

See Page 4 for  
Upcoming  
Events!

# BMSHS

Briarcliff Manor/Scarborough  
Historical Society

www.  
briarcliffhistory.  
org/

## 2010 Annual Meeting – Wednesday, April 21st – 7:30 pm Great Hall, Edith Macy Conference Center

### Dear Members and Friends:

April 5, 2010

You are most cordially invited to the Society's Annual Meeting in the Great Hall of the Edith Macy Conference Center on Chappaqua Road, which will focus on the following items:



*The Great Hall, centerpiece of the original Edith Macy Training School established in 1925 and our Annual Meeting site*

- **Review of the past year**, and a very brief business meeting
- **Status of the Society's new home** in the Briarcliff Library
- **Announcement of upcoming events**, including a second church tour, our celebrated Briarcliff bus tour and a uniquely historic and fun fall event!
- **Brief history of Edith Macy Conference Center**, its importance in our community and the unique role of The Great Hall, with David Vogt, General Manager of the center
- **Presentation on little known happenings on and near the Hudson** through the years with our keynote speaker, Scott Craven (remember him from our most recent cruise?) Topics will include active commercial fishing in Sparta, local nickel and tin mining and some Revolutionary War surprises.

- **Refreshments, special music, a historic picture quiz** with prizes and spirited conversation with friends and neighbors.

This event will help us get better acquainted with a Village landmark— now the Edith Macy Conference Center and former national headquarters of the Girl Scouts of the United States. We know it exists, but few know about its important role in community and country. Here's a great chance to find out more.

**Scott Craven** makes his living as Captain of the Ossining Police Department, but his passion is history. A graduate of Hackley School and Pace University, his Masters in History centered on Hudson River studies. He brings his love for our area and joy in telling people about it and he's a fascinating teacher!

This is not a "member's only" function, but space is limited to approximately 100. Please put the date on your calendar and **reserve space now by calling**

**941-4393** with the number in your party. This will help us give us an accurate count. Many thanks.

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*Scott Craven, Hudson River history expert, under the Bear Mt. Bridge during our cruise last year*



To report on major recent projects, the March 21st Housewarming & Dedication of the Eileen O'Connor Weber Historical Center – our new home on the lower level of the expanded Briarcliff Library -- was a wowser. Nearly 200 Society members and friends gathered to see what their generous donations and trust in the Society have created. This will be a place where we can all learn, socialize and be



Board Members Mimi Boe, Jan Wagner and Karen Smith turned the lower level of the Briarcliff Library into a very special place – with your much appreciated help!

inspired by history. We are very grateful!

In other news, the 2009 Annual Meeting at the new library's Crandall Room was enjoyed by all. "Benjamin Franklin" stopped by to give us the "latest news" from the colonies. Eileen Weber herself let us in on some special Briarcliff "dirt" and nearly 100 friends enjoyed the comfortable, open setting of this great new community facility.

Our Fourth Annual Garden Tour in June took place in great weather, and included the Curran, Taben, Varvaro, Von Ancken and Wolf gardens – and, as always, the Red Barn. We are indebted to these families for their care, beautiful landscapes and welcoming nature. Because of lasting effects from massive February storms, we have postponed our fifth Annual Garden Tour to 2011.

Our Hudson Cruise last October featured an incredible narrative presentation by Ossining's Scott Craven and everyone aboard loved it – and him. We had another gorgeous day, and with Scott aboard again next time, you surely won't want to miss it. You will get a good idea of his talent and knowledge by hearing him at the Annual Meeting.

Our Church Tour I in February took us to All Saints Episcopal, Scarborough Presbyterian and Briarcliff Congregational. Nearly 40 of us visited these houses of worship and asked for more. We will follow up in June with Church Tour II. (See "Coming Events")

Your membership helps the Society provide compelling events that keep the past alive. Please do send in your 2010 dues now while it's on your mind. We appreciate your financial help and also welcome your personal involvement. There are many ways you can help in whatever time you have available. See the sign-up sheet in the library if you're interested, or email or phone us to discuss your comments and ideas.

With our new home, we can properly answer your needs in terms of local history. When archiving papers and artifacts is well underway on or about mid-year, we'll be announcing regular hours. With this new home, we're certain the Society will continue to be an increasingly important voice in promoting our Village's special heritage. Do join us to continue to "make history" in Briarcliff Manor and Scarborough!

Tom Vincent – President

Phone: 914-941-4393

Email: [mail@briarcliffhistory.org](mailto:mail@briarcliffhistory.org)

**Please Note:** Membership dues cover our yearly operating costs. Additional donations are welcome and can be designated for any special fund – scholarship or museum/archival center. To ensure proper credit please complete the entire return envelope. Many thanks.



# Briarcliff Manor/Scarborough Historical Society MEMBERS – 2009

(Note: Our membership year begins on April 1st  
and ends on March 31st of the following year)

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Eileen O'Connor Weber

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*St. Mary's Episcopal Church, with its special bells and windows, will be  
toured in June.*

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## CONTRIBUTORS

Thomas Comiskey



# BMSHS

Briarcliff Manor/Scarborough  
Historical Society

P.O. Box 11  
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*The Briarcliff Library—our new home!*

## Annual Meeting at Edith Macy, April 21st & Arts Abloom, May 2nd!

Jane Faber  
89 Fuller Rd  
Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510

10510+1327



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark Your Calendars!

**ANNUAL MEETING— WED, APRIL 21ST – 730 PM - The Great Hall at Edith Macy Conference Center** – a national-park-lodge setting in the woods -- for special presentations, refreshments and enjoying members and friends. You're our guest, but limit is 80 attendees; make reservations at 941-4393 so we'll have accurate count. **Directions:** Pass under the Taconic Pkwy on Pleasantville Road. Turn left onto Chappaqua Road and go 1.2 miles to "Guest Parking" on your right. The Great Hall is just across the street.

**CHURCH TOUR II – SUN, JUNE 13TH – 1:00 PM - Meet at Congregation Sons of Israel Parking Lot** Based on the successful February tour, this will continue our visits to all eight houses of worship in the Village in your own car as our guest. In addition to CSI, we will tour St Mary's Episcopal (1851), with its bell donated by Commodore Perry and the only complete set of Bolton windows in existence, plus Holy Innocents Anglican, a former sta-

ble, now a beautifully restored carriage house. Call 941-4393 to reserve.

### **BRIARCLIFF BUS TOUR – OCTOBER**

Resuming a longstanding Village tradition, Eileen Weber and Betsy O'Leary will be your hosts on board. You'll travel all over Briarcliff old and new, and hear facts, anecdotes and stories – some old chestnuts and some for the first time ever. More on date, time and price in early summer.

### **ALL-AMERICAN DINNER FESTIVAL –**

**NOVEMBER** This party will celebrate our country's heritage through the food, drink and entertainment of its regions – East, West, North and South. It will combine beverages and dinner dishes that have gained historic popularity, as well as song, dance and spoken word that have inspired Americans from Maine to California and everywhere in between. More on location, date and price this summer.