

The Depot Dispatch

Newsletter of the Lake Placid-North Elba Historical Society

Preserving and Presenting the History of Lake Placid

In this Issue

2025 Summer Season in Review—1, 4

Presidents' Message—2

Road to 2030—3

Collections Connection—3

It's Monumental—3

2025 Membership List—5

2024 & 2025 Donor List—6

Supporting the 2025 Annual Fund—7

Upcoming Events

2026 Winter Speaker Series

January 15th

Greetings From the Great Camps: The History of the Adirondack Vacation

February 19th

John Brown in New York: The Man, His Family, and the Adirondack Landscape

March 19th

Horse Drawn to Iron Horse: The Opening of the Adirondacks

April 16th

Trail Blazing Together: Stewardship, Partnership & the Future of the Adirondack Rail Trail

The History Museum is closed for the Season.

Arrangements can be made to visit the museum by appointment.

The Museum will reopen for the 2026 season on Memorial Day Weekend



LAKE PLACID-NORTH ELBA
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
THE HISTORY MUSEUM

PO Box 189
242 Station St
Lake Placid, NY 12946

Issue 2-2025

2025 Summer Season in Review

A flurry of activity was the theme of the 2025 summer season at the LPNEHS. An array of great events were packed into this summer's schedule at The History Museum and around town. Hundreds of visitors were welcomed to the Museum throughout the summer and community members and visitors enjoyed a number of new events this year. These new events have allowed the Historical Society to expand its presence in the community.

Celebrating the new 2025 exhibit, *Golf Explodes*, the Historical Society hosted its annual museum reception in June. The event was attended by nearly 150 people and included members of the Dunn family who were there to represent their legendary forebearer, Seymour Dunn—the focus of the new golf exhibit. Dunn designed several area golf courses and founded a local business that manufactured custom golf clubs.



Guests at the June Open House gather around the new golf exhibit.

Golf Explodes tracks the history of golf in Lake Placid, initially introduced by the Dunn family from Scotland. The exhibit will remain up for the 2026 season so plan to swing by and see the exhibit next summer.



Nick Fitzsimmons, Sarah Galvin, Marc Galvin

In July, the Society hosted its first **One-Club Golf Tournament** at the Lake Placid Club's *Pristine Nine* course. Participants were encouraged to wear vintage clothing. The rules included the use of only one golf club. Use of antique clubs were also required on select holes. Players were treated to a reception and awards ceremony at The History Museum after the event.



Erica Burns & Leo McKenna



Celebrating at the tournament Awards Ceremony (from left to right): Peter Clement, Bob Beier, Rick Young, Betsy Hlavacek, Perry Babcock

Continued on page 4

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Officers

Perry Babcock
Co-President

Betsy Hlavacek
Co-President

Steve Sama
Vice President

John Huttlinger, Jr.
Treasurer

Erin Perkins
Secretary

Trustees

Mike Butler

Karen Fountain

Margie Gallagher

Georgia Jones

Laura Clark

Patricia Clark

Doug Lansing

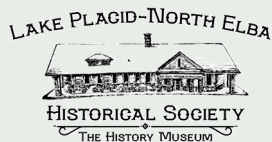
Ashleah Mayberry

Heather Perkins

Peter Roland, Jr.

Parmelee Tolkan

Chris Malmgren
Director



Lake Placid-North Elba Historical Society

PO Box 189
242 Station Street
Lake Placid, NY 12946
(518) 523-1608
info@lakeplacidhistory.org

lakeplacidhistory.org
facebook.com/lakeplacidhistory
instagram.com/lakeplacidhistory
youtube.com/DigitalMedia-LPNEHS



Presidents' Message

If we still had a conductor at the train station, this summer they would have called *All Aboard!* The Lake Placid-North Elba Historical Society at 242 Station Street was bustling. Activities for all ages filled the schedule, both inside the museum and around town. Pictures within this newsletter capture the energy of our events. We aim to carry this enthusiasm forward into 2026!

Thanks to a grant provided by the Uihlein Foundation, the Lake Placid-North Elba Historical Society took a major step in planning for the future. With the incredible gift of her professional guidance, Liz Clarke led the LPNEHS *Strategic Planning Core Group* through the development of an interpretive plan. The ten-month process included multiple work sessions and a four-day workshop with a museum consultant from Maryland. The process involved participation by members of the community, the LPNEHS Board of Trustees and staff. The end result is a document that captures the potential of the LPNEHS Museum, carefully identifying stories to be told, the breadth and depth of the visitor experience and reimagining the capacity of the museum building and property. The plan includes a narrative of the process, a workbook outlining steps required to achieve the goals and clarity regarding the funding needed at each stage. As members and patrons of the Lake Placid North-Elba Historical Society, you can help shape the future and preserve our hometown history in a way which is current and creative.

Perry Babcock

Perry Babcock
Co-President



Betsy Hlavacek

Betsy Hlavacek
Co-President

Perry & Betsy sporting their vintage golf attire at the July 9th One-Club Golf Tournament.
Photo courtesy of Caleb Mihill

Support Our 2025 Business Partner Members



Road to 2030

The Lake Placid-North Elba Historical Society is a community resource, starting with our volunteer board, but also our fast-growing membership—including affiliate volunteers, business partners and regional stakeholders. Partnerships and collaborations will help us define our stories. We are excited to work with the many like-minded programs in and around Lake Placid as we interpret the rich history of the region. The *Road to 2030* centers our attention on our newly minted interpretive plan. The well-framed directives found in the plan, coupled with the foundational work done with the *2023 Strategic Plan* will be our blueprint for the balance of this decade.

The *2025 Interpretive Plan* directs us to redefine our museum stories, reinvigorate our educational programs and develop the railyard property. Each of these initiatives will be designed to elevate the visitor experience. The Historical Society will enthusiastically move forward with our newly established plans to expand, while we reaffirm our role as the primary repository of the rich history of Lake Placid. We will, of course, need considerable financial resources in addition to volunteer support and engagement from the community.

There are many ways to help the Lake Placid-North Elba Historical Society reach it's *Road to 2030* goal. Below are just a few ways in which you can support this effort:

Sponsorship Opportunities

- **Sponsor an Event:** The menu includes receptions, speaker series, educational programs, summer music gatherings and other on-site events.
- **Sponsor our Summer Museum Season:** This includes support for summer museum staff, exhibits and museum maintenance.
- **Sponsor an Information Kiosk-** As we add more wayfinding stations on the museum property there will be opportunities to underwrite one of our storyboards.

Collections Connection

During the winter months the collections team will continue to work on organizing collections and updating documentation in our collections management software program, *CatalogIt*.

Can You Identify This Object?

One of the jobs of those working in collections management is to research and identify objects to determine what they might have been used for in the past. Can you guess what this object was used for?



Object from the collections of the LPNEHS

You can find the answer to this object's identity at the bottom of page 4.

It's Monumental

Have you ever stopped to look at the various historical monuments located around Lake Placid? Here's a special tribute to the veterans and soldiers of the Adirondacks who served in the 10th Mountain Division. The 10th Mountain Division was formed by the Army to be an elite mountain warfare unit during WWII and has since been reactivated multiple times as an Army light infantry division. The *monument* is located on River Road in Lake Placid.



2025 Summer Season in Review

(continued from page 1)

New to the summer calendar was the *Music at the Museum* series. These concerts were sponsored by local businesses and showcased musicians on three Mondays, all were beautiful summer evenings. Thanks to this year's sponsors: Gordon W. Pratt Agency Inc, Norfolk Beier PLLC and The Reynolds Group as well as entertainers Rusty & Greg, Northwest Passage and Joe Scrimenti & Friends.



Rusty Hlavacek & Greg Reiss



Margie Gallagher & Steve Sama at the Festival



Scavenger Hunt first place winners from left to right: Keith Clark, Tricia Preston, Mark Clark, Laura Clark



Community members enjoy a summer concert at the Museum

The Society's annual *Festival* was held in early August this year. Community members and other visitors enjoyed a number of festivities, including a silent auction, bake sale, white elephant sale, a variety of crafters and vendors and a heritage furniture sale. There were also games for kids, music by Scott Sileo and a BBQ provided by the Lake Placid Masonic Lodge. LPNEHS is grateful to all those who supported our annual Festival fundraiser this year.



Festival attendees enjoying the many vendors at the Festival

The annual *Lake Placid Historic Scavenger Hunt* was held at The History Museum and in the Village and surrounding areas of Lake Placid on September 25th. Teams were given a set of clues to take around town in search of secret historic spots. Once teams discovered answers to all their clues they returned to the museum where they were given another set of clues to locate objects in the museum. Participants enjoyed food, drinks and prizes.

Answer to "Can You Identify This Object" on page 3: The object is a tobacco cutter (circa late 19th or early 20th century). It was used to cut tobacco leaves or plugs into finer and more usable pieces which could then be put into a pipe or made into a cigar or cigarette. Some even used it to cut tobacco for chewing.

2025 Lake Placid-North Elba Historical Society Members

Director's Circle

Adele & Tom Connors
Caroline & Serge Lussi
Robert & Elizabeth McGraw
Peter & Heidi Roland
Parmelee Tolkan

Heritage Gold

Dean & Mary Dietrich
Helen & Jerry Freilich
Steve Sama & Bronwen Perkins

Heritage Silver

Perry & Susan Babcock
Nancy & Chris Beattie
Sandy & Chip Bissell
Jim Brooks
Betsy & Rusty Hlavacek
Wayne & Catherine Johnson
Fred Jubitz
Pat & Jen Ledger
Henry & Jean Marcy
Dr. John A. Matochik
Carol Nevulis
John & Lauren Roth
Lee Slocum
Margaret J Smith
John H Stewart
Chip & Annie Vigne
Ed & Lisa Weibrecht

Heritage Bronze

David Aldrich & Chandler Ralph
John Beckman & Paula Ryan
Brian & Janet Bliss
Robin & Bob Brenner
Robert & Carol Brown
Mike Butler
Laura & Mark Clark
Edward Comstock
Alexander Dashnaw
Helen Demong & Joe McPhillips
Peggy & Greg Dennin
Nevton & Louise Dunn
Ron & Beth Edgley
Richard Evans
Edward Finnerty
Karen Fountain
Kathe Fox & Michael Collins
Margaret & Patrick Gallagher
Holly & Michael Healy
Doug & Carol Hoffman
Jini Hood
John & Patricia Hopkinson
John & Karen Huttlinger
Georgia Jones
Bruce & Deborah Long
Peggy MacKellar & Richard Preis
Ashleah & Daniel Mayberry
David & Sarina Nicola

Heritage Bronze (continued)

Erin Perkins
Greg & Heather Perkins
R.J. Potter
Rhonda Preston
Jonathan Prime
Greg & Liza Reiss
Paul & Joanne Reiss
Val & Jamie Rogers
Beth & Tim Rowland
Dan & Betsy Senkowski
Gary Smith
Martin & Robin Smith
Jerry & Judy Strack
Bradley Streeter & Liz Hlavacek
Ernie & Sara Stretton
Claire Thayer
Gail Thayer
Sybil P Veeder, PhD
Ted & Katie Volz
Mary Welch

*Thank you to our members for
their continued support of the
Lake Placid-North Elba
Historical Society.*

We couldn't do it without you!

Friends

Susan & Timothy Albright
Maggie Bartley
Nancie Battaglia
Robin Baxter
Bill & Judy Beaney
Judith Borzilleri
Kimberly & Kevin Brenneman
Denis Bujold
Sue Cameron
Barbara Clark
Polly-Jo Clark
Bernadette Clarke & Carmine Salvo
Nancy Colon
Julie & Jim Connors
Richard & Barbara Crowley
Dr. James C. Dawson
William Decker
Steve & Beverly Detwiler
Penny Dieffenbach
Carolyn Diehl
Claire Doyle
John Eldridge
Denise Erenstone
Marcy Fagen
Cynthia E Gallagher
Cliff & Linda Gebhardt
Tony Goodwin

Friends (continued)

Stuart & Janis Hempel
Alan & Lisa Highet
Nash & Dana Lamb
Doug Lansing
Susan & Bob Laskin
Diane B Laurent
Daniel & Pamela Leff
Ann Barton Lynch
Peter, Holly & Elisa Lynch
Kathleen Martens
Darcy Martin
J. Peter Martin
Nancy Master
Woods & Pearl McCahill
Clayton McClesky
Barbara McCusker
Carole Moore
William Moore
George & Jeanne Nimmo
C. Peter Ordway
Greg & Heather Perkins
Robert Perkins Jr.
Denise Perry
Aurora Pfaff
Ian & Wendy Poole
Constance Roscoe
Birgit Schulte
Harris & Susan Semegram
Jim & Judy Shea
Cindy Smith
Richard Terry & Margaret Doran
Peter & Janet Ticconi
Barbara Walden
Linda Warner
Kate Weaver
Anne & Jeffrey Wright
Roger Zilliox

Business Partner Members

The Bookstore Plus
Cambria Hotel Lake Placid
Capisce Coffee & Espresso Bar
Golden Arrow Lakeside Resort
Gordon W Pratt Agency
High Peaks Cyclery
Lake Placid Volunteer Fire Deposit
Norfolk Beier, PLLC
The Reynolds Group of Lake Placid
Wilkins Agency

Not a Member?

*If you're not yet a member of the
LPNEHS, please consider joining.
Visit lakeplacidhistory.org
to learn more about the levels
and benefits of membership.*

Thank You to Our 2024 & 2025 Donors

Timothy & Susan Albright
 Dr Mary Elizabeth Alexander
 Anonymous
 John Arons & Mary Neary
 Perry & Susan Babcock
 David J. Balestrini, DMD
 Nancie Battaglia Photography
 Robin Baxter
 Peter B Biegel & Family
 Arthur & Sandy Bissell
 Linda Blair
 Brian & Janet Bliss
 The Bookstore Plus
 William & Judith Borzilleri
 Briggs Family Law Firm
 Denise Bujold
 Jeffrey Burnham
 Erica & Jake Burns
 Jeffrey & Nevenka Byrne
 Barbara Clark
 Compass Printing Plus
 Julie & Jim Connors
 Mark Crawford
 Harriet DeFranco
 Karen & Brian Delaney
 Claire Delnegro
 Penny Dieffenbach
 Craig & Cindy Dunn
 Nevton & Louise Dunn
 Barbara S. Dwyer, CPA
 James & Deborah Eisel

*Annual Fund leadership
 gifts are the most impact-
 ful way to support the
 Historical Society.*

Lori & Chris Evangel
 Edward P. Finnerty
 Karen Fountain
 Margie & Patrick Gallagher
 Reginald & Joan Gignoux
 Lori & Chris Grant
 Stephanie Gubelin
 Gary Haggart
 Stuart & Janis Hempel

Alan & Lisa Highet
 Betsy & Rusty Hlavacek
 Doug & Carol Hoffman
 Peter & Kim Holderied
 Terry & Cynthia Horrocks
 John & Karen Huttlinger
 Georgia Jones
 Fred & Sandy Kaplan
 Henry M Keeshan
 Martha Knowles

*Giving is not just about
 making a donation. It is about
 making a difference.*
 Kathy Calvin



Thank you for your support!

Joe & Kathy Lamb
 Marilyn Lansing
 Jeff Laurent
 Babette Ledwith
 Dan & Pam Leff
 Charlotte Lichtenberg
 Betsy Lowe
 Arthur Lussi
 Peter, Holly & Elisa Lynch
 Darcy Martin
 J. Peter Martin
 George G Matthews
 George McBride
 Woods & Pearl McCahill
 Jane & James McGraw
 Robert & Elizabeth McGraw
 Scott & Cathy McGraw
 John III & Ellen McMillin
 Joseph McPhillips & Helen Demong
 Carol Nevulis
 Michael & Tina Newman
 George & Jeanne Nimo
 C. Peter & Madelaine Ordway
 Gregory L. Peacock
 Erin Perkins
 James Poole

RJ Potter
 Meredith Prime
 Randall Quayle
 Claudia & Dennis Quinn
 Elizabeth Reed
 Liza Reiss Real Estate
 Paul J. & Joanne Reiss
 Diane Reynolds
 Peter & Heidi Roland
 Elizabeth Rover
 Steve Sama & Bronwin Perkins
 Harris & Susan Semegram
 Laura & Richard Sheft
 Marty & Mary Shubert
 Mary L Sicard
 Simply Gourmet
 Amy Smith
 Juliana R Smith
 Margaret Jackson Smith
 Roger Smith & Rachelle Bose
 Jerry & Judi Strack
 Ernie & Sara Stretton
 Eleanor A Sulston
 John & Sandra Taylor
 Julie Testwuide
 Claire Thayer
 Gail Thayer
 Thomas Thompson
 Parmelee Tolk
 Sybil P Veeder, PhD
 Linda Warner
 Mark Wilson & Mary Thill

*Thank you for your generous
 support. We hope you will contin-
 ue to support us this year. For
 information about our 2025
 Annual Fund drive, see page 7 of
 this newsletter. You can also visit
 the Historical Society website at:
lakeplacidhistory.org/annual-fund
 or scan the QR code below.*



2025 Annual Fund

Dear Friends of the Lake Placid North Elba Historical Society,

The Annual Fund for the LPNEHS is a pivotal component of our financial stability. We are a modest operation, reliant on grants and general support to keep our programs flourishing. Please refer to the pie chart below to see the distribution of our income sources.

There are many ways to support our efforts. Leadership gifts of \$1000 or more are always the most beneficial. Sponsorship opportunities also abound and we welcome your support. There are samples of sponsorship opportunities listed on page 3 of this newsletter.

We are respectful of the many wonderful organizations in our area who are competing for your philanthropic support. That is why we work so hard to manage our expenses thoughtfully and engage with business partners and like-minded organizations whenever possible.

The Lake Placid-North Elba Historical Society is teeming with enthusiastic Board members, volunteers and patrons. Our new interpretive plan outlines an aggressive five-year goal for our education programs, the Museum, and the Museum property.

As previously stated, the impact of additional *leadership-level gifts* with respect to our annual budget is significant. Our collective vision for The History Museum and property, along with expanding educational programs can only be realized if the LPNEHS can establish a deeper well of resources to support our goals.

Thank you for keeping the Historical Society in your thoughts; for participating, for cheerleading, and for supporting. We look forward to an even more successful year in 2026!

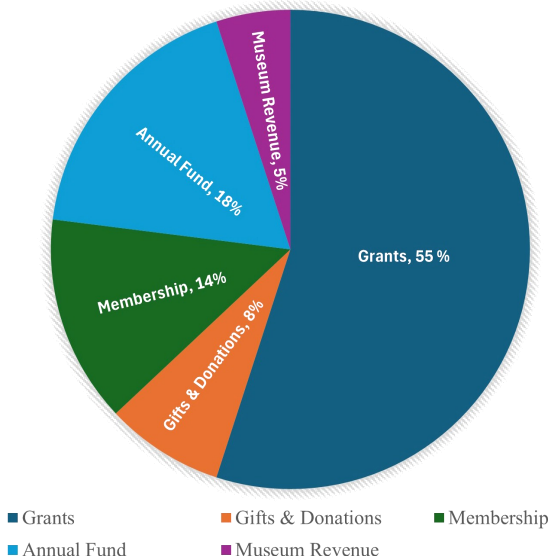
Thank you in advance for your support!

Perry, Betsy and the LPNEHS Board of Trustees

Perry Betsy

LPNEHS Percentage of Annual Income by Source

Based on 2025 Data



Lake Placid-North Elba Historical Society Annual Fund

Ways to Give



Traditional Gift

To make a gift to the *Annual Fund* you may write a check payable to the Lake Placid-North Elba Historical Society or give online: *Scan the QR code below to make your Annual Fund donation.*



lakeplacidhistory.org/annualfund

Donor Advised Funds

Donor Advised Funds allow donors to make a charitable contribution, receive an immediate tax deduction, and then recommend donations to nonprofit organizations like the Lake Placid-North Elba Historical Society from their fund over time.

IRA Charitable Distribution

For those over 70 1/2 years of age, a gift of up to \$105,000 may be made from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA). Using your IRA to fund a contribution directly to the Lake Placid-North Elba Historical Society avoids potential income tax. A qualified charitable distribution (QCD) counts towards your required minimum distribution if you are 73 years or older.

Gifts of Stock

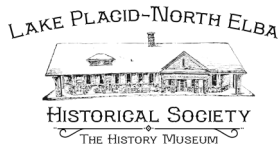
Gifts of appreciated stock benefit the Historical Society and provide you with an opportunity to avoid capital gains and maximize charitable deductions.

Legacy Giving

Consider including a legacy gift to the Lake Placid-North Elba Historical Society in your estate plan. Contact your legal or financial advisor to learn more about your giving options which may assist you in maximizing your charitable intentions while minimizing your estate taxes.

The Lake Placid-North Elba Historical Society is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

Federal Tax ID # 14-6032009



242 Station Street, PO Box 189
Lake Placid, NY 12946

LAKE PLACID-NORTH ELBA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2026 WINTER SPEAKER SERIES

JAN 15	Greetings From the Great Camps: The History of the Adirondack Vacation Join American historian and Adirondacker, <i>Connor Williams</i> , who will discuss the forces, movements, moments and people that led to the nexus of wilderness, exertion, rejuvenation, and comfort that still all define the Adirondack region today. Williams, who also serves as lead historian at Great Camp Sagamore, teaches at Middlebury College and co-authored recently published book: <i>A Promise Delivered: Ten American Heroes and the Battle to Rename Our Nation's Military Bases</i> .
FEB 19	John Brown in New York: The Man, His Family, and the Adirondack Landscape Join <i>Sandra Weber</i> for a compelling lecture featuring her newest book, <i>John Brown in New York: The Man, His Family, and the Adirondack Landscape</i> . Weber offers a fresh and intimate look at the famed abolitionist, focusing on the years of the Brown family's connection with North Elba from 1848–1863. Ms. Weber's latest book will be available for purchase at the event and a book signing will follow her presentation.
MAR 19	Horse Drawn to Iron Horse: The Opening of the Adirondacks Join <i>Parmelee Tolkan</i> as she explores the history of early transportation in the United States and the opening up of the Adirondacks to summer residents and tourists with the arrival of the trains. Ms. Tolkan is a long-time resident of Lake Placid and a Historical Society board member.
APR 16	Trailblazing Together: Stewardship, Partnership & the Future of the Adirondack Rail Trail Adirondack Rail Trail Association's Executive Director, <i>Julia Goren</i> , will share how ARTA supports partner communities and the DEC through long-term stewardship, promotion, maintenance, and coordination of the trail. She'll share lessons learned, highlight collaborative approaches to stewardship and community engagement, and offer a glimpse into what's next for the ART as it continues to connect people and places across the North Country.

All programs are free and open to the public and will be held on Thursday evenings at 7 pm.
Location information is coming soon.