Dear Fellow Members,

I would like to kick off this first issue of the MPHS Quarterly by thanking Gary Ollett for inspiring me to undertake this venture. Though I was disappointed to learn that Gary has decided not to run for re-election to the office of president in our upcoming May elections, I am certain that whoever is elected to take his place will endeavor to fill those shoes with a similarly high level of integrity and dedication. Gary, your service has been appreciated and will be missed.

As for myself, it is my hope that the Publications Committee will grow to include more members. It stands to reason that the best way to create a strong quarterly newsletter is through a collaborative effort. We should strive to involve many contributors with varying viewpoints, people who have training and experience in differing areas of expertise which compliment each other’s strengths and compensate for each other’s weaknesses. I would also like to see that cover stories and feature articles in future issues be submitted by a greater number contributing authors, each with their own unique perspectives and drawing from their personal interests and experiences.

As the Organization continues to grow and increase its membership, the size, quality and scope of the newsletter will grow as well. Among the goals of the Publications Committee will be to reach a wider audience including, but not limited to, both our local and regional elected officials, as well as other civic groups within the tri-hamlet community and eventually to civic, historical and educational groups in neighboring areas as well.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Lubrano, Trustee

Distribution Notice

To reduce postage costs, we will be trying to send out this publication via e-mail to as many of the members as possible. If you received this issue via postal mail, and would prefer to receive future issues by e-mail, please send a note to the official Society address at mphs333@optonline.net including your name and e-mail address. Rich will then forward these requests to the Publications Committee.
Local Historical Society Seeks Protection for Colonial Era Cemetery

By Ed De Gennaro

One of the current projects the Mastic Peninsula Historical Society is working on is the recognition for a local cemetery in Mastic that most residents of our town have never heard of.

Daniel Lane was a farmer in the 1800’s, who had a farm between Lambert Ave., and Titmus Dr., just north of Montauk Highway. As was the practice in those days, a family graveyard existed on the farm. There were a total of (10) Lanes, (2) Sandfords, and (1) Baldwin buried in this graveyard.

The farm was broken up into parcels and sold off in 1922, and the headstones were removed and sent to Mt. Pleasant Cemetery in East Moriches in the 1930’s. Only Harriet Baldwin’s headstone remained for some reason up until the 1950’s. The issue here is the headstones were removed, but THE BODIES STILL REMAIN IN THE GROUND. The Town of Brookhaven does recognize and acknowledges this cemetery exists, but there are no boundaries or markers to show its exact location. The only headstone left in place in the 1950’s was found down in a large gully behind the current strip mall when Titmus Dr. was opened to meet Montauk Hwy. about 15 years ago.

We are working closely with the Town Historian to pinpoint the exact location of the graveyard. When we find the location, the Society plans to erect a fence around the boundary, complete with plantings and landscaping, and a sign (provided by the Town) to acknowledge the people still buried there. A local Eagle Scout troop has agreed to provide the labor, and fund-raising to cover all costs.

It is only fitting that the family buried here be given the recognition and respect they deserve, and to preserve this small parcel of land from future building projects.

Committee Reports

Publications Committee: At the February meeting, Mike Lubrano agreed to undertake the task of creating standardized templates for business cards, letterheads and a revised membership application. At the March meeting, three design options were presented to the membership and a vote was taken to select the new official stationery.

Historic Sites Committee: Members conducted research to determine the location of the Lane Family Cemetery.

Membership Committee: Please be advised that 2009 membership fees are now past due.

Nominations Committee: Nominations for 2009-2010 officers and trustees are scheduled to occur during the April monthly meeting.

Fundraising Committee: Application materials for obtaining 501(c)(3) status were requested from the Internal Revenue Service.
The Mastic Peninsula Historical Society
P.O. Box 333, Mastic, New York 11950

“Working today to preserve yesterday”

Application for Membership

NAME(S): ____________________________________________

ADDRESS:     ( Street ) _______________________________________
               ( City ) _______________________________________
               ( State ) _________________________ ( Zip ) __________

PHONE:          ( Area Code ) _______ ( Number ) _______________________

EMAIL:           _________________________________________________

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP REQUESTED (Please Check One)

___ Standard Adult member $20.00
___ Standard Family Member ( Husband & Wife ) $30.00
___ Senior Adult Member ( 62 or over ) $10.00
___ Senior Family Member $15.00
___ Junior ( under 18 ) or Student ( High School or College ) $5.00
___ Institutional Member $50.00
___ Contributing and Sustaining Members $100.00
___ Life Membership $150.00
___ Honorary Member (No Fee pending designation by Board of Trustees)

Please submit this application and a check for the appropriate fee to a board member or mail to:

The Mastic Peninsula Historical Society
P.O. Box 333
Mastic, NY 11950

Trustees
Richard Oldham • Shirley Jensen • Susan Gonzales • Susan Snizek
Mercedes Mowdy • Adeline Poje • Ernie Jochen
2009 Meeting Schedule

January 21  
Annual Dues Collection
February 18  
Monthy Meeting
March 18  
Monthly Meeting
April 15  
Officer/Trustee Nominations
May 20  
Annual Elections
June 17  
Monthly Meeting
July 15  
Monthly Meeting
August 19  
Monthly Meeting
September 16  
Monthly Meeting
October 21  
Monthly Meeting
November 18  
Monthly Meeting
December 16  
Monthly Meeting

Regular monthly meetings are held at the Mastic Fire Dept. unless otherwise noted.

Meetings begin at 7:30PM EST

Current Members

Carol Bender
Geri Borrusso
Richard Davin
Barbara Davis
Edward De Gennaro
Gwen Fazzina
Laura Gallignani
Susan Gonzales
Shirley Jensen
Ernest Jochen
Michael Lubrano
Scott L. Marshall
Joseph May
Jack Monti
Mercedes Mowdy
Richard Oldham
Gary F. Ollett
Adeline Poje
Susan Snizek