

THE HISTORIAN'S EXCHANGE

Let Us Give Thanks

the traditional foods

still eaten today were

that

when outdoor games

around the Thanksgiv-

introduced

culture.

durina

into our

period

It was also

VOLUME 24 NUMBER 4

It's Thanksgiving! For

me, the first image that

comes to mind is the

wonderful painting by

Norman Rockwell the

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NOVEMBER 2019

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by family and friends in each of the chairs.

It is an image that many of us still recreate each year and it harps back to that first Thanksgiving in 1621 when a large assemblage of Pilgrims and Wampanoag Native Americans celebrated for three days after a successful first harvest. During those early years, many of

season were introduced to pass the time.

From the time of the Revolution, an informal Thanksgiving was held at different times in different states, yet most of them focused November. around President and Lincoln's 1863 proclamaset the final Thursday in the month as a time to give

thanks. Finally, the fourth Thursday became the date for celebration with a joint resolution of Congress sianed by Franklin Roosevelt in 1941.

> Despite the moving date of holiday, the what the day represented has stayed remarkably consistent through the centuries. Many of those customs have been carried from the New **England States**

into our own area. Looking through the pages of the newspapers from the earliest time until today illustrates that despite the changing fabric of historv many of the threads of that fabric have remained and strengthened through the generations.

The Thanksgiving dinner has been the focal

Continued on Page 3



A Message from Our President



The annual conference was well attended with over 100 historians, guests, and speakers. There Good luck to everyone. were great speakers and the venue worked out very nicely. The staff at The Desmond were very Rosemarie Tucker friendly and welcoming. The food was good. We APHNYS President kept on time with the sessions, meetings, and meals.

This is my last message as President of APHNYS. It has been a great experience. I became a member of the Board of Trustees in fall of 2006 when I became Corresponding Secretary. The Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary duties were combined to Secretary by a Bylaw change in October 2007 at which time I became the Secretary. In 2011 I was elected as 1st Vice President and when Gerry Smith stepped down as President in late 2017, I became the President. Now that title becomes that of Christine Ridarsky, City of Rochester Historian in Region 11. Good luck, Christine!

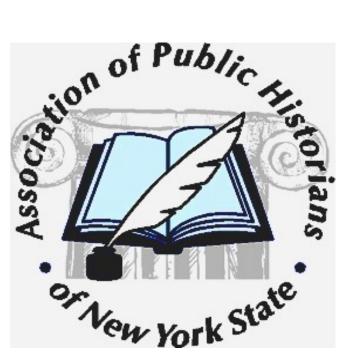
There were also changes in other officers and/or members of the Board of Trustees. These terms do not begin until January 1, 2020 and the list will be on the APHNYS website in early January: www.aphnys.org. The new officers and trustees will be planning the 2020 conference. Be sure to watch the APHNYS website.

Since January 1, 2013, I have been the keeper of

the APHNYS database. That responsibility will be taken on by Ray LaFever, Town of Bovina Historian in Region 4.

Over the years I have enjoyed being in contact with all the historians either by telephone, email messages, regional meetings and most important at the annual conference. It will be nice to be an attendee at future conferences.

Please support the upcoming officers and trustees by attending regional meetings, annual conferences, and assisting with updates to the APHNYS database.



CELEBRATING 20 YEARS 1999-2019

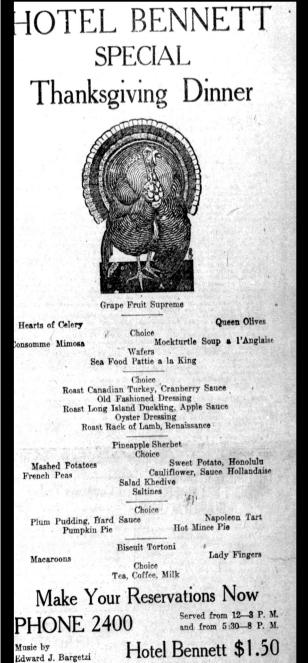
point for the gathering of family and friends. A While the holiday might be a time of giving gathering that brings together those from near thanks, it also has a custom of just giving – esand far to sit, eat, enjoy the camaraderie, and pecially to those in need. Accounts from more

celebrate all the blessings of the year. Whether the gathering dines on turkey or any number of other food choices, it has been the gathering itself that is the important part of the dinner (save maybe for pumpkin pie).

While many of us gather around the table in our homes, one of the other traditions of the holiday has been to gather around a table in a restaurant and allow the ambiance of the eatery to envelope the family and friends in celebration. The menu from the Hotel Bennett in 1921 shows the wide variety of holiday fare, and all of that for only \$1.50! Similar menus could be found in other restaurants and hotels for the day.

Today, we enjoy the luscious meal and tend to loosen the belt and sit down to enjoy watching a football game on television. While the advent of television brings the sport closer to our home, the enjoyment of the game goes back for over a century. Growing from those early games, newspaper articles show that football seems to have been a part of our communi-

joyed in person and also broadcast on the radio.



than a century discuss a gathering of people to serve a holiday meal to those less fortunate, or those who cannot get back to their family.

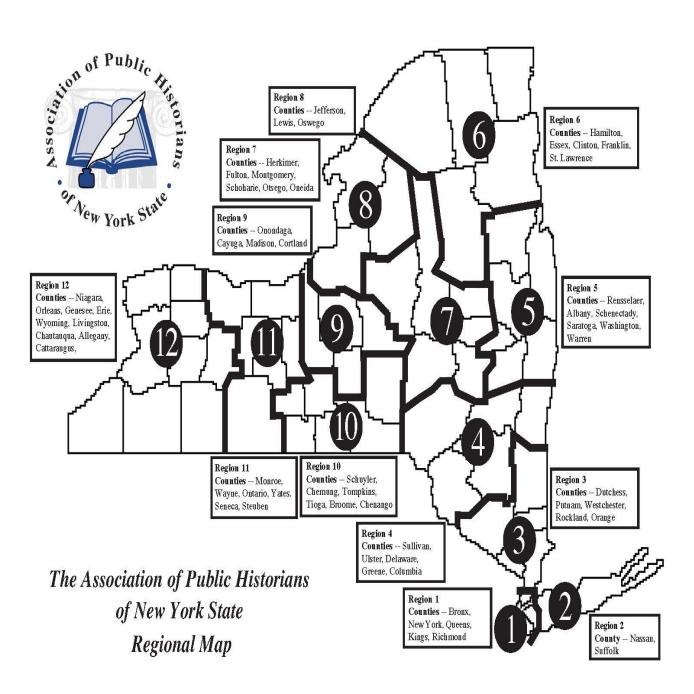
In the early 1900s, meals were prepared for children at St. Mary's Orphanage and the Susquehanna Valley Children's Meals were Home. brought to the prisoners in the jail. The Salvation Army laid out a sumptuous feast for many of the homeless in the commu-This tradition was continued by the Volunteers for America, and continues today in places like Binghamton High School.

Perhaps that is the greatest tradition of the holidav. It is that spirit of helping others - of giving of one's time and effort to help your fellow resident without any expectation of having to get something back. Watching everyone, no matter what position in society or economic status, sitting down with each other and enjoying a good meal. makes the day truly one of giving thanks for all

ty for generations. Of course, these were foot- that we have. May I please have the cranberry ball games played by local high schools and en- sauce?

Gerry Smith, Editor

News from the Regions

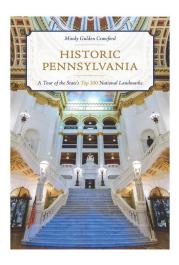


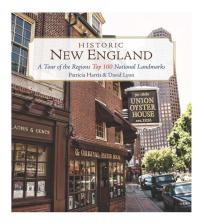
Globe Pequot

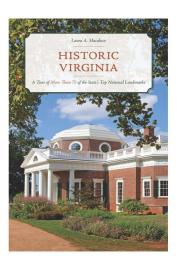
Open Submission Call FOR NEW YORK AUTHOR/HISTORIAN

Globe Pequot Press seeks an experienced researcher and author to write the next book in its National Historic Landmark series. NHLs helps us discover the touchstones of our collective past that still resonate with our present. The authors of each guide select the top 50-100 National Historic Landmarks in their state—those with the most intriguing and rewarding history—and curate a guide that will appeal to historical enthusiasts, armchair travelers, local visitors and tourists alike.

Authors receive a modest advance, royalties, and a stipend for acquiring photos and conducting research. If you are interested in being considered for this project, please send an annotated table of contents featuring the list of sites you propose to cover and a brief bio with your experience and relevant social media platforms (if any), to Sarah Parke at sparke@rowman.com with "Historic NY" in the subject line.







Editor's Thoughts



Well, it has come down to this — one last chance to pontificate, one last opportunity to promote the importance of APHNYS. It has been a part of my life for the entire 20 years of its existence, and even longer, if I add in my time working in with the County Historians Association of New York State and the Association of Municipal Historians of New York State.

But all things come to an end. Due to scheduling issues, I was not able to attend the fall conference. Do not worry, I will continue as an Affiliate member because it is the right thing to do. I have now stepped away as City of Binghamton Historian after 35 years, Broome County Historian after 31 years and the Broome County Public Library after 40 years.

Now I step away from my last role with APHNYS — as newsletter editor. It is time for the new officers to forge their way toward the future. I look forward to seeing the direction, and offer them any guidance they might need. I guess that is what happens when you become the "old salt." It seems like yesterday when I was the "young upstart." It is all part of the Circle of Life (do I hear the strains of Elton John in my head?).

Whoever continues as the editor, please provide them with articles, information, and keep them in the know. It helps all of us if we work together.

Now I get to reflect on my own past, and forge a new chapter. Teaching and writing will continue with some new directions. I proudly carry my Medicare Card, and as the very apt saying goes — I will not go gently into that good night.

Thanks to all of you through the many, many years.

Gerry Smith, Editor

We Want Your News!!

Do you have a meeting or an announcement you want to reach across the state? Sends us your news items to be put into the next issue of *The Historian's Exchange*. Do you have an historian who has been honored — then send us the information so we can spread the word. This is our newsletter and the more information we have, the better we are informed and can do our jobs.

In early 2020, there will be a new editor and e-mail — watch the APHNYS website for the news.

New York History Journal News

The first issue of the New York History journal has been published under a new collaboration between the New York State Museum and Cornell University Press. Published twice a year, the scholarly journal presents articles regarding New York State history as well as reviews of books, exhibitions, and media projects with a New York focus.

Now published by Cornell University Press working in coordination with an editorial team at the New York State Museum, New York History journal seeks to unify the diverse field of New York State history and meet the needs of a growing historical community that includes scholars, public historians, museum professionals, local government historians, and those seeking an in-depth look at the Empire State's history.

"New York State has a rich and diverse history that is shared by cultural institutions, historians, and educators across the state," said Board of Regents Chancellor Betty A. Rosa. "New York History journal will serve as an important resource to learn about our state's past to help us make better decisions about our future."

"The State Museum has a long history of sharing the state's past with the people of New York and the New York History journal will add to those efforts," said Interim State Education Commissioner Beth Berlin. "We're proud to collaborate with Cornell University Press and publish this journal with the best content the field of New York State history has to offer."

Co-editors of the journal include New York State Museum Chief Curator of History Dr. Jennifer Lemak, New York State Historian Devin Lander, New York State Museum Senior Historian Aaron Noble, and Senior Lecturer in the History Department at University of Maryland Dr. Robert Chiles. The Editorial Board actively solicits articles, essays, reports from the field and case studies to be featured in the journal. Submission guidelines are available at https://www.cornellpress.cornell.edu/new-york-history/.

"New York History journal provides a great opportunity to bring together the diverse New York State history community," said co-editors Dr. Jennifer Lemak and Devin Lander. "The State Museum is honored to lead the journal's Editorial Board and work with Cornell University Press and historians across the state."

"The New York State Museum-led Editorial Board has done a wonderful job continuing the excellent editorial work of Professors Thomas Beale, Susan Goodier, and Danny Noorlander of SUNY One-onta," said Michael J. McGandy, Senior Editor at Cornell University Press. "As the journal embraces the perspectives of public historians and museum curators, they have struck the right balance between scholarship and outreach."

The summer 2019 issue features articles by historians across the state including:

"The Sing Sing Revolt: The Incarceration Crisis and Criminal Justice Liberalism in the 1980s" by Lee Bernstein, professor of history at SUNY New Paltz

"The Power of Women: Matilda Joslyn Gage and the New York Women's Vote of 1880" by Sue Boland, local historian for the Matilda Joslyn gage Center for Social Justice Dialogue

"Suffrage's Second Act: Women in the NYS Legislature, 1919-1930" by Laurie Kozakiewicz, lecturer in history at the University at Albany

"The Lost Poems of Jacob Steendam" by D.L. Noorlander, assistant professor of history at SUNY Oneonta

"A Model Tenement in "The City of Homes": George Eastman and the Challenge of Housing Reform in Rochester, New York" by Nancy J. Rosenbloom, professor of history at Canisius College

"Consumption in the Adirondacks: Print Culture and the Curative Climate" by Mark Sturges, assistant professor of English at St. Lawrence University

Recurring feature articles in the journal include:

Artifact NY – a feature about an object or document important to New York State history.

Teach NY – a feature intended for history teachers at either the middle or high school level or university professors. Content includes lessons plans, utilizing primary source materials in a classroom setting, or using multimedia or new technology to teach history.

Community NY – a feature that highlights state history at the local, community and project-based levels.

Individual and institution print subscriptions to New York History are available as well as individual electronic subscriptions. Subscriptions can be ordered online at: https://www.press.jhu.edu/cart/for-sale?oc=3729#toc header.

New York History, founded in 1919 as The Quarterly Journal of the New York State Historical Association, is the foremost scholarly journal addressing the state's past. The New York State Historical Association, now known as Fenimore Art Museum, created and supported the journal. Since 2012 the journal has been published as a digital-only publication. In 2018 it was announced that Cornell University Press would manage and publish the journal in print and digital format working alongside an editorial team at the New York State Museum.

The New York State Museum is a program of the New York State Education Department's Office of Cultural Education. Located at 222 Madison Avenue in Albany, the Museum is open Tuesday through Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. It is closed on the Fourth of July, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day. Admission is free. Further information about programs and events can be obtained by calling (518) 474-5877 or visiting the Museum website at http://www.nysm.nysed.gov/.

Courtesy New York State Education Department and the Office of State History

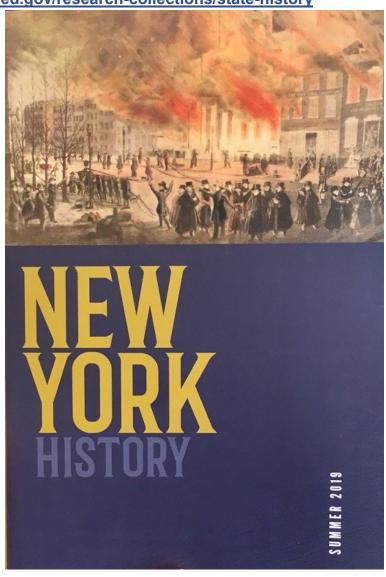
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THE HISTORIAN'S EXCHANGE

2019 CONFERENCE NOTES



Desmond Bread Pudding

Makes 12 servings

2 quarts heavy cream 20 large eggs 4 cups granulated sugar 2 Tbsp vanilla 24 hot dog rolls

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Cut the rolls into cubes and place in a large baking dish. In a separate bowl mix together the cream, eggs, sugar and vanilla. Pour mixture over the cubes. Cover lightly with foil and bake for 1 1/2 hours. The pudding will rise during baking, so leave room above the pan in the oven. Allow to rest 20 minutes before serving. Serve warm with custard sauce.

English Custard Makes 1 quart

3 cups heavy cream 3 large eggs 2 egg yolks 1/2 cup granulated sugar 1 Tbsp vanilla

Put heavy cream and 1/4 cup sugar in a double boiler over medium heat. In another bowl combine eggs, egg yolks, vanilla and 1/4 cup sugar. Once the cream mixture is hot (not boiling) pour half of it in the egg mixture and whisk to temper. Pour the mixture back in the double boiler, and whisk constantly until it thickens enough to coat the back of a spoon. Remove from heat and cool.

A quest favorite since 1974!

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Vacant trustee position