



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

NORTH TONAWANDA HISTORY MUSEUM

Lumber City History Center

54-60 Webster Street

North Tonawanda, New York 14120

Phone: (716) 213-0554

Fax: (716) 213-0155

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

**Museum Hours: Mondays 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Tuesdays through Saturdays 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.,
also open by appointment; admission free; donations accepted**

September 2009

2009-2010 EVENTS & ACTIVITIES – MARK YOUR CALENDAR! YOU'RE INVITED!

*In the event of inclement weather, necessary cancellations or postponements of
Museum events will be listed on Channel 2, 4, and 7 and on WBEN radio.*

SEPTEMBER

Saturday, September 12 – HISTORIC TREASURES TOUR 2009

On Saturday, September 12, the North Tonawanda History Museum is proud to present its third bi-annual *Historic Treasures Tour*. The tour of ten historic homes runs from noon to 6 p.m. An added treat for tour goers will be provided by Buffalo Suzuki Strings. Tour goers are invited to arrive early to turn in their tickets in exchange for the passport to the tour or to purchase them if they have not already done so at the History Museum. Doors open at the Museum at 9 a.m.

At 11 a.m., Buffalo Suzuki Strings will present a *Fiddle Festival* at the Buffalo Suzuki Strings Musical Arts Center at 4 Webster Street. Admission will be free to tour goers with the passport to the *Historic Treasures Tour*.

Tour goers are invited to arrive early to pick up their passports, have breakfast at one of the Webster Street restaurants (Nestor's at 102 Webster Street, Lou's at 83 Webster Street, or Hodgepodge at 74 Webster Street) or an early lunch at any, or at Ava's Place at 88 Webster Street or Crazy Jake's at 26 Webster Street. An excellent breakfast may also be obtained at Granny's Family Restaurant at 276 Oliver Street. Pizza and wings are also available at Wally's at 39 Goundry Street.

Following the tour, dinner may be obtained at Pane's Restaurant at 984 Payne Avenue, the Roman Café at 797 Payne Avenue, at Shore's Waterfront Restaurant at 2 Detroit Street on Tonawanda Island (overlooking the Niagara River), Dockside Inn at 153 Sweeney Street (overlooking the Erie Canal), the Hideaway Grill at 399 Division, Johnny Yanni's Half Moon Bay at 126 Wheatfield Street, Deerwood Clubhouse Restaurant at 1818 Sweeney Street, J. P. Dwyer's Irish Pub at 65 Webster Street, or at Crazy Jake's.

The Riviera Theatre will be open with a movie showing to cap off a fun day in North Tonawanda.

In addition to Wally's in the downtown area, pizza and wings are available at most of the other noted restaurants and at many other locations throughout the city. Inquire at the History Museum for information on additional meal sources in the city.

Because of significant requests, the Wurlitzer Mansion at 373 Goundry Street will participate for the third time. This year's tour brings also back one of the most requested homes from the 2005 tour, 332 Goundry Street, and two of the most requested homes from the 2007 tour, 335 Goundry Street and 257 Goundry Street. Six other homes will be included for the first time in this year's tour.

The Carnegie Art Center will be open at 240 Goundry Street throughout the day for visitors, providing public restrooms and parking in their lot. Parking will also be available in the lot in Pine Woods Park, in the parking lot aof the Norman L. Keller Community Building at 500 Wheatfield Street, and in the Manhattan Street parking lot behind the North Tonawanda History Museum building. Parking is also available on the street along the tour.

Tickets are available now at the advance sale price from the History Museum's home in the Lumber City History Center at 54- 60 Webster Street. Through August 31, tickets are \$15 each. From September 1 through September 10, they will be \$18, with Museum members still able to purchase them for \$15 during that period. The day of the event, a limited number of tickets will be sold for \$20 each.

Tickets for the popular Cinderella carriage ride presented by Hartland Carriages are \$5 each and may be purchased at this time or on the day of the event. A shuttle provided by Over the Falls Tours will also be available for limited service in between sites. A classic car will be parked in front of each participating home, courtesy of Richard L. Zellner.

Tickets are turned in the day of the event at the North Tonawanda History Museum at 54-60 Webster and exchanged for the guidebook which serves as the passport for the event.

The event's primary purpose is to present and promote North Tonawanda as a wonderful city in which to live. North Tonawanda is described by Museum representatives as "the best little city in New York State, with a small town atmosphere and a rich and unique history."

Saturday, September 19 – 1 - 4 p.m. – Fall Local Author’s Day

1 p.m. - Diane M. Meholick, local author, will be present to do a talk and book signing of her three books: “Painting Katherine” - “A Switch in Time” - “Buffalo Stories.”

2 p.m. - Book signing and presentation on the history of the hamlet of Snyder in the Town of Amherst by Snyder family descendent and author, Julianna Fiddler Voite, author of “Snyder, New York: A Brief History.”

Fiddler-Voite is the great-great-granddaughter of Michael Snyder, the man who turned Snyder into a thriving hamlet of Amherst. Her interest in family history dates back to when a teacher assigned her a family history project in seventh grade. Her father gave her his mother’s diary. His mother had hoped to write a book about the Snyder family history but died before doing so. Fiddler-Voite decided to write the book.

A college professor specializing in research and writing, she put together the book in about six months after many years of research. The 165-page book, which includes 75 historical photos, has received great feedback. The book begins with 1804 and closes with the horrific October storm of 2006.

Fiddler-Voite used to own the educational play center Monkey-A-Round, worked for the SUNY Research Foundation, and teaches math at Bryant & Stratton College and elementary education at Medaille College.

Monday, September 21 – 7 p.m. – 8:15 p.m. - Genealogy Informational Workshop

With a focus on available free resources for researching your family history, this workshop will be presented by long-time History Museum member Lou Omel as part of a new series of workshops to be offered by the Genealogy Department of the North Tonawanda History Museum. - Suggested donation: \$2 for adults

Saturday, September 26 – HOW CARS CONQUERED OUR CITIES

11 a.m. to 2 p.m. – Mini-classic car display – coordinated by Richard L. (Joe) Zellner

2 p.m. – “How Cars Conquered Our Cities”

A lecture by Dr. Brian Lad, Ph.D. Adjunct Research Associate, SUNY Albany. Dr. Ladd is a historian (Yale Ph.D.) who has written two books, plus created a documentary film, on Berlin. His newest book, “Autophobia: Love and Hate in the Automotive Age”, has an American and international focus. He has taught history at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Union College, and the University at Albany (SUNY), and been a Fellow of the American Academy in Berlin. He lives in Guilderland, New York. The lecture is free and open to the general public and is sponsored by the New York Council for the Humanities, a State affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Monday, September 28 – 7 p.m. – 7 p.m. Genealogical Research

Presented by Craig Bacon, Deputy Niagara County Historian as part of a series of workshops to be offered by the Genealogy Department of the North Tonawanda History Museum. - Suggested donation: \$2 for adults

OCTOBER

Friday, Saturday, October 2 & 3 – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. – Archives Month Exhibits

Saturday, October 3 – 2 p.m. – Local Author’s Day

Deborah Williams, travel writer and photographer, will be present for a book signing and talk, including a 22-minute DVD with Erie Canal photos and canal music. Williams is the author of “Great Destinations: A Complete Guide: The Erie Canal: Exploring New York’s Great Canals.”

Saturday, October 3 – 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. – Fall Used Book Sale - Regular hours for the Museum – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Paperbacks and hard cover books will be offered. The popular “bag of books for \$5” will again be offered. Most paperbacks are 50 cents each or 3 for \$1; some larger paperbacks are \$1 each; used cookbooks are \$2 each. Hardcover are \$1 each or 3 for \$2. Museum publications and books by local authors from the Museum gift shop are available also in the Museum.

Saturday, October 10 – Ethnic Heritage Day - Museum open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.!

Suggested donation: Adults: \$4; kids 6 to 16 - \$2; 5 and under free

All day: German heritage exhibits and costumed representatives of the Historical Society of North German Settlements in Western New York (Das Haus Museum); Am-Pol Eagle representatives with free copies of the weekly Polish newspaper.

1 p.m. Polish Heritage Fashion Show presented by the Polish Heritage Dancers - The Polish Heritage Dancers are returning to perform for the History Museum, having participated in the “Celebration of Our Diversity!” Ethnic Heritage Festival in 2006 held at the Sportsplex.

2 p.m. “American Gumbo: Multiculturalism in America” presented by the Hill Brothers (Educational entertainment for families). This is a return visit by the Hill Brothers, who previously presented this program for the History Museum in 2005

3 p.m. Polish Heritage Dancers performance

4 p.m. Step in Time musical performance

This is a return visit for Monte and Marcia Jones, who performed for the History Museum in July on Irish/Scottish/Celtic Heritage Day during Canal Fest week and who also participated in the "Celebration of Our Diversity!" Ethnic Heritage Festival in 2006 held at the Sportsplex.
They will also present an exhibit table with Scottish swords and bagpipes and other items.

Monday, October 12 – 6:30 p.m. – “The Grand Erie Canal”, a 62 minute video presentation, courtesy of Low Bridge Productions of Rochester. A repeat from Canal Fest week by popular request.

Saturday and Sunday, October 17 and 18 – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. – Doors Open Niagara
Free admission both days

Monday, October 19 – 6:30 p.m. – “Cruising America’s Waterways”, award-winning PBS series, 90-minute video presentation: “The Erie Canal: Albany to Buffalo,” courtesy of Media Artists, Inc. A repeat from Canal Fest week by popular request.

Monday, October 26 – 7 p.m. – “Hidden History of Greater Niagara” is the topic of a lecture by retired journalist Bob Kostoff and is the title of his newest book.

The Niagara Falls region is known as a popular destination for honeymooners, a standing challenge for any daredevil with a barrel or tightrope and a scenic spot to revel in the sprawling beauty of gardens and, of course, waterfalls. His collection of little-known tales illuminates the fascinating men and women who have been privileged to call this breathtaking area home.

Kostoff is a member of the Friends of Local History Department of Niagara Falls Public Library, a contributor to Niagara County Historical Society, and a member of the North Tonawanda History Museum. He is also a part-time local history columnist for the Niagara Falls Reporter. He is a former reporter of the Niagara Gazette, Buffalo Courier-Express, and Lockport Union Sun & Journal. He is the author of “Remembering Niagara: Tales from Beyond the Falls.” Both books are available at the North Tonawanda History Museum.

Friday, October 30 - *Haunted History Center on the EEEerie Canal, a collaborative project of the North Tonawanda History Museum and Starry Night Theatre/Ghostlight Theatre*

Performance Times:

6 p.m. Guided Spooky Stroll to 13 Historic Ghost Stories or 6 p.m. Punkin’ the Halloween Clown

7 p.m. Guided Spooky Stroll to 13 Historic Ghost Stories or 7 p.m. Sherri the Halloween Scarecrow

8 p.m. Guided Spooky Stroll to 13 Historic Ghost Stories or 8 p.m. Wanda the Witch

9 p.m. Guided Spooky Stroll to 13 Historic Ghost Stories

Guided Spooky Stroll and 13 Historic Ghost Stories feature performances by area youngsters

ADMISSION INFORMATION:

Stroll and Ghost Stories only: Adults - \$5; Kids 6 to 12 - \$2.50; Teens 13 to 18 - \$3; Kids 5 and under – FREE

Admission for Punkin’, Sherri, and Wanda (ALL THREE) only: Adults - \$5; Kids 6 to 12 - \$2.50; Teens 13 to 18 - \$3; Kids 5 and under – FREE

Admission for Punkin’, Sherri, or Wanda – one segment only: Adults- \$2; Kids 6 to 12 - \$1; Teens 13 to 18 - \$1.50; Kids 5 and under – FREE

Admission for Stroll to 13 Historic Ghost Stories AND Punkin’, Sherri, and Wanda: Adults - \$10 at door; \$9 in advance; Kids 6 to 12 - \$5 at door; \$4 in advance; Teens 13 to 18 - \$6 at door; \$5 in advance; Kids 5 and under – FREE

Saturday, October 31, 2009 – HALLOWEEN - 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. - Haunted Gift Shop - Free admission; inexpensive refreshments.

NOVEMBER

Monday, November 2 – 7 p.m. Military Heritage Night

Lecture on *Medal of Honor Winner Frank Gaffney*, presented by Niagara County Historian Catherine Emerson.

Saturday, November 7 – 2 p.m. Military Heritage Day

Lecture by former North Tonawanda Mayor, newspaperman and World War II veteran, Edward Wiater. Wiater is currently a columnist for the Am-Pol Eagle.

Monday, November 9 – 7 p.m. Military Heritage Night

Lecture and presentation by Town of Porter Historian Suzanne Simon Dietz, author of “*Honor Thy Fathers & Mothers: Niagara Frontier’s Legacy of Patriotism and Survival.*”

Saturday, November 14, 2009 – 2 p.m. – Military Heritage Day

Lecture by Terry Younker: *Rush Bagot Treaty, Boundary Waters Treaty, and the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.*

Monday, November 16, 2009 - 7 p.m. – Military Heritage Night

Lecture by Gretchen Duling, Ph.D., speaking about her new book by Old Fort Niagara Publications: *“A Legacy of Mutual Trust: The Diary (June 1944-May 1946) and Letters (1944-2005) of Otto Herboth, World War II German Prisoner of War Interned at Fort Niagara, NY”*

Saturday, November 21 – 2 p.m.

Two lectures by Terry Younker: 2 p.m. – *Bird Migration in the Niagara River Important Bird Area*
3:15 p.m. – *Addressing Climate Change in the Great Lakes*

DECEMBER

WINTER WALK IN THE GATEWAY CITIES 2009

Friday, December 4 – Winter Walk Kick Off

7 p.m. - *A Polish Christmas – presented by the Polish Heritage Dancers*

Saturday, December 5

2 p.m. – *A Celtic Christmas – presented by Step in Time*

3 p.m. – *An Irish Christmas performance by Clann Na Cara Dancers*

Saturday, December 12 – 11 – 3 p.m. – *A Christmas Concert by Tim Maloney, the Piano Man*

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED NOW. Because the closing of the purchase of the building at 54 Webster was delayed from November 30, 2008, as anticipated until March 18, 2009, we had a 3-1/2 month period which was lost to producing operating income for all practical purposes. Once the closing took place, we had another six weeks of getting things organized before normal operating income resumed. The funds we had stockpiled for the full year had to be drawn upon beginning in December as well because we had to turn on gas and electric and security in our name that month and we had to insure the building beginning on January 12 in spite of not owning it because no one else was doing so.

To avoid losing the building to real estate speculators, we took on an existing mortgage and a second mortgage, knowing we would have to work to replace them quickly with another funding source—and, ideally, to pay them off should we raise sufficient donations to do so.

The building is doing all that we planned it would do and we bring in enough to cover our operating expenses—if we didn't have the mortgage indebtedness. What we do supports us and will once we own the building outright.

We needed this building to properly protect our collections. Until we were able to gather them all together here, they were always in potential jeopardy in our off site storage. Those that come in validate the importance of what we prepared to do for our first five years and what we are now able to do in here.

We need \$42,000 in cash or donated materials and donated labor as soon as possible to make the City Building Inspector happy. We hope to incorporate requirements of the State code into renovations that will work with our future plans for the building so as to avoid duplication of expense later on. We need 2-hour fire-rated drywall and framing materials, smoke detectors, additional exit lights and batteries (for the corridors and wall required to be constructed with the drywall).

We need donations now in any amounts possible, pledges of monthly help (even a \$5 a month donation, and of course any larger amounts, on a regular basis will help us budget for the coming year), and are hoping that those who are connected to family or other private foundations will advocate for us. Naming rights for all or part of the building are a possibility for significant donations. The bricks are still available at \$100 each also.

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- 1 Donate as you are able.
- 2 Buy a Brick or several at \$100 each with the wording of your choice
- 3 Have your organization purchase a Brick
- 4 Have your organization or group do a fundraiser for us
- 5 Consider joining our Board of Trustees
- 6 Consider joining our Advisory Committee
- 7 Consider serving as a volunteer
- 8 Consider donating services for the renovations required
- 9 Consider leaving a bequest in your will

REGISTRATION FORM

National Preservation Month Bus Tour

A Collaborative Project of the North Tonawanda History Museum
Historical Society of North German Settlements in Western New York
Sanborn Area Historical Society and the Niagara County Historical Society

Saturday, May 22, 2009 - \$49 each!

National Preservation Month serves as a showcase for our country's diverse and unique heritage. Thousands of state and local community groups are honoring their distinct histories this month through various activities and are seeking to bring historic preservation to the forefront of Americans' daily lives by emphasizing the vital importance of protecting our nation's past.

- 8:00 a.m. Bus departs North Tonawanda History Museum, 54-60 Webster Street, North Tonawanda
8:15 a.m. Bus departs Town of Wheatfield Senior Center, 2800 Church Road, off Ward Road, Wheatfield
8:30 a.m. Bus departs Sanborn Fire Hall, 5811 Buffalo St. (Rt. 429), Sanborn

Please plan to arrive 15 minutes or more prior to the departure time. Bus will leave promptly at scheduled time. Parking is available at all pick up points. Parking in North Tonawanda is available in the Municipal Parking lot on Manhattan Street behind 54-60 Webster Street.

- 9:00 a.m. Tour of the Niagara County Historical Society Campus at 215 Niagara Street: Outwater Memorial Building, The Barn, Kandt Home, Pioneer & Transportation Building, Washington Hunt Law Office, Genealogical Society
Noon Lunch at The Shamus Restaurant, 98 West Avenue
1:30 p.m. Tour of Colonel William Bond House, 143 Ontario Street
3:00 p.m. Tour of Canal Discovery Center, 24 Church Street
4:30 p.m. Depart for return trip
5:00 p.m. Drop off at North Tonawanda History Museum
5:15 p.m. Drop off at Town of Wheatfield Senior Center
5:30 p.m. Drop off at Sanborn Fire Hall

Bus transportation provided by Gray Line

Lunch selections

- Grilled Reuben Sandwich with lean corned beef, swiss cheese, sauerkraut, Russian dressing on rye
-Broiled Boneless Breast of Chicken topped with smoked ham and swiss cheese on a Kaiser roll, lettuce, tomato, mayo
-Hot Englishman: Open faced turkey, tomato & bacon sandwich smothered with a cheddar cheese sauce
-Beef on Weck sandwich

Yes, sign me up! I/We will attend. Payment enclosed: \$
My/Our menu selection(s): Reuben Chicken Englishman Beef
Name(s)
Address
City State Zip, Phone

For credit card (Visa, Master Card, or Discover) orders:
Credit Card # Expiration Date

Name as it appears on card

Address for cardholder

Cancellation must be received by May 16, 2009, to insure refund. Reservations will be taken on a first come, first served basis. Last date for prepaid reservations is May 10, 2009. The \$49 fee includes bus fare, museum admission, lunch & gratuities. You may choose to make purchases in any or all gift shops at their listed prices. By participating in this tour, I and anyone I bring with me release the sponsoring organizations, their officers and agents, and the provider of transportation from any and all claims, whether of personal injury or property damage, arising out of or connected in any way with this tour.

Signature(s) Date

Preserve History...

By supporting the North Tonawanda History Museum

Make History...

By helping us to pay off the indebtedness on our new home

Become History...

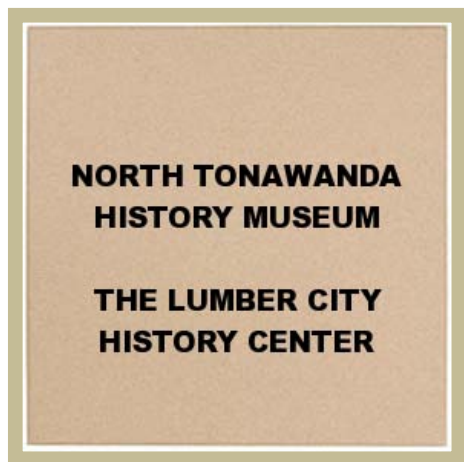
Have your name on a part of the Lumber City History Center!

The North Tonawanda History Museum is continuing to raise funds to pay off the mortgage indebtedness on the building at 54 Webster Street which we plan to turn into a state-of-the-art Welcome Center and the Museum's permanent home. With your help, we can accomplish this and create a place where we can proudly display all of our city's rich heritage and history.

Buy an engraved brick or stone tile for a donation of \$100 per individual, \$250 for a family, and \$500 for a business. Non-profit organizations, clubs, churches, and other groups may participate at the \$100 level. The proceeds will help us to own the new building without indebtedness, where all the bricks and tiles will be permanently displayed for future generations to see and admire.

Bricks can be engraved with up to 5 lines of up to 18 characters. Honor a loved one or an organization, or just show your support for the North Tonawanda History Museum and its dedication to the "Future of Our Past."

Orders may be paid for by cash, check, or credit card.



8"x 8" Quarry
Tile Stone
1/2" thickness

Buckskin color (a light beige)

I would like to Buy a Brick.

- Individual or non-profit \$100
- Family \$250
- Business \$500
- FOUNDATION \$1,000

Please engrave the following: (18 characters per line)

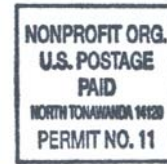
LINE 1: _____
 LINE 2: _____
 LINE 3: _____
 LINE 4: _____
 LINE 5: _____

Name: _____ Address: _____

Phone: _____

For credit card payment: (MasterCard, Visa, or Discover)

Credit card # _____ Expiration date: _____



NORTH TONAWANDA HISTORY MUSEUM
Lumber City History Center
54 Webster Street
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Address Service Requested

Your North Tonawanda History Museum is proud to be a member organization of the Cultural Alliance of the Tonawandas, Cultural Alliance of Niagara, Downtown Merchants Association of North Tonawanda, Chamber of Commerce of the Tonawandas, Canal Fest of the Tonawandas, Winter Walk Planning Committee, Western New York Association of Historical Agencies, Upstate History Alliance, Niagara County Historical Federation, Erie County Federation of Historical Societies, and the American Association for State & Local History.

The North Tonawanda History Museum received a Provisional Charter from the Regents of the State of New York on April 20, 2004, which was extended to December 18, 2013 and is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation.

See inside for schedule of events, update on our status, and other information.

WISH LIST

Office supplies, including: copy paper, colored paper, large paper clips, binder clips, rubber bands, tape, manilla filing folders, kraft mailing envelopes, #10 business envelopes, post-its, CDs, DVDs, storage sleeves and cases for CDs and DVDs, plastic sheet protectors, construction paper, poster board, postage stamps, poster board, 1"x2-5/8" labels, packaging tape, ink pads (black, blue, red), 3-ring binders (1", 2", 3"), 3-hole punches, heavy duty staples, standard staples, heavy duty staplers, tape dispensers, scissors of all sizes, empty copy paper boxes

Office equipment, including: filing cabinets, legal and regular size; book shelves, metal shelving, counter top materials for snack bar area, computer equipment, working typewriter, fax machine, large size scanner, folding chairs, folding tables, equipment for kitchen facilities, non-fluorescent electrical fixtures, vertical bar for handicapped accessible restroom, snack bar tables and chairs and stools or booths, computers and related accessories, display cabinets, heavy-duty vacuums or vacuum system, snow blower, leaf blower, snow shovels

General supplies, including: toilet tissue, tissues, paper towels, floor mats, WD-40, working tools and hardware, empty copy paper boxes, dry wall, floor tiles, floor mats.

Services, including general maintenance work, cleaning, carpentry, window decorating, gift shop workers, museum specific volunteers, library specific volunteers, computer data entry volunteers, graphic designers, sign makers, clerical volunteers, gardeners to tend Webster Street garden display and Manhattan Street parking lot gardens which have been ignored for several years, HVAC services, roofing services, sprinkler system services (dry pipe), locksmith services, MOVING assistance.

Printing by Pioneer Printers, Inc., Official Printer of the North Tonawanda History Museum (2003 – 2009)