: Reshaping Contemporary Chinese Art” exhibit at the UB Art Gallery in the Center for the Art on UB’s North Campus in Amherst.
 - August 2006 – Antique & Classic Boat Society Annual Show – Richardson Boat & Bison Shipyard exhibit
 - September 2006 – North Tonawanda Public Library – industrial heritage exhibit
 - November 2006 – North Tonawanda Public Library, “Why Archives Matter” exhibit in collaboration with the Upstate History Alliance
 - December 2006 – Greater Buffalo Savings Bank lobby, “Why Archives Matter” exhibit in collaboration with the Upstate History Alliance
 - April 21, 2007 – NTHM “North Tonawanda’s Birthday Party” program at Elks Lodge #860 - 150 Years of Shared History exhibits by community organizations
 - September 2007 – North Tonawanda Public Library – industrial and ethnic heritage exhibit

Volunteer Service

Although there were many other volunteer service hours put into Museum efforts by individuals at their homes or other locations who did not document their hours, we were able to verify the following contributions of time by many hundreds of individuals, some giving an hour or two and others, such as our Director and Webmaster, putting in full time and more:

- September 10, 2003 – December 31, 2004 – over 6,000 hours of volunteer service
- January 1, 2005 – December 31, 2005 – 12,454 hours of volunteer service
- January 1, 2006 – December 31, 2006 – 12,198 hours of volunteer service
- January 1, 2007 – December 31, 2006 – 15,218 hours of volunteer service

We successfully tailor community service, learning service, and internship needs of students, youth group leaders, Eagle Scout projects, and others to their requirements and our own needs. Many other area agencies refer students to us for the opportunities we have earned credibility for providing. We have utilized the Retired Senior Volunteer program since November 2004, with one RSVP volunteer being a continual volunteer since then as part of our office staff.

Awards & Recognition to date:

1. October 12, 2004 – Daniel B. Niederlander Award from the Buffalo & Erie County Historical Society for general excellence in creating a new history museum and developing programming.
2. Spring 2005 - Museum Director nominated for Community Hero Award of the United Way of Buffalo & Erie County for her efforts in establishing a new history museum.
3. 2005 - Museum Director given Good Neighbor Award by Iney Wallens, WHLD radio, and Niagara Falls Memorial Hospital
4. October 15, 2005 – Organizational Award of Merit from the Western New York Association of Historical Agencies for the planning, development, and carrying out of the first Historic Treasures Tour of historic homes and the publication of the Historic Treasures Tour guidebook.
5. May 9, 2006 – Museum Director given Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of extraordinary commitment and exceptional performance as a member of the Volunteer Administrators of Western New York (VAWNY) for 2005 - 2006
6. November 15, 2006 – Organizational Honorable Mention Award from the Western New York Association of Historical Agencies for the planning, development, and carrying out of the 2005 and 2006 Historic Gardens Contest and Tour and the publication of the Historic Gardens Tour guide for 2005 and the Historic Gardens Tour guidebook for 2006.
7. Spring 2006 – Nomination by Dr. John H. George, Superintendent of Schools, North Tonawanda School District; Margaret A. Waite, Library Director, North Tonawanda Public Library; and A. Daniel Bille, North Tonawanda City Historian, for “excellence in leadership” from the American Association for State & Local History.
8. April 14, 2007 – Certificate of Commendation from the Upstate History Alliance, one of only 11 organizations recognized in 2007, for the Museum’s guided and self-guided interpretive tours programming, which includes the 2006 publication of a self-guided tour booklet, guided history walks hosted by the Museum for sixteen weeks each year in 2004, 2005, and 2006, the 2005 Historic Treasures Tour and related guidebook; and the 2005 and 2006 Historic Gardens self-guided tour and related guidebooks.
9. May 10, 2007 – Director awarded Citizen of the Year-Heritage award by the Am-Pol Eagle for her leadership in developing an ethnic heritage focus of the Museum’s programming as a new organization.
10. Dr. H. William Feder, a recognized historian and historiographer in Niagara County, has repeatedly called the North Tonawanda History Museum “a role model for doing local history for all of Niagara County.”
11. John Percy, a recognized historian in Western New York wrote a positive book review in “Western New York Heritage” magazine, Winter 2008 issue, on “North Tonawanda: The Lumber City.”
12. April 24, 2008 and May 8, 2008 –2008 Group Volunteer of the Year Award for the New York State Health Care Facilities at the nomination by North Gate Health Care Facility in Wheatfield for our programming there. They were the first nursing home to ask us to do a program and they have been very grateful. They inspired DeGraff Skilled Nursing Facility and Alterra Sterling House to invite us to do similar programs there.
13. April 13, 2008 - Certificate of Commendation from the Upstate History Alliance Award of Merit Program for our first full-length book, "North Tonawanda: The Lumber City" at the Upstate History Alliance/Museum Association of New York Annual Conference at the opening reception on the evening at the Albany Institute of History and Art. Reviewer remarks noted with the award: “It is clear that this project responded to a community need and involved members of the community in interpreting their own history.”

GRANTS RECEIVED 2004 - 2008

Kopczynski Family Foundation - \$1,000 – 2004
For Start-up Operating Funds

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation - \$5,000 – 2004
For Programming equipment and supplies

Upstate History Alliance/New York State Council of the Arts - \$500 – 2004
“Get Ready” Consultative Services Grant for Long Range Planning

Western New York Association of Historical Agencies - \$250 – 2004
Technical Assistance Consultative Services Grant for Board Development and Training

RealtyUSA - \$1,000 – 2005
Major Sponsorship – Historic Treasures Tour 2005

HSBC Bank, NA - \$350 – 2005
In recognition of Judith Mittiga’s volunteer services – 2005

Upstate History Alliance/New York State Council of the Arts - \$300 – 2005
GO grant to attend
April 24-26, 2005 UHA/MANY Annual Conference in Rochester, NY

New York Council for the Humanities.- Speakers for the Humanities Grant - \$450 – 2005
For December 2005 Italian Christmas Program

New York Folklore Society/New York State Council of the Arts - \$1,800 + travel expenses
mentoring grant – 2005
For consultative/mentoring services to plan First Ethnic Heritage Festival for 2006

Max & Victoria Dreyfus Foundation - \$5,000 – 2005
For Oral History Demonstration Program

York Children’s Foundation - \$1,000 – 2005
For Education Program – WebQuest

New York Council for the Humanities,
A state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities
\$5,000 – 2005
For Two Self-Guided Walking Tour Brochures

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation
\$5,000 – 2005
For operational expenses

Heritage Preservation: The National Institute for Conservation
Washington, D.C., supported through a cooperative agreement
with the Institute of Museum and Library Services
2006 Conservation Assessment Program (CAP)
\$6,540 to hire a professional conservator and a preservation architect

Anonymous Foundation - \$1,000 – 2006
2006 Ethnic Heritage Festival Seed Money Grant

HSBC Bank, NA - \$350 – 2006
In recognition of Judith Mittiga’s volunteer services – 2006

Max & Victoria Dreyfus Foundation - \$5,000 – 2006 - For Equipment

York Children’s Foundation - \$2,000 – 2006
For Education Programming - For operational expenses

Heritage Preservation: The National Institute for Conservation
Washington, D.C., supported through a cooperative agreement
with the Institute of Museum and Library Services
2006 Conservation Assessment Program (CAP)
\$6,540 to hire a professional conservator and a preservation architect

New York Council for the Humanities, Speakers for the Humanities Grant - \$500
For "North Tonawanda: A Celebration of Our Diversity!" October 2006
Dr. Frank Gardaphe: "Linguine and Lust: Food and Sex in Italian-American Culture"

New York Council for the Humanities, Speakers for the Humanities Grant - \$500
For "North Tonawanda: A Celebration of Our Diversity!" October 2006
Dr. Sherrie Bayer: "Ciudad y Suburbia: The Changing Nature of Latino Immigration"

New York Council for the Humanities, Speakers for the Humanities Grant - \$350
For "Dave Ruch" October 2006

All for Ethnic Heritage Festival

Upstate History Alliance GO Grant
\$150 – 2006

For Courtney Reichman to take online course in collection management.

New York State Council for the Arts Decentralization Grant
\$1000 – 2006 - For "Simple Gifts" concert February 2007

Niagara Area Foundation - \$200 – 2006
For DVD Player for Oral History Program in Nursing Homes

Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation's
Pennsylvania Performing Arts on Tour (PennPAT) Presenter Program
\$2,500 – 2006 - For "Simple Gifts" concert February 2007

New York Council for the Humanities, Speakers in the Humanities Program Grants - \$2,000
For four speakers for 2007 programs:
Dr. Peter J. Rose: "Dutch Influence on the American Kitchen and Life" – September 20, 2007
J. Ward Regan: "Feet, Hooves, and Rails:
Transportation in Nineteenth Century America" – October 20, 2007
Susan Aberth: "El Dia de los Muertos: The Mexican Celebration of Life" – November 8, 2007
Dr. Peter G. Rose: "The Forgotten Holidays" – December 8, 2007

Niagara County - \$5,000 – 2007 – For Phase II
The Lumber City History Center

Corporate Gifts for Historic Gardens Tour
Ascension Industries - \$250
Michael D. Mroczka/Realty USA - \$250

Corporate Gifts for Historic Treasures Tour
Cipriano, Inc., Realtors - \$500
Brick, Brick & Elmer - \$500
Greater Buffalo Savings Bank - \$500
Sherwood Florist - \$500
Pioneer Printers, Inc. - \$500
Keyser Buick - \$500
Humphrey House Antiques - \$500
Corporate Gifts: Other
Andy's Tree Service - \$250

NYS Department of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation
Senate Member Initiative Grant from Senator George D. Maziarz
\$10,000 – 2007

For Legal Costs of Acquisition of Lumber City History Center & Gateway Cities Welcome Center facility

Max & Victoria Dreyfus Foundation
\$5,000 for Equipment for Lumber City History Center – 2007

Museums for America Grant from
The Institute for Museum & Library Services
\$37,800 for staff salaries – 2007 – 2008

Upstate History Alliance GO Grant
\$150 – 2006
For John Zellner Neal to take online course in collection management.

Niagara County - \$5,000 – 2008
For Niagara Historic Trail Project

New York Council for the Humanities
A state affiliate of the National Council for the Humanities
\$2,500 – 2008
For Niagara Historic Trail Project

The Margaret L. Wendt Foundation
\$150,000 – 2008
For the purchase of
54 Webster Street
For the Lumber City History Center and Gateway Cities Welcome Center project

New York Council for the Humanities, Speakers in the Humanities Program Grant - \$2,000
For :

September 20, 2008 – Dr. Peter Eisenstadt:
“The Unity of New York State: The Upstate/Downstate Divide in Historical Perspective”
and
October 4, 2008 - “Italian American Heritage Day
Dr. Frank Gardaphe:
“Leaving Little Italy: Last Words on a Locale”
“Linguine and Lust: Food and Sex in Italian-American Culture”
“From Wiseguys to Wise Men: Masculinities and the Italian American Gangster”

NYS Department of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation
Senate Member Initiative Grant from Senator George D. Maziarz - 2008
\$50,000
For Acquisition Costs – Lumber City History Center & Gateway Cities Welcome Center

**NORTH TONAWANDA HISTORY MUSEUM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2008**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

OFFICERS

John H. George, Ed.D.
Retired superintendent of schools

Term expires 12/31/09
Appointed to Board 1/1/07
CHARTER HONORARY LIFE MEMBER
President since 1/1/07
Ex-officio member of all committees except Governance:
2007, 2008

PRESIDENT

Carl Tamburlin
Educator/North Tonawanda High School

Term expires 12/31/10
Appointed to Board 6/1/07
HONORARY LIFE MEMBER
3/15/08 to 12/31/08

VICE PRESIDENT

Co-Chair: Collections Committee Effective 3/15/08
Co-Chair: Education Committee Effective 3/15/08
Member of Governance Committee 1/1/08
Member of Community Relations Committee 1/1/08
Member of Lumber City History Center Committee 2008

William J. Reece

Term expires 12/31/10
Appointed to Board 1/1/08
Member of Lumber City History Center Committee 2008

Shannon Enterprises of WNY, Inc.: Controller

TREASURER

3/15/08 to 12/31/08
Chair, Finance Committee 3/15/08 to 12/31/08
Co-Chair, Marketing Committee 1/12/08 to 12/31/08
Co-Chair, Finance Committee 1/1/08 to 3/15/08
Associate Treasurer 3/15/08 to 5/7/08

Donna Zellner Neal

Term expires 12/31/08
Appointed to Board 10/9/03
CHARTER HONORARY LIFE MEMBER

(Volunteer) full-time **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**
SECRETARY

10/9/03 to present
10/9/03 to 12/31/06; 1/1/08 to 12/31/08
Governance Committee Chair:
2003, 2004, 2005, 2006
Community Relations Chair:
2005, 2006, 2007, 2008
Ex-officio member of all committees
Assistant Secretary 8/07 to 12/31/07
Working Chair:
Lumber City History Center Committee:
2005, 2006, January 2007 to June 2007;
March 2008 to continuing
Working Co-Chair:
Lumber City History Center Committee,
June 2007-February 2008
**MEMBER OF ORIGINAL STEERING
COMMITTEE**

OTHER TRUSTEES

Paula M. Belair

Term expires 12/31/08
Appointed to Board 1/1/06
Member of Education Committee 2006, 2007
Member of Lumber City History Center Committee
2006,2007,2008

Retired educator

Nancy A. Donovan

Term expires 12/31/10
Appointed to Board 1/1/08
Member of Community Relations Committee 2008
Member of Lumber City History Center Committee 2008

Common Council member

Finance Dept.: Independent Health Association

Marilyn Lasky

Term expires 12/31/08
Appointed to Board 1/1/06
Historic Treasures Tour 2007 Committee Chair
Member of Governance Committee 2008

Customer Service representative: Impressive Imprints

Member of Community Relations Committee 2006, 2007,
2008
Member of Lumber City History Center Committee,
2006, 2007, 2008

Barbara Wickman

Term expires 12/31/10
Appointed to Board 1/1/04
CHARTER HONORARY LIFE MEMBER
Member of Community Relations Committee,

Owner: Barb's Sweet Treats and Jack's Trains

2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008

Member of Collections Committee, 2003 - 2008

Member of Facilities Committee, 2003 – 2008

Vice President: 2005, 2006

Chair: Heritage Cookbook Committee, 2006, 2007

Member of Lumber City History Center Committee,
2005, 2006, 2007, 2008

EX-OFFICIO TRUSTEES

- A. Daniel Bille
Retired, North Tonawanda City Historian
- CHARTER HONORARY LIFE MEMBER**
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 10/9/03 to present
Ex-officio effective 10/9/03
Member of Collections Committee 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008
Member of Governance Committee 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008
Member of Lumber City History Center Committee 2006, 2007, 2008
VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD 2005, 2006, 2007
- John P. Zellner Neal
Employed: North Tonawanda History Museum
- CHARTER HONORARY LIFE MEMBER**
Ex-officio effective 8/15/08
VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD:
2005, 2006, 2007
Volunteer Webmaster February 2005 to 8/15/07
Member of Facilities Committee 2008
- Museum Collections & Digital Collections Coordinator/Curator** 8/15/07 to continuing
Member of Community Relations Committee 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008
Member of Lumber City History Center Committee. 2006, 2007, 2008
Chair: Collections Committee 8/15/07 to 3/14/08
Co-Chair: Collections Committee 3/15/08 to 12/31/08
- Danielle M. Oney
Registered Nurse
- HONORARY LIFE MEMBER**
Ex-officio effective 5/7/08
VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD:
2006, 2007
- Museum Administrative Assistant/Volunteer Coordinator**
Chair: Haunted Gardens on the Eerie Canal: 2006, 2007, 2008
Member of Governance Committee 2008
Member of Community Relations Committee 2008
Member of Education Committee
Member of Collections Committee
Member of Facilities Committee
Member of Lumber City History Center Committee 2008
- Gregory L. Witul
Economic Development Chair, Town of Wheatfield
Member of Town of Wheatfield Planning Board
- Robert A. Zayatz
Retired Manufacturing Engineer for Wilson Greatbatch, Ltd.
- Ex-officio effective 5/7/08
Member of Collections Committee 2008
Member of Lumber City History Center Committee 2008

Daniel E. Brick, Esq.
Brick, Brick & Elmer
Local Attorney of Record

Michael DeFreitas, Esq.
Wm. C. Moran & Associates
Corporate Attorney of Record

Susan Facer, Esq.
Wm. C. Moran & Associates
Corporate Attorney (Not-for-profit specialist) of Record

Thomas Kurtz, CPA
Amato, Fox & Company
Accountant of Record

Jon Holler
Holler-Grapes Insurance Agency
Insurance Agent of Record

2008 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Michael Addy	ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2007 - 2008
Kurt P. Alverson Former Executive Director Chamber of Commerce of the Tonawandas	CHARTER HONORARY LIFE MEMBER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2003 to 2008
A.Daniel Bille Retired former City Historian	CHARTER HONORARY LIFE MEMBER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2003 TO 2008 Ex-officio Trustee 2003 to 2008 MEMBER OF ORIGINAL STEERING COMMITTEE
Thomas A. Chambers Assistant Professor of History	ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2003 to 2008
Margaret M. Cheeley Retired art teacher, operates antique business	ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2007,2008 Trustee 2006 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR 2006
William M. Davignon	CHARTER HONORARY LIFE MEMBER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2003 to 2008 Ex-officio Trustee 2003 to 2007 MEMBER OF ORIGINAL STEERING COMMITTEE
Randy C. Fahs, Esq. Director of Contracts, Northrop Grumman Electronic Systems	ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2004 to 2008

H. William Feder, PhD **ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2004 TO 2008**
Former long-time Niagara County Legislator; historian; author; once Chairman of Economic Development & Planning Committee of the Niagara County Legislature, and Acting Chairman of the Niagara County Bicentennial Committee

Mark H. Haacker **ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2006 TO 2008**
Sales Representative and Historian and Chaplain with Elks Club

Carl P. Hoover, President **CHARTER HONORARY LIFE MEMBER**
Pioneer Printers, Inc. **ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2006 TO 2008**
DONOR OF THE YEAR 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007

Paul F. Hoover **ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2007 to 2008**
Founder of Pioneer Printers, Inc. Trustee 2006

Deborah L. Jaeger **ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2006, 2007,2008**
Developer and owner of Erie Heights Apartments

Dan Kelley **ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2007, 2008**
Trustee January to April 2007
Retired radio broadcaster, voice-over specialist

Daniel R. Killian **ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER**
Retired North Tonawanda Public Library Director **2004, 2005, 2006,2007,2008**

Hon. Richard C. Kloch, Sr. **ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2007, 2008**
Supreme Court Justice

Dale W. Marshall, P.E., City Engineer **HONORARY LIFE MEMBER**
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2003 - 2008

Hon. George D. Maziarz **CHARTER HONORARY LIFE MEMBER**
NYS Senator, 62nd District **ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER**
2004 - 2008
MEMBER OF ORIGINAL STEERING COMMITTEE

Joseph M. McMahon **ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 4/15/08**
President: Audubon Machinery Corp. Trustee 1/1/08 – 4/28/08

Diane M. Meholick **Trustee in 2006**
Title examiner, and self-employed author **ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2007,2008**

Michael B. Mroczka **HONORARY LIFE MEMBER**
Realtor: RealtyUSA, Wedding Photographer **HONORARY BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS CHAIR, LUMBER CITY HISTORY CENTER COMMITTEE**
Trustee in 2004
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2005-2008

James F. Mroz **ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2006 to 2008**
Production Consultant for Room Service Technologies, North Tonawanda Harbormaster,
Board member of the Tonawandas Gateway Harbor Corporation, member of the Waterfront Commission.

John W. Percy Town of Tonawanda Historian	ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2003 to 2008
William R. Poole Retired registered professional nurse and Lt. Col. (US Army Reserves) Active in American Legion Post 264; VFW Post 7545; NARFE; WYNADE; Canal Fest of the Tonawandas Board of Directors	ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2008
Raphaelle A. Proefrock Chair, Chamber of Commerce of the Tonawandas Tourism Committee Trustee, Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum	CHARTER HONORARY LIFE MEMBER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2003 to 2008 MEMBER OF ORIGINAL STEERING COMMITTEE
George F. Rand IV HSBC Mortgage Company	ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2007,2008 HONORARY CHAIR, LUMBER CITY HISTORY CENTER COMMITTEE 2006, 2007 HONORARY CO-CHAIR, LUMBER CITY HISTORY CENTER COMMITTEE - 2007 HONORARY WESTERN NEW YORK CHAIR, LUMBER CITY HISTORY CENTER COMMITTEE, 2008 TREASURER - 2006
Dale S. Rogers Engineering Dept. Employee, City of North Tonawanda Towpath Tiller, Tonawanda News columnist, landscaping business operator	HONORARY LIFE MEMBER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2007,2008
Lou Santiago State Farm Insurance	CHARTER HONORARY LIFE MEMBER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2003 - 2008 MEMBER OF ORIGINAL STEERING COMMITTEE
Peter E. Smolinski Niagara County Legislator, 10 th District	ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2006 - 2008
Brett M. Sommer Teacher: NT High School, President: NT Common Council	CHARTER HONORARY LIFE MEMBER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2003 to 2008
Margaret A. Waite, Library Director Library Director: North Tonawanda Public Library	ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2006 to 2008
James J. Weber, President Wizard Communications Systems	ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2007, 2008
Laura E. Winchester Retired newspaper reporter and editor	ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2007, 2008
Walter C. Yaro Serves on City Cemetery Board	ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2007, 2008
Dennis Ziolkowski Vice President of Marketing, Father Sam's Bakery	Trustee 1/1/07 to 12/31/07 ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2008

Lumber City History Center Committee

Includes all members of the Board of Trustees

Honorary Local Co-Chairs

Carol Kopczynski

Jack Kopczynski, President
Ascension Industries, Inc.

Honorary Western New York Chair

George F. Rand IV

Honorary Business Chair

Carl P. Hoover
President, Pioneer Printers, Inc.

Honorary Business Professionals Chair

Michael B. Mroczka
Realty USA

Working Chair

Donna Zellner Neal
Executive Director

Other Honorary Co-Chairs

Kurt P. Alverson

A. Daniel Bille
Former City Historian

Frank S. Budwey
Budwey's Supermarkets

Margaret A. Cheeley

William M. Davignon

Paul F. Hoover

Hon. John J. LaFalce, Special Counsel
Former Congressman

Kay Learned
Co-Owner, Hodgepodge
Senator George D. Maziarz
62nd Senate District

Diane M. Meholick

Gerald N. O'Neill

Lou Santiago
State Farm Insurance

Peter E. Smolinski
Niagara County Legislator, 10th District

Brett M. Sommer

Peter F. Trinkwalder
City Historian

Margaret A. Waite
Director, North Tonawanda Public Library

Walter C. Yaro

FORMER MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

2003

Joseph P. Armenia, Jr., John Borycki, Penny Creasey, Margaret Hurtubise, Kay L earned,
Donna Zellner Neal, Timothy J. Neal

2004

Joseph P. Armenia, Jr., John Borycki, Thomas A. Brick, Penny Creasey,
Cynthia Fredricks, John Fredricks, Ruth Kelly, Kay Learned,
Michael B. Mrocza, Donna Zellner Neal, Timothy J. Neal, John L. Paczos,
Paul A. Rumbold, Jr., Cindi Tysick, Sarah E. Walter

2005

Paula Belair, Betty A. Brandon, John Borycki, Cynthia Fredricks,
Kay Learned, Judith L. Mittiga, Donna Zellner Neal, Joyce Santiago,
Sarah E. Walter, Barbara Wickman

2006

Paula Belair, Margaret Cheeley, Paul Hoover, Marilyn Lasky,
Diane M. Meholick, Judith L. Mittiga, Donna Zellner Neal, George F. Rand IV,
Joyce M. Santiago, Barbara Wickman

2007

Keri Gullo, Dan Kelley, Laura E. Winchester, April Orłowski, Shari Kiesow,
Dennis Ziolkowski

OTHER 2008 TRUSTEES

Thomas Galdys, William Miles, Dennis Stange

CHARTER HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

For Outstanding Service and Contributions in our Crucial First Year

Joseph P. Armenia, Jr., CPA, A. Daniel Bille, John Borycki, Betty A. Brandon. Thomas A. Brick, Frank Budwey,
David J. Burgio, Theresa L. Carpentieri, Penny Creasey. William M. Davignon, James Douglass, Dianne S. Flay,
Gary Franklin, Cynthia Fredricks, John Fredricks, John H. George, Ed.D, Tim Gerwitz, Carl P. Hoover,
Thomas M. Jaccarino, John Kopczynski – deceased 2005; Alexandra Kopczynski, Christopher Lane, Jason Law,
Thomas Lawrence, Kay Learned, Stephen Litwin, George D. Maziarz, Arlene Stocki McNair, Judith L. Mittiga,,,
Ken Mountain, Michael Mrocza, Donna Zellner Neal, John P. Zellner Neal, Priscilla C. Zellner Neal,
Timothy J. Neal, John S. Olszowka, Ph.D, Lou Omel, JamiLee Piatt, Raphaelle A. Proefrock, Paul A. Rumbold, Jr.,

Lou Santiago, George D. Soemann, Marilyn Soemann, Valerie VanVoorhees, Sarah E. Walter, James Weber, Barbara Wickman, David R. Zobrist

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

For Outstanding Service and Contributions to Museum programming and development

Cosimo Capozzi, Pamela Hogan, David Maziarz, Joann Mis, John F. O'Connor, Dale Rogers, Lawrence V. Soos, Carl Tamburlin, Jerome Whitehead

CHARTER LIFE MEMBERS

Membership dues for this category of membership have created the beginning of an endowment fund, the earnings of which only will be used in the future for Collections Acquisition and Exhibit Maintenance. We thank the following Charter Life Members for their early support.

Anthony C. Abdulla, Stephen C. Ash, Gail P. Bille, Randy C. Fahs, Thomas Frauenheim, JoAnn Fritz, Marvin Fritz, Arlene Stocki McNair, Carl W. Onofrio, Olga E. Paroski, Peter & Beverly Rasch (In memory of Henry & Helen Ryder and Dr. Carl & Marge Rasch). Glenna G. Sternin, John Bernhard Thuersam, Amy F. Zebulske, Katherine Ann Zebulske, Knights of Columbus Madonna Council 2535

LIFE MEMBERS

Membership dues for this category of membership go into an endowment fund, the earnings of which only will be used in the future for Collections Acquisition and Exhibit Maintenance.

Margaret A. Cheeley, Virginia Green Doeblor, Mary E. Clemesha, DeGraff Memorial Hospital, Friends of the North Tonawanda Public Library, Holler-Grapes Insurance Agency, James A. Maglisceau, Barbara Newman

The North Tonawanda History Museum received a Provisional Charter from the Regents of the State of New York on April 20, 2004, and is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the North Tonawanda History Museum is to assemble, preserve, protect, and exhibit collections pertaining to the history of North Tonawanda, its people and community life, focusing especially on our rich immigrant heritage and role as an important shipping and manufacturing center strategically located on the historic Erie Canal and Niagara River in the 19th and 20th centuries. As a research and educational institution, we plan to be both an active participant in the historical and cultural tourism focus of North Tonawanda and a focal point for students of all ages to participate in historical studies and activities of the City.

VISION STATEMENT

The North Tonawanda History Museum will provide leadership to the North Tonawanda community in the promotion of historic awareness and interpretation of the people's history in the community.

Mission and Vision Statements Approved by the Board of Trustees, February 19, 2004

2007 VOLUNTEERS, DONORS, AND PARTNERS

During the December 8 “Forgotten Holidays” program, 79 volunteers and supporters of the now 4-year old North Tonawanda History Museum were recognized for their contributions:

Business Partners of the Year(s), in recognition of their dedication and support of the North Tonawanda History Museum: Pioneer Printers, Inc. 2003 – 2007; DeGraff Memorial Hospital – 2004 – 2007; Wizard Communications – 2005 – 2007; Downtown Merchants Association of North Tonawanda – 2003 – 2007; Frank Budwey/Budwey’s – 2003 – 2007; Chamber of Commerce of the Tonawandas – 2004 – 2007; Pane’s Restaurant – 2004 – 2007; Sherwood Florist; Joe Cecconi’s Chrysler Complex; Hartland Carriages – 2005 – 2007; Gullo’s Macaroni Grill – 2006 – 2007; Greater Buffalo Savings Bank – North Tonawanda Office – 2003 – 2007; Cipriano, Inc., Realty – 2004 – 2007; Brick, Brick & Elmer; Ascension Industries; and Michael Mroczka/RealtyUSA – 2004 – 2007.

Volunteer Families of the Year(s) in recognition of their dedicated Volunteer Service to the North Tonawanda History Museum: The George Family; The Neal and Zellner Family - 2003 – 2007; The Santiago Family - 2005 – 2007; The Oney Family – 2006 – 2007; The Martin Family; and The Miles Family.

Volunteers of the Year(s), in recognition of their dedicated Volunteer Service to the North Tonawanda History Museum: John Zellner Neal – 2003 – 2007; Danielle Oney – 2006 – 2007; Barbara Wickman – 2003 – 2007; Jane Garis – 2004 – 2007; Walter Wozniak – 2006 – 2007; Josie Pettigrew – 2005 – 2007; Priscilla Zellner Neal – 2003 – 2007; Carol Kopczynski; Margaret Jaenecke; Linda Hankinson; Margaret Cheeley – 2004 – 2007; John & Violet Kolecki – 2006 – 2007; Marilyn Lasky – 2004 – 2007; Dale Rogers - 2004 – 2007; Carl Tamburlin – 2005 – 2007; Joann Mis – 2005 – 2007; Stephen Kurbiel; Donald R. MacDonald; William A. Miles; Thomas M. Galdys; James M. Perry; John H. George – 2003 – 2007; Stephen Ash – 2003 – 2007; Daniel Bille – 2003 – 2007; and Peter Smolinski – 2004 – 2007.

Student Volunteers of the Year(s), in recognition of their dedicated Volunteer Service to the North Tonawanda History Museum: Jessica Brant – 2006 – 2007 (NTHS); Marcus Brant – 2006 – 2007 (SUNYAB); Jamie Martin (Bryant & Stratton); Carla Wokersien (Daemen College); and Dana Herman (Starpoint Central High School).

Cultural, Educational, & Community Partners of the Year, in recognition of their support, advice and collaborative assistance to the North Tonawanda History Museum: North Tonawanda Public Library – 2003 – 2007; SUNYAB School of Architecture & Planning – 2006 – 2007; SUNYAB Alpha Phi Omega – Epsilon Sigma Chapter – 2006 – 2007; Buffalo State College Volunteer & Learning Service Center – 2006 – 2007; RSVP Program of Niagara County – 2004 – 2007; Bryant & Stratton; Daemen College; Alterra Sterling House; North Gate Health Care Center; DeGraff Skilled Nursing Facility; North Tonawanda Parks & Recreation Dept.; Tonawanda Future Business Leaders; North Tonawanda High School National Honor Society; B.P.O. Elks Lodge 860; Sutherland Lodge FAM #826; The Riviera Theatre; American Legion Post #264 Band; North Tonawanda Auxiliary Police; Historical Society of North German Settlements in Western New York 2004 - 2007, and the Sanborn Area Historical Society 2004 – 2007.

Donors & Benefactors of the Year, in recognition of their dedication and support of the North Tonawanda History Museum: John & Violet Kolecki, James A. Maglisceau, George & Marilyn Soemann – 2003 – 2007; The Kopczynski Family – 2003 – 2007; Niagara County Legislature; Senator George D. Maziarz – 2003 – 2007; and the Max & Victoria Dreyfus Foundation – 2004 – 2007.

In addition, in recognition of their significant contributions to the creation and development of the North Tonawanda History Museum, **Honorary Life Member** status was awarded to: Cosimo Capozzi and Lawrence V. Soos.

2006 VOLUNTEERS, DONORS AND PARTNERS

VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR 2006 - Stephen Ash, Margaret Cheeley, Jane Garis, John P. Zellner Neal, Priscilla C. Zellner Neal, Lou Omel, Danielle Oney, Courtney Reichman, Barbara Wickman, and Walter Wozniak

DONORS & BENEFACTORS OF THE YEAR 2005-6 - James P. Fretthold/Fretthold Funeral Home, Inc. & York Children's Foundation; Michael B. Mroczka; Max & Victoria Dreyfus Foundation; Pioneer Printers; Riverside Chemical; Speakers in the Humanities, New York Council for the Humanities; State Farm Insurance; and the Tonawanda Indian Community House

STUDENT VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR – Jessica Brant, Marcus Brant, Joshua Hoover, and Esther Neisen

CULTURAL & EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS OF THE YEAR - Historical Society of North German Settlements of Western New York; Sanborn Area Historical Society; North Tonawanda City School District; North Tonawanda Public Library; Buffalo State College Volunteer Learning Service Center; Alpha Phi Omega , Epsilon Sigma Chapter (SUNYAB); and the School of Architecture & Planning (SUNYAB)

COMMUNITY PARTNERS OF THE YEAR 2005-6 - North Tonawanda Department of Youth, Recreation, Parks & Senior Citizens; North Tonawanda Department of Public Works; and the North Tonawanda Senior Center

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS - Pamela Hogan; David Maziarz; Joann Mis; John F. O'Connor; Dale Rogers; Carl Tamburlin; and Jerome Whitehead

2003 - 2005 VOLUNTEERS, DONORS AND PARTNERS

VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR(S) 2003-2005

Stephen Ash, Betty Brandon, Cynthia Fredricks, Jane Garis, John Zellner Neal, Priscilla Zellner Neal, JamiLee Piatt, Barbara Wickman

VOLUNTEER FAMILIES OF THE YEAR(S) 2003-2005

The Mittiga Family (Joe, Judy, Ricky, Gabbie, and Lydia); The Neal Family (Donna, John, Priscilla Neal; Kathy Delbert; Liz Hall; Lea Aquino; Bryan Blandford; Danielle Oney; Matthew DiNatale; Frank Zellner); The Santiago Family (Lou, Joyce, Sara, Maria, Leah Santiago; Bryan and Jason Kastelan; Michael Giglia)

DONORS & BENEFACTORS OF THE YEAR(S) 2003-2005

Anthony Abdulla, Frank Budwey, DeGraff Memorial Hospital, Downtown Merchants Association, HSBC Bank, N.A., Keyser Buick, Inc., John and Alexandra Kopczynski, George D. Maziarz, Arlene Stocki McNair, The Neal Family, Pioneer Printers, RealtyUSA , George and Marilyn Soemann, Sterling Sommer, Inc., Barbara Wickman, David Zobrist

STUDENT VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR(S) 2003-2005

Abigail Cliff , Michael El-Sharif, Ashley Herman, Kathryn Jordan, Jason Law, Priscilla Neal, Heather Sowder

CULTURAL & EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS 2003-2005

Buffalo Suzuki Strings, Ghostlight Theatre, Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum, North Tonawanda Public Library, North Tonawanda City School District

2007 VOLUNTEERS

Museum Staff

Donna Zellner Neal, Executive Director
John Zellner Neal, Museum Collections & Digital Collections Curator/Coordinator
Jane Garis, Archival Records Coordinator
Walter Wozniak, Research Coordinator
Lou Omel, Research Assistant
Carol Kopczynski, Cataloguing Assistant
Suzanne Daddis, Staff Assistant
Margaret Jaenecke, Staff Assistant
Linda Moore, Staff Assistant

Simple Gifts Concert – 2/17/07

Thanks to the Riviera Theater and Frank Cannata, Executive Director, and Riviera volunteers;
Donna Zellner Neal, Steve Ash, Carol Kopczynski, Barbara Wickman, Margaret Cheeley,
Alex Korabov (SUNYAB student), Josie Pettigrew, Linda Hankinson, Jane Garis, Marilyn Lasky,
Paula Belair, Danielle Oney (SUNYAB student), Jessica Oney, Sean LaFontaine, Dan Kelley,
Diane Meholick, John Kolecki, Lou Ann Wilson and her friend, Peter Trinkwalder, Micki Trinkwalder, Mark
Haacker, Joanne Balasz, Debi Ewart, Chelsea Balasz, Samantha Ewart, and Jessy, Robyn,
and Tom from the SUNYAB fraternity.

NT's Birthday Party – 4/21/07

Thank you to the Elks Lodge and their volunteers and special thanks to Mark Haacker, Elks Chaplain.
Special thanks to Frank Budwey and Budwey's Bakery for the birthday cakes.
Donna Zellner Neal, John Kolecki, Marilyn Lasky, Shari Kiesow, Donald MacDonald, Steve Kurbiel, Dennis
Ziolkowski, Barbara Wickman, Paula Belair, Alex Korabus, Carol Kopczynski, Steve Ash,
Vi Kolecki, John Record, Josie Pettigrew, Jane Garis, John Zellner Neal, Danielle Oney, Faith Jaskulski, Jessica
Brant, Margaret Cheeley, Margaret Waite.
Exhibitors: Railroad Museum of the Niagara Frontier, Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum, German Das Haus
Museum, DeGraff Memorial Hospital, North Tonawanda Public Library, St. Peter's Lutheran Brethren Church,
3rd Presbyterian Church; North Tonawanda City Historian, and North Tonawanda History Museum.
Speakers: Mark Haacker; John Kolecki; Donna Zellner Neal
Proclamations and speeches: Senator George D. Maziarz (he gave an apology from Assemblyman Schimminger
for not attending because it was his 29th wedding anniversary); Niagara County Legislator Peter E. Smolinski;
Vice Chair of Niagara County Legislature William Ross; Mayor Lawrence V. Soos, City of North Tonawanda;
Mayor Ronald Pillozzi, City of Tonawanda; Supervisor Timothy Demler, Town of Wheatfield
Budwey's cakes: 150 Years of Shared History, Happy 110th Birthday NT, Happy 3rd Anniversary NTHM,
Happy 120th St. Peter's Lutheran Brethren Church, Happy 100th 3rd Presbyterian Church, Happy 60th St.
Joseph's Church.

National Preservation Month Bus Tour – 5/19/07

Donna Neal and Marilyn Lasky

Annual Dinner & Meeting – 6/21/07

Thank you to Jim Pane and staff at Pane's Restaurant for their help as always
Donna Zellner Neal, John Zellner Neal, Danielle Oney, Barbara Wickman, John George, Tom Galdys, Bill Miles,
Don MacDonald, Valerie Garrison, Karen Dombrowski

Used book sale - 6/30/07

Thanks to Kevin Gersh, Kevin Stark, and Ken Hoefert of Gersh Experience for the use of their property.
Thanks to Rev. Carl Onofrio and other donors for the donation of used books.

Donna Zellner Neal, Barbara Wickman, Donald MacDonald, Tom Galdys, Steve Kurbiel, Donald Benjamin, Bill Miles, Carol Kopczynski, Joan Dirmyer, Karen Dombrowski, Valerie Garrison, Steve Ash, Fran Wilson, Josie Pettigrew, Heather Grefrath, Gwen Mulcahy, Jessica Brant, Marcus Brant, Robyn Walker

Canal Fest 2007 7-14 - 7/22/07

Thanks to Barbara Wickman, as always for the use of her booth and so much equipment and for the cookies.

Set-up (including hauling) 7/14 - John George, Bill Miles, Adam Miles, David Knox, Donna Neal, John Neal, Danielle Oney, Eric Oney, Priscilla Neal, Cortny Santasiero, Barbara Wickman

Volunteer Hours for Canal Fest:

Donna Zellner Neal - 144; Barbara Wickman - 46 (includes cookie baking time); Priscilla Zellner Neal - 39-1/2; Cortny Santasiero - 47; Steve Ash - 20; Steve Kurbiel - 22; Heather Grefrath - 16; Lou Omel - 16; John George - 8; Sandy George - 2; Josie Pettigrew - 11; Jane Garis - 4; Mike El-Sharif - 1/4; Valerie Garrison - 12; Nik Mukhopadhyay - 1/4; Peg Jaenecke - 1/2; Joan Dirmyer - 6; Terri Lee Oney - 12 (baking cheesecake); Fran Wilson - 2; Paula Belair - 7; Peggy Waite - 4; Bill Miles - 5; Adam Miles - 5; David Knox - 5; John Zellner Neal - 8; Eric Oney - 5; Danielle Oney - 7; Gwen (Barb's employee) - 5.

Take-down (including hauling) 7/22 - Barb Wickman, Steve Kurbiel, Lou Omel, Bill Miles, David Miles, Adam Knox, John Neal, Danielle Oney, Priscilla Neal, Cortny Santasiero

Total volunteer hours for the week (including cookie baking time and cheesecake baking time, runners to the bank and post office and Budwey's and the Museum) = 459-1/2 hours; Total hours per day: Saturday set up day - 65; Sunday - 44; Monday - 49; Tuesday - 48-1/4; Wednesday - 49-1/4; Thursday - 38-1/2; Friday - 37; Saturday - 63; Sunday - 65-1/2

Lois McClure Visit - 8/1/07

Thanks to Barbara Wickman for the use of her booth and equipment.

Donna Zellner Neal, John Zellner Neal, William Miles, Paula Belair, Steve Kurbiel, Pete Smolinski, Adam Miles

Historic Treasures Tour 2007 - 8/5/07

Marilyn Lasky, Chair; Margaret Cheeley, Assistant Chair

Street Monitors and floaters

Pete Trinkwalder - Niagara/Louisa/Pinewoods/Christiana
Steve Ash (12 to 1:30 p.m. only) - Goundry/command center
Jim Mroz - Goundry/Payne/Bryant/Falconer/Niagara

On the tour monitors

Don MacDonald, Jim Perry

Command Center - 332 Goundry

Marilyn Lasky, Chair, Margaret Cheeley, Assistant Chair

Registration Desk & Museum Publications

Donna Neal, Paula Belair, Karen Dombrowski, Fran Wilson, John George, Pete Smolinski, Priscilla Neal, Cortny Santasiero

Book signing

Diane Meholick

Participating Homes

335 Goundry

Dan Fire - homeowner/volunteer; Kay Fire - homeowner/volunteer; Gordon Smith, Sharon Anderson, Dorothy Knight, Linda Hankinson

373 Goundry

Fran Murphy - homeowner/volunteer; Lisa Murphy - homeowner/volunteer; Don Chretien, Cathy Chretien

309 Goundry (Wally Rowell-homeowner)

Josie Pettigrew, Jane Garis

249 Goundry

Mike Maiolo – homeowner/volunteer; unknown family members/no volunteer information on file for this house.

257 Goundry

Nancy Townsend - homeowner/volunteer; Marilyn Soemann, Shirley Fiedyn, Suzann Chank,
Steve Kurbiel

115 Pinewoods

Mary Berhalter - homeowner/volunteer; Marcia Miner Poleon - former occupant/volunteer; Gerry Poleon,
Gail Miner Easley - former occupant/volunteer; Alicia Easley, Gail Bille, Carol Miano, Trudy O'Connor,
Sandra Mancussen, Winanne Messing

26 Louisa Pky

Robert Kissel - homeowner/volunteer, Mildred Benson Whitcomb - former homeowner/volunteer

107 Falconer

Matt Kurzdorfer - homeowner/volunteer; Marilyn Kurzdorfer - homeowner/volunteer; Valerie Garrison,
Peg Jaenecke

262 Christiana

Michael Prince - homeowner/volunteer; Victoria Prince - homeowner/volunteer; Anne Cox, Patricia Clark,
Heather Grefrath, Carol Moran, Sandra Mancussen

210 Niagara

Timothy Contangelo - homeowner/volunteer; Kristen Contangelo - homeowner/volunteer; Rae Proefrock;
Doris Meholick

209 Niagara

Joe McMahon - homeowner/volunteer; Donna Burgio, Joyce Santiago, Patti Aldridge, Joann Mroz

Thank you also to the representatives of the Elks Lodge for their participation as a site and to the Carnegie Art Center, the U. S. Post Office, and City Hall for the use of their parking lots.

MAJOR SPONSORS

Cipriano, Inc., Realtors, Brick, Brick & Elmer. Greater Buffalo Savings Bank, Humphrey House Antiques,
Pioneer Printers, Sherwood Florist, Joe Cecconi's Chrysler Complex

General Sponsors

Andy's Tree Service, Senator George D. Maziarz, Peter E. Smolinski

Patrons

James Amato & Company, Ascension Industries, Bonterra Landscaping, Brady Electric, Graf Land Surveyors,
Holler Grapes Insurance Agency, Matt's Music, North Tonawanda Senior Center, Michael B.
Mrocza/RealtyUSA, Thomas Turtle

Historic Treasures Tour Guidebook

Editor: Donna Zellner Neal

Printing: Pioneer Printers, Inc.

Cover Sketch: Margaret Truell Cheeley

Photography and Architectural Histories of Participating Sites:

SUNYAB School of Architecture & Planning and Martin Wachadlo, Architectural Historian

(Buffalo State College School of Architecture & Planning - Kerry Traynor's class project/Historic Treasures Tour architectural histories – Participating Students: Lauren Hotaling, Lane Lowell, Taylor Donlon, Mark Behringer, Brian Podleski, Stephen Petrie, Paul Murawski, Kathryn Incarnato, Lauren Brand, Courtney Creenan, Brad Packard; Kerry Traynor, Professor - Spring 2007

Antique Cars: Richard L. "Joe" Zellner

Shuttle Vans: Joe Cecconi Chrysler

Cinderella Carriage Rides: Hartland Carriages

Refreshments: Gullo's Macaroni Grill

Historic Gardens Tour 2007

SPONSORS

Ascension Industries, Michael B. Mroczka/RealtyUSA, Andy's Tree Service, Brady Electric, Sen. George D. Maziarz, Thomas Turtle Optician, Inc., Bonterra Landscaping, Graf Land Surveyors, Matt's Music, Peter E. Smolinski, North Tonawanda Senior Center

Donna Zellner Neal, Carl Hoover

Judges: Linda Hankinson, Margaret Cheeley, Dale Rogers

Used Book Sale - 8/18/07

Thanks to Rev. Carl Onofrio and the Paperback Swap Shop and other donors of used books.

Thanks to Kevin Gersh, Kevin Stark, and Ken Hoefert of Gersh Experience for the use of their facilities.

Pickup of books: Steve Ash, Steve Taylor, Don MacDonald, John George, Donna Neal; Tom Galdys, Bill Miles; Prep/packing at Museum: Donna Neal, John Neal; Hauling, unloading, moving from Room 140 and Set up: John George, Don MacDonald, Bill Miles, Bill's daughter, Tom Galdys, Jim Perry, Don McKenzie, Donna Neal; Book Sale helpers during the day: Paula Belair, Charlie Belair, Valerie Garrison, Jessica Brant, Linda Hankinson, Lou Ann Rossi, Pete Trinkwalder, Katie Rossi, John Kolecki, Violet Kolecki, Donna Neal; take down/put away in Room 111/load car - Don MacDonald, Jim Perry, Jessica Brant, Marcus Brant, Donna Neal; Moving of Museum possessions from Room 140 to Room 111 during book sale: John George, Don MacDonald, Bill Miles, Jim Perry; Refreshments sale: Barbara Wickman.

Thanks to John George for the donuts and coffee for the early morning crew which began at 7 a.m.

Thanks to Don MacDonald for the pizza for the lunchtime crew.

Haunted Gardens 2007 – 10/13, 10/20, and 10/27/07

Danielle Oney, Chair; Carl Tamburlin and Joann Mis, Advisors

Donna Zellner Neal, John Zellner Neal, Priscilla Zellner Neal, Barbara Wickman, Linda Hankinson, Josie Pettigrew, Heather Grefrath, Suzanne Daddis, Steve Ash, Pete Trinkwalder, Bill Reece, Amanda Reece, Joan Dirmyer, Terry Martin, Dave Martin, Bill Miles, John George, Shani Maziarz, Savannah Bartlett, Angel Gonzalez, Ronald Vossler, Cameron Peace, Jeslyn Zakes, Kari Wrazen, Jessica Taylor, Katie Fiala, Ryann Driscoll, Casey Grichen, Jeff Kiblin, Heidi Lee, Jamie Martin, Mikori Obata, Noble Corp., Alyssa Cederman, Justin Brant, Jessica Brant, Mike Beardsley, Heather Beardsley, Julie Ball, Tasha Heim, Yo Torri, Marisa Zakes, Andrew Cravatta, Michael Steves, Bryan Kastelan, Matthew Wrazen, Katelyn Baird, Erie Oney, Aaron Brady, Jesse Boliver, Danielle Anderson, Megan Rounds

Thanks as well to the North Tonawanda Auxiliary Police, the North Tonawanda Parks & Recreation Dept., the North Tonawanda Public Works Department, and Hartland Carriages.

Emergency Rescue Squad – 11/1/07

John Zellner Neal, Barbara Wickman, Danielle Oney, Donna Zellner Neal, Jessica Brant, Lisa Brant, Boyd Brant, Judy Takacs, Tom Galdys, Bill Miles, Steve Kurbiel

History Nights and Other Events and Programs

Donna Zellner Neal, John Zellner Neal, Danielle Oney, Jessica Brant, Valerie Garrison, Suzanne Daddis, Carol Koczynski, Barbara Wickman

Winter Walk 2007 – 12/1/07

Thanks to the staff at Greater Buffalo Savings Bank and to Buffalo Suzuki Strings and their volunteers.

Donna Zellner Neal, John Zellner Neal, Danielle Oney, John Kolecki, Vi Kolecki, Priscilla Zellner Neal, Cortny Santasiero, Barbara Wickman

Speaker Accommodations and Chauffeurs

Debbie Jaeger – accommodations; Steve Ash, Carol Kopczynski, and William Miles – chauffeurs

Collections Pick Up

John Zellner Neal, Barbara Wickman, Donna Zellner Neal, William Miles

2007 STATISTICS

Volunteer hours	15,218
Value of volunteer services donated	\$25,641.86

SOME ADDITIONAL STATISTICS FROM 2007:

Visits to Actual Museum at 314 Oliver Street	4,325
Attendance at history night events	580
<u>Special events attendance:</u>	
Historic Treasures Tour	425
Historic Gardens Tour 2006	900+
Haunted Gardens on the EEEEErie Canal	1,200
Walking tours	120
Winter Walk	400+
Nursing Home Programs	700
Special Exhibits	1,500+
Other events	500

VOLUNTEER SERVICE COMPOSITION (# OF INDIVIDUALS) 2007:

Community service projects – youth	180
College Learning Service Projects (BSC)	20
SUNYAB Architectural Student Projects	18
College Student Volunteers, Other	42
High School Student Volunteers	65
Middle School, Elementary School, Scout volunteers	32
Youth groups, other	3
Total volunteer hours 2006	12,198
Total volunteer hours 2007	15,218
Newsletters mailed 2006	7,000
Newsletters mailed 2007	7,800
Mailing list as of 12/31/06	2,326
Mailing list as of 6/1/07	2,495
Mailing list as of 12/31/07	3,842
E-mail mailing list 12/31/06	681
E-mail mailing list 6/1/07	810
E-mail mailing list 12/31/07	1,212

Four More Full-Length Books & Standalone Index Planned For “North Tonawanda: The Lumber City”

The North Tonawanda History Museum will be publishing a stand alone index for its first full-length book. Originally intended as a 6x9" 325 page book with an index, with the contributions of information from its constituents, the book project grew into a 7x10" 428 page book without the index. We intended from the beginning to keep the price affordable, hoping at first to have the smaller size at a \$29.95 cover price. The publisher of the present book required a \$39.95 price for the completed project. With an index included, the cost of the book would have been considerably more. Realizing that not all purchasers would need an index, it was decided to retain the affordable price and produce a separate index later.

We offer the book for \$34.95 directly and will mail it anywhere in the United States for an extra \$4. To date, only a few requests have been made for an index. It has been the intention from the beginning, however, to produce an index for the first book and for the next three that are planned, and ultimately for one index to cover all four.

The stand alone index will be published locally for the History Museum by Pioneer Printers, the official printer of the North Tonawanda History Museum. Museum representatives anticipate that the index will sell for \$10. Advance orders will be accepted for the index and will be mailed out for \$3 additional or you will be called to pick it up. It is hoped to be released in the first half of 2008.

We also encourage residents and family residents to dig out the family and individual historical photos and records and all historical material they have collected on the history of North Tonawanda. If you prefer not to donate your originals, History Museum volunteers will copy and scan them and return them safely to the owners. The materials will be used in completing the next three full-length books. History Museum researchers are already gathering additional materials and working to fine tune facts for future volumes. We have already begun drafting all three.

“North Tonawanda: Historic Treasures” will focus on buildings, homes, and other sites in the city. A 2009 release date is anticipated. “North Tonawanda: Its People” will focus on the stories of the people who have lived in or were born in North Tonawanda and their accomplishments. A 2010 release date is anticipated. “North Tonawanda: Lumber Capital of the World” with a 2011 projected release date and “North Tonawanda: Industrial Center” with a projected 2012 release date are also being drafted.

Patron sponsorships for the publication of these four books will be accepted as they were for the first full-length book. For \$100, a patron will be listed in the book of their choice as a patron and receive a copy of the book upon release. For \$175, a patron will be listed in the two books of their choice and receive a copy of each upon release. For \$250, a patron will be listed in three books of their choice and receive a copy of each upon release. For \$300, a patron will be listed in all four books and receive a copy of each upon release. The copies included in the patron arrangement may also be donated in the name of the patron to area schools or the North Tonawanda Public Library or others at the donor’s request. The cover price for the books will not be official until the total number of pages for each is established. However, those wishing to make advance orders for “North Tonawanda: Historic Treasures” may do so for a \$35 donation per book, plus \$5 if the book is to be mailed. The price may later be increased due to length and increased production costs for future purchasers.

The Museum accepts Master Card and Visa orders and will mail any of its publications to addresses anywhere in the world. Use the form below to become a patron or place an order.

LUMBER CITY HISTORY CENTER & GATEWAY CITIES WELCOME CENTER

What? Lumber City History Center complex to include:

- 1 – North Tonawanda History Museum
- 2 – North Tonawanda History Museum Reference Library
- 3 – Gateway Cities Welcome Center
- 4 – Lumber City Gift Shop
- 5 – Sugar Bowl soda fountain, candy shop, and breakfast/lunch counter
- 6 – Gateway Cities Event Hall and Meeting Facility

Why 54-60 Webster?

- 1 – Ideal location already laid out properly for the future long-term plans of the North Tonawanda History Museum for its Lumber City History Center and Gateway Cities Welcome Center.
- 2 – The building was recommended to the North Tonawanda History Museum by Mayor Lawrence V. Soos in the fall of 2006.
- 3 – The project has the support of the City of North Tonawanda, the Downtown Merchants Association of North Tonawanda, the Tourism Committee of the Chamber of Commerce of the Tonawandas, the New York State Canal Corp., the Niagara Tourism & Convention Corp., and Lumber City Development Corp. and the Economic Development Committee of the Town of Wheatfield.
- 4 – Condition of building and layout are ideal for immediate occupancy and quick inception of operations as the long-term plans are implemented around the existing operations. Ultimately, the completed and totally transformed facility will be worth an estimated \$4 million. Actually occupying the facility and being able to develop existing and planned operations in it, the North Tonawanda History Museum will be able to renovate around itself.
- 5 – The purpose for the entire project has always been to create a community hub based on the rich and unique history of North Tonawanda which will serve as an economic engine for the Downtown Historic District, promote the City's wonderful Erie Canal and Niagara River waterfront and all the existing cultural and recreational opportunities, businesses and other venues which combined offer the potential to make North Tonawanda a regional destination for visitors, and the Downtown Historic District a vital part of the City again for residents, while providing a first class history center for the residents and students. A secondary purpose has been to bring visitors into Niagara County through the Tonawandas. The Gateway Cities Welcome Center will promote the Cities of North Tonawanda and Tonawanda, all of Niagara County, and the nearby Erie County towns of Tonawanda, Amherst, and Grand Island.

Why now?

- 1 – The North Tonawanda History Museum long ago outgrew the initial donated and then rented facilities at 314 Oliver Street. The conditions in that facility are not adequate for its operations nor appropriate for continued use for storage of museum collections. Inability to effectively use volunteer resources and properly conduct its operations in the present facility.
- 2 – The donated offsite storage facilities of the museum are also inadequate and inappropriate for continued use and the owner of these facilities is turning away prospective paying tenants to continue to accommodate the North Tonawanda History Museum.
- 3 – The North Tonawanda History Museum turned away 42 groups and organizations in 2007 who wished to bring workshops and training sessions to North Tonawanda. The 54-60 Webster location will permit the History Museum to accommodate hundreds of such sessions annually, bringing more visitors to the Downtown Historic District.
- 4 – A 7-day a week year round welcome and interpretive visitor's center is needed in the Downtown Historic District and has been for several years.
- 5 – Students, researchers, residents, and former residents need access to the rapidly expanding collections of the North Tonawanda History Museum.
- 6 – A 7-day a week year round community hub is needed NOW in the Downtown Historic District.

What/who?

Begun in the summer of 2003 as an idea in the minds of a grassroots group of North Tonawanda residents and formally initiated on September 10, 2003.

How to donate?

Cash, check, money order, Master Card, Visa, or request pledge forms.

Lumber City History Center Committee

Honorary Local Co-Chairs: Jack and Carol Kopczynski
Honorary Western New York Chair: George Franklin Rand IV
Honorary Business Leaders Chair: Carl P. Hoover
Honorary Business Professionals Chair: Michael B. Mroczka

Working Committee:

Working Chair: Donna Zellner Neal, Executive Director
John H. George, Ed.D., President
Carl Tamburlin, Vice President
William J. Reece, CPA, Treasurer
Gregory L. Witul
Robert Zayatz
John P. Zellner Neal
Danielle Oney
Donald R. MacDonald, RA, NCARB, Project Director

How you can help make the “Future of Our Past” a reality.....

Initiatives already in place or planned:

1 – Naming rights for the building and its components will be considered for significant donors. The complex will be known as the Lumber City History Center but the building itself may be named for a prominent family or individual, or a business or industry, from the City’s rich heritage and current history in the making. Various exhibit and meeting halls are expected to bear the names of those connected with the city’s unique ethnic and industrial history as an Erie Canal-Niagara River port. Contact the Museum to discuss options.

2 - Development of a “Buy a Brick” campaign by Danielle Oney and Gregory Witul, with \$100 donations for individuals, \$250 for families, and \$500 for business and corporate to buy a permanent brick inside the Lumber City History Center on which the donor’s name or names will be engraved. Call the Museum for details or send your donation.

3 – Continuation of the “5&10” campaign initiated by Museum Trustee John H. Kolecki in 2007, where individuals make one-time donations or pledges of repetitive donations for their choice of amount and length, but focusing on donations of \$5.10, \$51, \$510, \$5,100, \$51,000 because the building was a former 5&10. The names of all donors will be engraved on a permanent plaque as participants in the 5&10 campaign. Previous donors to the “Future of Our Past Campaign” will have their names engraved on a permanent plaque as well. Call the Museum for details or send your donation or pledge.

4 – Presentations for groups or families of the Lumber City History Center & Gateway Cities Welcome Center presentation prepared by John P. Zellner Neal and Danielle Oney. Call the Museum if you wish to arrange an appointment for such a presentation. John Zellner Neal is the Museum Collections/Digital Collections Curator/Coordinator and webmaster. Danielle Oney is Administrative Assistant/Volunteer Coordinator and events coordinator.

5 – Installation of campaign thermometers in the windows at 54-60 Webster Street, the current History Museum facilities at 314 Oliver Street, at Budwey’s Supermarket, at HSBC Bank in Mid-City Plaza and at Barb’s Sweet Treats/Jack’s Trains at 238 Oliver Street. Danielle Oney and Carl Tamburlin are creating the thermometers.

6 – Distribution of flyers announcing the campaign throughout the City of North Tonawanda. Carl Hoover, Donna Zellner Neal, Carl Tamburlin, and Danielle Oney are coordinating. Businesses wishing to distribute them to their employees should contact the museum.

7 - Pledge forms have been developed and may be used by donors wishing to spread their donation throughout a longer period of time. (Copy attached at end) Prospective donors may come in to the current Museum facility at 314 Oliver to complete a pledge form or request that one be mailed out. You may also download one from the website at www.nthistorymuseum.org under the Lumber City History Center section or directly through the scroll section. Pledges may be used by the Museum to plan for paying the first couple of years of mortgage payments.

8 – Continuation of the \$510 challenge donation made on January 31 by Carl P. Hoover, President and owner of Pioneer Printers, Inc., with Hoover challenging other businesses, organizations, and individuals to contribute to the campaign. Hoover stated that “I am a strong believer that, if we want to keep our children in the city when they grow up, we need to give them a solid understanding of the history of the city while they are young. The planned Lumber City History Center is vitally important to our children and to the future of our city.” Hoover has been a member of the Museum’s Advisory Committee since its inception as a grassroots interest group in the fall of 2003. Hoover is a member of the Lumber City History Center Committee and is Honorary Business Chair. A number of matching donations have been received.

9 – The 4th Annual Meeting & Dinner of the 4-year old North Tonawanda History Museum will take place at Pane’s Restaurant on June 19, beginning at 6 p.m. Reservations are required. Individuals are \$25; couples are \$45. The new presentation on the project and an update on the progress of the campaign will be the focal point of this year’s annual meeting. Call the Museum for information or download a registration form from the website at www.nthistorymuseum.org under the scroll section.

10 - A “Community/Neighborhood Book & Treasure Extravaganza” is being sponsored and organized for the benefit of the campaign by Michael Mroczka of RealtyUSA and will take place on Saturday, June 21 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the grounds of the Gersh Experience building, courtesy of Kevin Gersh. Mroczka has been a member of the Museum’s Advisory Committee since 2005 and is a member of the Lumber City History Center Committee, serving as Honorary Business Professionals Chair. He also served as a Trustee in 2005. Individuals and groups may raise money for themselves or their own organizations by making a donation of \$5.10 to the North Tonawanda History Museum and bringing their own table or tables (at \$5.10 each space). Some participants plan to donate a percentage of their sales to the Museum’s campaign but this is optional. Call the Museum for information.

11 – The Museum’s annual used book sale will be included as part of the June 21 event, also courtesy of Gersh Experience. Donations of used books are gratefully accepted. Call the Museum to arrange delivery or if pick up is needed.

12 - A theme basket/Chinese auction is being planned for the benefit of the campaign by Danielle Oney also and will be included in the June 21 event, facilities courtesy of Gersh Experience. Donation of items may be sent or delivered to the Museum or you may call for pick up.

13 - In conjunction with the long-term plans of the North Tonawanda History Museum based upon the acquisition of the 54-60 Webster Street property, a Legacy Society also has been established and is to be named after a family, similar to the Gratwick Society of Roswell Park Cancer Institute which was named after North Tonawanda lumberman William H. Gratwick because his initial \$25,000 donation enabled Dr. Roswell Park to establish the cancer institute. To join the North Tonawanda History Museum’s Legacy Society, send or deliver a written statement of your intention to make a bequest to the Museum in your will. You do not need to specify an amount or percentage of your residual estate in the statement. Submitting such a statement of intent to us will make you a Charter Member of the Legacy Society, entitling you to a certificate of recognition, one free dinner reservation each year to future annual meetings & dinners, one free ticket to all fundraising events and programs with an admission charge, publication of your name (unless you prefer anonymity) in future newsletters and annual reports, and eventually on a permanent plaque in the permanent Museum home. If you wish to use this method of donating to the capital campaign or to one of our endowment funds, you may confidentially supply the amount and we will be able to credit you with that sum as a donation to the endowment or capital fund in anticipation of the eventual transaction. Either way, you may also make your bequest in memory of or in honor of a loved one or loved ones or ancestor or ancestors —or in your family’s or business’s name. The first individual or family or other group to make a major bequest through the Legacy Society format will have the opportunity to have the Legacy Society named for them or their family or group. Call the Museum to discuss this.

14 – Volunteers willing to assist in the cleaning, hauling, painting and other minor work in the first several months; those willing to assist with the vital inventoring of the collections to be moved from temporary storage to the permanent facility; and clerical and general helpers willing to assist once the purchase is completed may also contact the Museum. All volunteers assisting with this project will also be recognized permanently in the Lumber City History Center.



*Telling the Story of Our City's Rich Ethnic & Industrial Heritage
As a City Located on the Historic Erie Canal & Mighty Niagara River*

**314 Oliver Street
North Tonawanda, New York 14120
(716) 213-0554**

e-mail: nthistorymuseum@aol.com - website: www.nthistorymuseum.org

A new museum of the rich immigrant heritage of North Tonawanda, known as "the Lumber Capital of the World," and its role as an important shipping and manufacturing center on the Historic Erie Canal and the Mighty Niagara River in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

**Museum Hours: Mondays 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Tuesdays 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.,
Wednesdays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursdays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Fridays 9 a.m. to noon
Also open by appointment; admission free; donations accepted**

Proud to be a member of the Cultural Alliance of Niagara, Downtown Merchants Association of North Tonawanda and the Chamber of Commerce of the Tonawandas!!

April 15, 2008

To You Who Have Watched and Encouraged Our Development:

We appreciate your support over the past four years and eight months. In that short time we have grown from a grassroots interest group into a New York State chartered history museum, an educator of local history and producer of numerous publications. How far we have come!

We are at an important juncture in our existence as YOUR North Tonawanda History Museum. Our original goal was to create a quality history center and a visitor's welcome center in the historic downtown area of North Tonawanda for the economic benefit of the entire city. We want the history center to be a community hub and a focal point for promoting all the cultural and recreational opportunities in North Tonawanda. As we have developed, you and others have offered your suggestions of the types of activities to include and the type of museum you want us to create. We have incorporated your desires into our plans.

We concluded in late 2006 that the former home of the G. C. Murphy 5&10¢ store at 54 Webster Street is the ideal location and have been directing our efforts toward acquiring that facility. We plan to include a first class history center, featuring the North Tonawanda History Museum itself and a large reference library, for our residents, students, and researchers. A gift and book shop and a visitor's welcome and information center will promote both the Tonawandas and Niagara County. We will include a soda fountain, candy shop, lunch counter venue based on the beloved Sugar Bowl operated by the Pullman family. A large event hall will serve as a venue for our many activities and will be available for community events, meeting room facilities for other organizations, our own after school programs and summer camp programs and many other activities we have been asked to provide. We will have unlimited opportunities available for Western New York youngsters and others to serve as volunteers, interns, or to complete required community service requirements.

To acquire this building, **WE NEED YOUR HELP NOW**. With the recent authorization of a \$150,000 grant from the Margaret L. Wendt Foundation and other funds collected since we established our Future of Our Past Fund in 2006 and the 5&10 Campaign in 2007, we hope to complete the purchase this year. We need additional donations (or signed pledges) **IMMEDIATELY** in order to acquire the building and cover basic operating expenses of the first year while we become fully operational. We hope to avoid having to take on a partial mortgage, but are taking possible monthly mortgage payments into consideration in our plans "just in case." We need to secure the ideal building **NOW** for our present and future requirements to enable us to secure additional funding to pay off the mortgage and proceed with necessary renovations for the ultimate completed project.

We anticipate the assistance of many volunteers in the initial start up phase to put the interior into use quickly. Once the building is ours, we will not just continue the work you have all praised us for doing and for which we have been given a number of awards and recognition, but we will be able to add many of the programs and activities you have asked us to provide. We will have room for many of you who have wished to join us as volunteers to do so. Most of you know the limitations of our present cramped quarters and the frustrations we have endured in order to establish and continue a history museum organization. We serve schools, nursing homes,

a large number of individual students at all levels, visitors to the community, former residents of the community, and current residents. We need the larger facilities in the ideal location in order to add the many services and offerings we are constantly being asked to provide on a regular basis.

Carl P. Hoover, President of Pioneer Printers, in making a \$510 donation toward our goal stated, “I challenge other businesses, organizations, and individuals to contribute to this campaign. If we want to keep our children in the city when they grow up, we need to give them a solid understanding of the history of the city while they are young. The planned Lumber City History Center is vitally important to our children and to the future of our city.”

Several matching donations have come in already but we need many more matching donations. Larger donations, pledges of future donations, and donations of any size will help us now when it is most important. We are also planning a number of events and will be taking advantage of every opportunity to share our current need. Your support of these coming events will also help us make the Lumber City History Center and Gateway Cities Welcome Center a reality.

The acquisition of this ideal building for our long-term goals and self-sustainability as both a quality history center and a visitors’ center to promote all of North Tonawanda and Niagara County and our sister City of Tonawanda, is paramount. The current owner is giving us a limited time period to finalize the purchase.

We will be pleased to bring our PowerPoint presentation about the final completed project to your home or to any groups you may be able to assemble to see it. The presentation tells of our development and of the ultimate future project we firmly believe we can make happen once we have the ideal facility in the ideal location. Completion of the transformation into the final project we envision may take five to ten years to complete. During that time, we will be able to generate more income from what we will be able to do in that building and raising the funding for the rest of the project will be easier to accomplish.

While we work on completing the entire project, we will be able to properly care for our wonderful collections, create exhibits for you to actually see the history we have gathered already, and make our reference materials readily accessible. We will be able to do most of our events in our own facility, making us much more efficient and cost-effective—and enabling us to do so much more for you and for the community.

We will require \$14.68 per square foot for a non-mortgaged facility. You can relate your donation to how much of the building you will be personally helping us to acquire.

NOW is the time for any donation you were planning to make when the time arrived. Your donation now or your pledge on the attached form will enable us to consummate the purchase quickly. The North Tonawanda History Museum is a charitable organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Your contributions to us may be deductible to the extent provided by law. We look forward to your help now to the degree you are able.

**PLEDGE FOR THE FUTURE OF OUR PAST:
THE LUMBER CITY HISTORY CENTER**

_____ I/we wish to donate \$ _____ toward the needs of the Lumber City History Center project, payable as follows:

_____ Lump sum donation enclosed.

_____ Initial donation of \$ _____ enclosed, and a donation of \$ _____ for _____ weeks, _____ months, _____ quarterly _____ annually.

_____ My/our check is enclosed for \$ _____.

_____ Please charge my/our Master Card or Visa Card as noted below.

Funds donated by you in response to this solicitation shall be used by us solely for purposes of acquiring, renovating, and developing real property for use by the North Tonawanda History Museum as the home of our museum and its proposed related activities, including but not limited to a visitor's center and history center.

The North Tonawanda History Museum is a charitable organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions made to us may be deductible to the extent provided by law. Please consult your tax advisor.

_____ Please list me/us on any recognition materials as:

(optional), in memory of _____
or in honor of _____

_____ I/we wish to be listed as an anonymous donor.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____ **Phone** _____

For credit card (Visa or Master Card) payment(s):

_____ Credit Card # _____ Expiration Date _____

Name as it appears on card

Address for cardholder

Send to:
North Tonawanda History Museum
314 Oliver Street
North Tonawanda, NY 14120