

NEWSLETTER

WORKING TO PRESERVE OUR PAST IN ORDER TO PROTECT OUR FUTURE

SPRING/SUMMER 2018

50th

Anniversary of the Queens Historical Society

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📞 718.939.0647

🌐 www.queenshistoricalsociety.org

📍 143-35 37th Ave. Flushing, NY 11354

🕒 Office Hours (by appointment):
Mon – Fri: 9:00 am to 4:30 pm

Museum Hours (for guided tours):
Tues, Sat, Sun: 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm

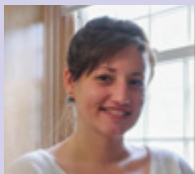
Follow us on:     

Cover: *Queensboro Bridge*
"Work in roadway, Blackwell's Island Bridge"
(George Grantham Bain Collection), 1907.

Writers



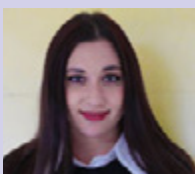
▶ Patricia B. Sherwood
Image Credit:
Anthony O'Reilly



▶ Branka Duknic
Image Credit:
Frank DiStefano



▶ Richard Hourahan
Image Credit:
Alina Suriel



▶ Daniela Addamo
Image Credit:
Frank DiStefano



▶ Jefferson Mao
Image Credit:
Marco Grob.



▶ Dr. Jack Eichenbaum
Image Credit:
Neighborhood Slice

Letter from the Executive Director

Branka Duknic

We shouldn't just count our years, we need to make them count, poet G. Meredith insisted. By the merit of so many engaged community members, Kingsland Homestead was declared a New York City Landmark in 1965, and moved to its present location. Three years later it became the headquarters of the Queens Historical Society. Fifty years have gone by and we are still here, making sure that our past and present are recorded and celebrated for future generations. Our staff and board have strived to make our organization a place of research and education for the public. We continue to honor our county's diversity with programs that bring us together and expand our knowledge of each other. The Sacred Sites of Flushing Tour, co-sponsored with the New York Landmarks Conservancy showcases our beautiful religious centers: The Ganesha Temple of the North American Hindu Society, Muslim Center of New York with one of the largest Islamic Sunday Schools in the City, and The China Buddhist Association in downtown Flushing.

This season, we're happy to bring art classes to the Catherine Sheridan and Peter Cardella Senior Centers in Jackson Heights and Ridgewood, respectively. Our resident artist, Queensborough Community College Professor Elizabeth Di Giorgio has been helping the senior citizens reminisce on the natural surroundings during their childhood days.

Message from Queens Historical Society President

Patricia B. Sherwood

May Flowers! Please come! It seems that this past winter was very, very long. Each week brought a different set of issues: unexpected blizzards, storms and expenses, doubling of estimate amounts, recurrence of serious health problems are some examples.

Queens Historical Society has survived for 50 years, but we are still learning that procedures and policies must be defined and followed. The light at the end of the tunnel is, in my opinion, our staff and the talented interns, volunteers and assistants who work with us.

Quilting Nature – Echoes of a Changing World will present memories of their local experiences with nature by working on a collaborative painting project and will culminate with an exhibition hosted by Councilmen Dromm (Jackson Heights) and Holden (Ridgewood) who have wholeheartedly supported us with this project.

On another happy note, all of us at QHS take great pleasure in announcing that our Education and Outreach Director, Daniela Addamo received a Victorian Society of America Fellowship and will be conducting her graduate research in London over the course of the summer. Another line of congratulations goes out to the amazing community group helping us beautify the landmarked Moore-Jackson Cemetery. All of their highly valued efforts have been recognized: they were awarded The Citizens Committee of NYC Love Your Block Grant this year! The group, led by Samantha Yeung and Elizabeth O'Connor, and supported by Assemblyman Barnwell, will be utilizing the grant award to purchase plants and tools to beautify the space and continue to help aid the mission of preserving the landmarked cemetery space for future generations. The Woodside group is seeking volunteers to join a day filled with planting and community building while learning about the rich history of the landmark cemetery that dates back to 1733.

There are plenty of other events planned for the season. We invite you to take a look and join us – we promise to show you a new aspect of our borough you weren't aware of!

I sincerely appreciate their abilities, expertise, and enthusiasm.

This "Golden Year" has us all reflecting upon the many roles of QHS. Joan Kindler recently sent me an e-mail citing some of them. Connie DeMartino is culling over the Newsletter, so that our bragging rights can be documented. We are collecting QHS memorabilia for an exhibit of items.

We have expanded our exhibitions into the communities but are looking forward to the continuing programs in the house.

My request to all: How do you remember something about the Society? This can be an event, lecture, program, person or town! Is there something that we did or should do? Please share with us and plan to attend upcoming celebrations and talks.

QHS's 50th Anniversary

Jack Eichenbaum,
Queens Borough Historian

Not long after Kingsland Homestead was moved to its present location and designated as Queens' first official historic landmark in 1965, the Queens Historical Society was founded at the site in 1968. This year, QHS celebrates its fiftieth anniversary with two events.

Walking Tour — Dr. Jack Eichenbaum, Queens Borough Historian and QHS Board member, will lead a walking tour from QHS at Kingsland Homestead to its two prior locations in the Murray Hill neighborhood of Flushing. The tour will commence at Kingsland Homestead on Wednesday, August 8, 2018 at 5:30 PM and include historical sites en route as well as features of the expanding Korean community in the neighborhood. The tour will end less than two hours later at Kingsland Homestead with light refreshments. A fee of \$30 is requested for participants. See the adjacent coupon to use for reservations. Only 30 people can be accommodated, first come first served.

New Board Member

Jefferson Mao, Trustee

Jefferson Mao brings to his position as a member of the Board of Trustees of Queens Historical Society a personal connection to the Queens immigrant experience and a dedication to public service.

For Jefferson, Queens has been home ever since he came to Flushing from China when he was eight years old. After going to college at the University of Chicago and receiving a

Anniversary Benefit — On Thursday, November 8, from 4:30 – 8:00 PM, QHS will host a reception at the Queens Botanical Garden. Various groups (historians, elected officials, etc.) will give short speeches (2 – 3 minutes) during the reception. The speeches would be in the main room and take place on the hour and half hour. This will allow these groups to establish their presence, provide information/interest to the attendees, but not fill up the entire 4 hours so that attendees can socialize among themselves and enjoy Kingsland Homestead, the light refreshments and libations served. A fee of \$50 is requested for participants who are QHS members (\$68 for non-members). See the adjacent coupon for reservations.

An **Anniversary Journal** will be published to accompany this event containing history and facts about QHS and Kingsland as well as advertisements. See the adjacent schedule for advertising rates which will support QHS maintenance and activities. All attendees and non-advertising contributors will also be cited in the Journal. Note that advertisers at the quarter page level will be entitled to one free admission to the reception and advertisers at the full page level will be entitled to two free admissions to the reception.

master's degree in urban planning from the Harvard Graduate School of Design, Jefferson now lives in Elmhurst and works as an urban planner for the Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer.

Now, as a Board Member, he hopes to connect the younger newcomers of Queens to the rich and complicated history of the borough.

He looks forward to working on education and outreach efforts, and helping to recruit the next generation of Queens Historical Society members.

Tentative Schedule for Journal Advertisements:

1/8 page — \$50
1/4 page — \$80
1/2 page — \$125
full page — \$200

Special rates for inside front and rear covers and "gold" pages. One free admission to the reception with a 1/4 page or 1/2 page ad; two free admissions with a full page ad. Non-advertising donations are also encouraged.

Walking Tour Details:

Location: Kingsland Homestead
Date: Wednesday, August 8, 2018
Time: 5:30pm
Price: \$30

Anniversary Benefit Details:

Location: Queens Botanical Garden
Date: Thursday, November 8, 2018
Time: 4:30 – 8:00pm
Price: \$50 (\$68 for non-members)



▼ Jefferson Mao Image Credit: Marco Grob.

Public Programming

Daniela Addamo

The new spring season brings brand new programs to Queens Historical Society! We are delighted to announce the SU-CASA grant, funded by the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs and Department of Aging, has been granted to QHS. We are extending our scope of community engagement by working with the seniors at Peter Cardella Senior Citizen Center in Ridgewood and Catherine Sheridan Senior Center in Jackson Heights. Professor Elizabeth DiGiorgio, an accomplished artist and teacher of Art and Design at Queensborough Community College, has already begun the painting workshops at these centers. The seniors are having a blast while working on paintings that, once completed, will be connected into the form of a large quilt. Stay tuned for the opening exhibitions in June to see these beautiful paintings!

We have some exciting events at QHS this season! We co-hosted a walking tour of the Flushing Cemetery with Voelker Orth

Historic Flushing Cemetery

Flushing Cemetery is a non-sectarian cemetery. Besides Louis Armstrong, musicians Dizzy Gillespie (whose plot is not marked), Hazel Dorothy Scott, US Congressmen Thomas B. Jackson, John Lawrence, Lemuel Quigg, Frederic Storm, Elmer Ebenezer Studley and William W. Valk, financier Bernard Baruch, restaurateur Vincent Sardi, Civil War hero and winner of the Congressional Medal of Honor, College Pointer Pvt. Carl Ludwig are all interred in Flushing Cemetery.

Source: Flushing Cemetery by Forgotten NY. Retrieved 2018-04-27

Museum, Bird Sanctuary and Victorian Garden on May 5th! In the education department, QHS is happy to announce more programs are being included for children and families on the weekends. For those of you who have children with an interest in science, we will be holding a Solar Power Family Workshop on Saturday, July 21st. This will be the second installment of our It's Electric! weekend series. Please check out page 4 for more details.

May will mark the 21st year of our Annual Art & History Contest! We've received all of the wonderful and creative art works from students in elementary schools from all over Queens, including homeschooled students. Queens Historical Society will be announcing by the beginning of May, nine winners who will be invited to the Art & History Contest Award Ceremony. All students who have participated will also be receiving a certificate from QHS.

We encourage you to check our website and social media for more updates on upcoming events, and our 50th Anniversary of the Queens Historical Society Celebration in the Fall.



▼ "Quilting Nature : Echoes of a Changing World" painting session. Peter Cardella Senior Citizens Center, 2018.



▼ "Flushing Cemetery," — Office and Chapel building remodeled in 2002-3 — illustration by Aliana Ramdass, 2018.

Treasures From The QHS Collection

Richard Hourahan,
Collections Manager

The United States entered World War I on April 6, 1917 — 101 years ago this month — when Congress declared war on the “Imperial German Government” (The last time Congress declared war was on June 4, 1942 — against Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania.

The QHS Collection holds a rare photograph from 1917 that depicts the Long Island Railroad station in Richmond Hill, two train

carriages, and a gathered crowd. What is the occasion?—the departure of a group of Queens men belonging to the 42nd Division of the United States Army to Camp Mills in Garden City. Later they will embark to Europe — again via the LIRR to ferries which will take them to the Brooklyn piers to board vessels to Western France.

On April 13, 1917 in Glendale — a Queens neighborhood of many German immigrants and residents of German ancestry — the Ridgewood Times reported that “A general order has gone out from police headquarters calling upon all aliens in the city to surrender their firearms to local police. The Glendale Police Station has sent out a notice calling on all Germans, Austrians and other aliens to turn over hunting

guns, pistols and other firearms. Failure to comply is a federal offense and immediate arrest will follow.” Again, this archival document, resides in the QHS Collection.



▼ World War I, Richmond Hill, 1917.

Featured Summer Education Programs



▼ Solar panels harnessing the light of the sun.

It's Electric!

It's Electric! is part of our regular educational programs, presented by Con Edison, that traces the history of power from colonial times to present. The advent of electricity in the late 19th century has paved the way for the age of technology. Students are introduced to various aspects in the scientific field including: Industrial Revolution, hydro power, solar power, wind power, electric energy, and satellite/GPS Systems.

Solar Energy Family Workshop — Queens Historical Society will be offering a workshop for children to assemble a Solar Rover Kit. This activity teaches children how to harness the light of the sun to power everyday object. They will transform a recycled soda can into a solar rover.

Date: Saturday, July 21st, 2018

Time: 11:00am – 1:00pm

Price: \$10 per child

Appropriate for: grades 5 – 8

Eventbrite Link: <https://goo.gl/xCtvmn>

RSVP by June 21st, 2018

Tickets per Person NOT per Family



▼ PS 18, Daniela Addamo, 2017.

Archaeological Workshop

This outdoor activity is a fun opportunity for a hands-on learning experience in archaeology. Students will participate in a simulated archaeological excavation in Weeping Beech Park to uncover the objects used in daily life from the pre-colonial to colonial era. Learn skills from artifact analysis and interpretation to advanced field methods. Programs can be modified as necessary. This is a workshop mid April to mid October — weather permitting.

Appropriate for: grades 4 – 8

Duration: 90 minutes

Price: \$150 per class



▼ “Colonial Toys & Games Exhibit,” Katherine Avalos, 2017.

Colonial Toys & Games

One of our most popular programs, this hands-on workshop focuses on everyday activities of children in the 18th and 19th centuries. Students will have an opportunity to play with historic toys such as the Buzz saw and Thaumatrope.

Appropriate for: grades K – 6

Duration: 60 minutes

Price: \$125 per class

Winter 2018 Issue Errata:

Pg 3

(Public Programming, 2nd column 3rd para.)

1) Professor DiGiorgio's

(Our Logo's a Winner!)

2) Graphic and Web Designer Rich Prior

3) Rich Prior Design

4) Awarded Gold

5) the International Visual Identity Awards.

6) IVA

Exhibitions Now on View at Queens Historical Society

Off-street parking available in municipal lot at 37th Ave & Union St.

Days & Times for All Exhibitions:
Tuesday, Saturday & Sunday from
2:30 – 4:30 pm

Museum Admission:
\$5 General, \$3 Seniors/Students,
QHS Members are FREE

All programs and exhibits are held at the Kingsland Homestead unless otherwise noted.



Aunt Mary's Landing

Mary King Murray was affectionately referred to as "Aunt Mary" by her family. Aunt Mary resided at Kingsland from 1847 until the 1920s. She is the linchpin in the history of Kingsland and its owners from its construction in 1785 until its sale during the Depression of the 1930s. Aunt Mary saved numerous mementos from her great grandparents, grandparents, and her parents.

Displayed on Aunt Mary's Landing are these handed down memories along with other personal items that were part of her everyday life from childhood to adulthood.



Victorian Parlor

The Kingsland Victorian Room has been modeled to appear as it would have in the year 1870. This year was chosen because it represents a traditional period for the Murray family.



The Sport of Kings in Queens Celebrating 350 Years of Thoroughbred Horse Racing On view October 8, 2017 – June 30, 2018

Queens has been a major center of thoroughbred horse racing since 1667 when King Charles II of England established here the first race course in his North American Possessions.

This exhibition details the history of this amazing sport in Queens from those early days 350 years ago to the present and its concomitant cultural, social and economic dimensions and relates stories of the sport's legends – horses, jockeys, trainers, and iconic races.



Kingsland: Past to Present

In our main hallway is a refurbished exhibit on the history of the Kingsland Homestead and the family that made it their home for over 100 years.



Weeping Beech Park

Come enjoy nature at work and watch as the buds on the Landmark Weeping Beech tree in America continue to grow and have their own daughters. While here, don't forget to look for the progress of our recently planted New-Town-Pippen apple tree.

2018 Events Spring/Summer

Saturday, May 5
2:00pm – 4:00pm

Flushing Cemetery Walking Tour

Rain Date: Sunday, May 6th (2:00pm)

Meetup Time: 1:45 pm

*Meets inside the main gate (Chapel)

Price: \$10 Registration

Tickets: <https://goo.gl/RVGHM4>

Saturday, May 5
10:00am – 3:00pm

Moore-Jackson Beautification Day

Continues: Every Saturday Following

Location: Moore-Jackson Cemetery

Facebook: <https://goo.gl/Lnh45z>

Price: Free

Sunday, May 6
10:45am – 3:00pm

Sacred Sites Walking Tour

More Info: queenshistoricalsociety.org

Map: <https://goo.gl/QiyTCW>

Price: Free

Saturday, May 12
2:30pm – 4:30pm

Kids Art & History Awards

Ceremony

Location: Queens Historical Society

Saturday June 2
10:00am – 5:30pm

The NEW World of

The Number 7 Train Tour

Price: \$49 per person

PayPal: <https://geognyc.com/payments/>

By Check: Info on QHS website

Saturday & Sunday,
June 16 – 17

2:30pm – 4:30pm

Path Through History

Additional Dates: October 6 – 8

Info: paththroughhistory.iloveny.com

Location: Kingsland Homestead

Price: Free

Friday & Thursday
June 22 & 28

10:30am – 12:00pm

Exhibition of Quilting Nature:

Echoes of a Changing World

Price: Free

June 22

Location: Peter Cardella Senior Citizens Center, Ridgewood

June 28

Location: Catherine Sheridan Senior Center, Jackson Heights

Saturday, July 21

11:00am – 1:00pm

Solar Energy Family Workshop

Info: pg 4 (In this Newsletter.)

Saturday, August 8

5:30pm – 7:00pm

Kingsland Homestead Walking Tour

Price: \$30 per person

Tickets: Available on QHS website

Sunday, September 30

2:30pm – 4:30pm

History and Commerce in the Old and New Netherlands: Revisited

Presented by Queens Borough Historian Jack Eichenbaum, PhD

Queens Historical Society Site Rental

Did you know, you can rent space at the Kingsland Homestead?

Both the Kingsland Homestead and surrounding Weeping Beech Park are available for weddings, business meetings, bridal showers, children's parties and other private events.

If you are interested in finding out more information on site rentals at the Kingsland Homestead, please contact us at:

718.939.0647

www.queenshistoricalsociety.org

Donate

Tax-deductible!

Donations are tax deductible & can be made to support any of our programs or for general operating purposes.

Become a Member!

Enjoy the benefits!

- ▶ Free museum admission
- ▶ Discounted admission to our programs
- ▶ Invitations to our special events and Exhibition Openings
- ▶ Copy of our newsletter
- ▶ 10% discount on all publications in our gift shop

See the last page for instructions on how to become a member of the Queens Historical Society.

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MEMBERSHIP FORM

YES, I would like to become a member of the Queens Historical Society or give a gift of membership. My contribution will help preserve the Kingsland Homestead and the history of the Borough of Queens.

Individual (annually) \$30 _____

Senior (annually) \$20 _____

Student (annually) \$15 _____

Family (annually) \$50 _____

Business (annually) \$300 _____

Life \$500 _____

Benefactor \$1000 _____

Gift Membership _____

Donation (tax deductible) _____

Company Matching Gift Program _____

TOTAL _____

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First Time Member _____ **Renewal** _____ **Gift Membership** _____

Name: _____

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Telephone: _____

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Your donation could easily double (or triple) at no extra cost to you.

Many firms have generous "MATCHING GIFT" programs which they encourage their employees to use. Ask if your company has such a program.

Membership in the Queens Historical Society begins in May and ends in April of the following year. Please make checks payable to the **Queens Historical Society** at **143-35 37th Avenue, Flushing, NY 11354**.

I am interested in becoming a Volunteer or Docent at the Queens Historical Society. Please contact me at the above phone number.

If you would like to share information with readers about Queens history or your life in Queens, please send it to us at: 143-35 37th Ave Flushing NY 11354 Attn: Newsletter or Email: info@queenshistoricalsociety.org