

Annual Report of the Hastings Historical Society 2008

From learning the day-to-day operations of the Historical Society, to greeting high school students walking the Croton Aqueduct Trail from Albany to New York City, to providing the history of quarry & its railroad to the Hudson River at the Quarry Trail dedication, this has been a busy year—for me and everyone at the Hastings Historical Society.

This year's exhibit, "School Days, School Days: a Historic View" has been a great success. Thanks to Jan Gustafson and Beth Smith who coordinated the exhibit, choosing photos and artifacts that bring alumni right back to their school days, as did Jenni Stern's article in the *Historian*. On the day of the opening, the archive was dedicated as the Virginia McGuire Archive, in honor of our former archivist, who remembered the Historical Society in her estate.

Our biggest project of the year has been the photographic history of our village, which will be pub-

lished by Arcadia Press later this year- in time for holiday giving! Sue Smith found the publisher and coordinated the work of our committee. Thanks to our outstanding archives, choosing whom and what to include were the most difficult tasks. Sue Smith, Beth Smith, Eileen Forbes-Watkins, Paul Duddy, Maggie Favretti, Barbara Thompson, and I chose the photographs and wrote the captions depicting Hastings through the years. Maggie did triple-duty as she also wrote the introductions to each chapter, and as our in-house editor, and Muriel and Fatima were our fact-checkers. Fatima scanned the photos to Arcadia's standards, and Martin Roos photographed a drawing to be included, and cleaned up and cropped other photos.

Thanks to the Mary Allison Archive Fund, we have kept Fatima Mahdi busily employed expanding our database. This year, while continuing to update the photograph, postcard, and map collections, she

also cataloged the pamphlet file, entering almost 800 pamphlets. She also finished a project to convert our slide collection into archivable prints. Fatima also designed a PowerPoint presentation to accompany the School Days exhibit, and, for the Arcadia book, helped locate and scan the photographs, and checked the accuracy of our captions. We each got a practical lesson in how valuable the database is as we worked on the book. Contributions to the Mary Allison Archive Fund are still needed and are gratefully accepted.

The Archives continue to be busy with requests for information, both personal and by professional researchers. Muriel Olsson and Barbara Thompson have begun gathering information for next year's Hudson-Fulton Quadracentennial celebration.

We have had two visits from members of the Lefurgy family, now living in Wisconsin, and Muriel was able to put them in

HASTINGS HISTORICAL SOCIETY			
Statement of Income and Expenses and Fund Balances 1/01/07 to 12/31/07			
MARY ALLISON ARCHIVES FUND			
Balance at 1/1/07	\$16,290.41	Merchandise purchased	674.81
Donations	10,735.00	Supplies & exhibits	2,497.60
Gifts from Estates & Foundations	<u>23,000.00</u>	Trans. to M. Allison Account	23,000.00
	\$50,025.41	TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$57,086.69
Payments for archives update services	<u>39,772.00</u>		
Balance at 12/31/07	\$10,253.41	Balance in General Funds 12/31/07	\$9,778.57
GENERAL FUNDS RECEIPTS			
Balance 1/1/07	\$15,081.85	Mary Allison Archives Account	\$10,253.41
Dues	20,405.00	M. Beece Program & Exhibit account (certificate)	\$10,941.93
Donations	27,534.41	Endowment account (Merrill Lynch)	\$275,529.44
Merchandise sold	<u>3,844.00</u>	General Funds	\$9,778.57
TOTAL	\$66,876.26		
		Total Funds at 12/31/07	\$306,503.35
		Total Funds at 12/31/06	\$288,600.36
DISBURSEMENTS			
Cottage expenses and maintenance	19,043.61		
Business, insurance & sales tax	2,043.84		
Hastings Historian newsletter	9,827.39		
		Respectfully submitted,	
		Jean M. Glus, Treasurer	

touch with the California branch of the Lefurgy tree. Muriel continues to work long distance with Bob Gersky on Hastings High School alumni information.

Marc Rosner, a Hastings High School science teacher, met with us to share advice on caring for metal artifacts. Another Hastings teacher, Greg Smith, contacted us after reading Lilian Mullane's article to let us know he was using it to teach a unit on place names. We continue to receive wonderful responses to our *Historian* articles and website, and the e-mails never cease!

This year we welcomed two new volunteers. Judy Wemer Chamberlain, who grew up in Hastings, has joined us to research and write for the *Historian*. She has completed an article on Antonia Maury which appeared in the last *Historian*. Ken Smith, a recent Hastings resident with a background in textile conservation, has offered his expertise in the storage of artifacts, and has agreed to serve on the Board.

Our newest endeavor is "History on Hudson" a series of interviews documenting life in Hastings. Spike Barkin is coordinating this project with Raphael Zaratzian and Jen Corso. The interviews will be shown on WHOH-TV. Spike's first interview was with Bernie O'Brien.

Thank you to everyone who has helped with my transition this year, especially Barbara Thompson, who continued on until my retirement from the Hastings Library.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet M. Murphy,
President