WELCOME TO THE
TIoga County Historical Society

Our Mission
Since its creation in 1914, the Tioga County Historical Society has been committed to preserving the history of Tioga County. The Society collects and preserves artifacts from every town in the county. Our goal is to use these artifacts to educate the public about the county’s history and how it relates to national history as a whole. We preserve and protect Tioga County history and maintain our county’s links to its heritage for current residents and visitors and future generations to come. TCHS offers educational programming, lectures, changing exhibits, and a research center with family files, genealogies, microfilmed newspapers, books, and thousands of surname cards.

Our History
In July 1914, trustees representing all towns within Tioga County came together to found the Tioga County Historical Society. The Society and its collection was located in the Coburn Free Library from 1914 until 1952 it moved into the former residence of Minnie B. Wade at 314 Front Street that was bequeathed to the Historical Society.

The current museum building, located in historic Owego, exists thanks to the generosity of the Wade family. Siblings Minnie, Ida, and Louis Wade funded a trust to erect a museum after their deaths. The resulting museum building was dedicated August 20, 1960: a testament to the Wade family's dedication to county history and patronage of the historical society.

The museum collection contains approximately 80,000 items. Highlights include: an extensive collection of Native American artifacts, a Monarch motorcycle made in Owego, early 19th century spinning wheels manufactured by the Farnham family, hundreds of images from Matthew Brady's studios, folk art portraits, a wooly mammoth tooth, a space shuttle computer processor, an extensive genealogy collection, and thousands of manuscripts and photographs.
### 2013 Board of Trustees

- Andrea Melione – President  
  *Endicott*
- Duane Shoen – Vice President  
  *Owego*
- John Wicklund – Treasurer  
  *Owego*
- Joan Hunt – Secretary  
  *Owego*
- Fran Dunbar  
  *Town of Tioga*
- Brian Eldridge  
  *Endicott*
- Jean Fisher  
  *Spencer*
- Karen Kucharski  
  *Apalachin*
- Tom McEnteer  
  *Town of Tioga*
- Deb Pedro  
  *Nichols*
- Angela Rogers  
  *Barton*
- Emma Sedore  
  *Owego*

### Nominees for 2014 Officers

- **Treasurer**
  - Deb Pedro  
  *Nichols*

### Thank You for Your Service

TCHS extends an emphatic and hearty thanks to **John Wicklund** in recognition of his valued service the past 3 years as Treasurer. John routinely went above and beyond the required duties of his office and we greatly appreciate his dedicated service.

### Museum Staff

- Kevin Lentz – Executive Director
- Lauren Truesdell – Assistant to Executive Director
- Martin Wilcox – Museum Assistant

### Thank You to Our Members

TCHS gratefully thanks all of our members who support our mission through their generous contributions. We especially recognize the following:

**Patron-Level Members**

at the $500 level for 2013-2014:

- Willis Hilker

**Gold-Level Members**

at the $1,000 and over level for 2013-2014:

- Eric Short
Volunteers

The Tioga County Historical Society expresses a genuine and grateful “Thank You” to the following volunteers for their energy and expertise. These volunteers are involved with our programming and behind-the-scenes operations, generously donating **more than 3,600 hours** of their personal time to keep the Tioga County Historical Society moving forward.

Betsy Bacelli | Cemetery Walk
Kristin Barton* | Cemetery Walk
Jane Bower | O Tannenbaum
Tari Coyne-Horton | Cemetery Walk
Raymond Davis | Cleaning
Gabrielle Duggan* | Exhibits Intern
Nancy Ellis | Collections
Don Eckerson | Cemetery Walk
Margaret Gasparini* | Exhibits Intern
Janice Godfrey* | Gift Shop
Curtis Hartwig | Genealogy
Scott Houston | Maintenance
Joan Hunt | Genealogy, Fundraising
Spencer Hunt | Facilities
Eleanor Hurd | Collections Registrar, Fundraising, Exhibits
Mary Ellen Kishpaugh | O Tannenbaum, Research Center
Sandra Lute* | O Tannenbaum
Glen Martin | O Tannenbaum
Tom and Sally McEnteer | Exhibits, Programs
Dave Ostrander | Cemetery Walk, Collections, Exhibits
Kimberly Rose* | Collections, Exhibits
Arthur Schumacher | Grounds
Roger Sharp | Director Emeritus
Andrew Sisson* | Research Center Intern
Ken Snowden | Clock Maintenance
Rikki Springsteed | Curator
Dan Stewart | Collections
Nathan Stout | Cleaning
Gerald Sykora | Research
Gail Szeliga | Research Center
Kathy Taylor | Fundraising, Programs
Julie Tedone | Research Center
Georgia Westgate | Collections
Theresa Wells | Website
John Wicklund | Cemetery Walk, O Tannenbaum
Linda Williams | Exhibits, Research Center
Sue Whiting | O Tannenbaum
Karen Zarembo | Collections
Bob Zebracki | Fundraising, Programs, Exhibits

* Denotes the volunteers who joined our organization in 2013.

We initiated several internships in 2013 that enabled staff to work closely with students from Binghamton University on several projects, including the renovation and construction of new exhibits. In 2014, we will be conducting a volunteer drive to recruit more volunteers for committee and general work.
LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello fellow history lovers!

2013 was an amazing year at the Tioga County Historical Society, and I'd like to share some of the changes and accomplishments with you. Much work was done behind the scenes rebuilding or redesigning the governance procedures and organization structure that was so greatly affected by the 2011 flood.

The members of the board take their fiduciary role very seriously, and we now meet six times a year, or as needed. This reduction of meetings has allowed board members to spend time serving on committees, where much of the planning, proposal writing, and actionable work takes place. All work completed by committees goes to the board for review and approval. The biggest change by far was committee structure. The number of committees was reduced to six to keep reporting manageable. Three are overseen by the board, and three are overseen by Kevin Lentz, the Executive Director. The board-led committees have achieved nearly all of the goals outlined in the 2013 New Board Directions Proposal, including the development of a Committee Chair Handbook, numerous Human Resource policies and procedures, and the development of a board member handbook, and orientation and nomination processes.

There are MANY volunteers whom the TCHS cannot do without. Since I have worked so closely with the members of the Board of Trustees I want to use this opportunity to thank them collectively: Thank you all for your humor, insight, strong work ethic, inclusivity, and positive attitude!

Individually, in alphabetical order:

Fran Dunbar: Thank you so much for coming to the aid on the TCHS on so many levels. From your ability to respond to a crisis, to working hard to keep TCHS safe, all of your contributions have been tremendous and I am personally grateful for all you do.

Brian Eldridge: Thank you for your humor and sharing your Human Resource management experience. In particular I have appreciated your insight as the Director of the Tioga County United Way. This perspective has allowed the board to see many issues through the lens of an executive director, for which I am grateful.

Jean Fisher: The scope of your support for the TCHS has been far-reaching. From you and your family's personal support in response to the flood crisis, to your leadership of the O Tannenbaum Committee during a time of great organizational change, you have been tireless, and I am grateful for all you have done.

Joan Hunt: You have worked as a tireless volunteer for many years and we are thankful for your willingness to become Board Secretary in 2013 - your thoroughness and attention to detail have been crucial. Thank you for your support, it is so very much appreciated!
Karen Kucharski: Your leadership of the Strategic Development Committee has made a huge impact in creating not only direction for the present, but for the future success of the Board of Trustees. Thank you for successfully leading a committee with such a diverse and challenging charge.

Tom McEnteer: Your institutional knowledge and your knowledge of local and national history combined with your teaching experience is a true mission-based asset to this organization. I am personally thankful, as your willingness to share it with me has not only made me feel welcome as a newcomer, but has also educated me and made me better able to serve the TCHS.

Deb Pedro: Your enthusiasm, cheer, and business skills have proven invaluable to the organization. Taking on the job of Treasurer is no small task, and we are all grateful. I also want to thank you for the work you’ve done as Facilities and Grounds Committee Chair. Your insight and sense of organization has been a treasure!

Angie Rogers: Your leadership of the Human Resource and Policy committee has made a huge impact on the organization’s ability to move forward - thank you for your humor and your tireless work. I feel fortunate to be able to work with you.

Duane Shoen: Thank you for your willingness to share your professional knowledge, and to provide guidance to the board and the Finance and Audit committee, which has truly been invaluable. I have personally learned a great deal from you and appreciate your insight.

Emma Sedore: The breadth and depth of your knowledge of local history as Tioga County Historian is of such value to the board and to the mission of the TCHS. I am so thankful you serve the board and we are all able to benefit from your expertise. Thank you!

John Wicklund: You have acted selflessly as this organization’s treasurer for two years, so often going above and beyond the official duties of the role. You have touched the TCHS in so many ways, and your positive mark has been felt by all. Thank you so much.

Warm regards,

Andrea Melione

President of the Board of Trustees for the Tioga County Historical Society
## 2013 SUMMARY

### Budgeting and Operations

#### Income Categories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2013 Budget</th>
<th>2013 Actuals</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foundation and Trust Grants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual, Business Contributions</td>
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<td>Local Government Grants</td>
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<td>Donation Box</td>
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<td><strong>$ 91,905.00</strong></td>
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#### Expense Categories

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<th>2013 Actuals</th>
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<td>Business Registration Fees</td>
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<td>Disbursements &amp; Fees</td>
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<td>Contract Services</td>
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<td>Buildings &amp; Maintenance/Services &amp; Repair</td>
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<td>Equip Rental and Maintenance</td>
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<td>$ 492.05</td>
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<td>Printing and Copying</td>
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<td>Supplies</td>
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<td>$ 394.07</td>
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<td>Memberships and Dues</td>
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<td>$ 41.00</td>
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Other Costs

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<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salaries &amp; Wages Net</td>
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<td>Employer Taxes/Liability</td>
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<td>Payroll Fees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Insurance, Employee</td>
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<td>Travel and Meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td>$104,680.00</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET OPERATING INCOME</strong></td>
<td>$ (12,775.00)</td>
<td>$66,551.55</td>
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### Attendance

We had a total of 6,091 visitors to the museum including 1,497 for special events and programming (22 special events) and 98 researchers in 2013. Compared to: 4,578 visitors including 344 for special events (6 special events) and 64 researchers in 2012.

### FEMA Projects

In late 2012, we began receiving funding for 4 different FEMA projects. The first of these projects include flood remediation and restoration – part of which covers the money spent to cleanse the museum building after the flood and remediate the damage sustained in the September 2011 event. The painting and drywall project was completed in May, 2013 and the lower level floors affected by the flood will be replaced in early 2014 to conclude this project.

Woidt Engineering of Binghamton, completed a survey studying the feasibility of several projects to help mitigate future flooding. FEMA reimbursed the $20,000 spent on this study.

Another FEMA project still ongoing is one to conserve paintings and other textiles damaged in the flood. Staff worked with FEMA to develop a list of items that will be restored to pre-flood condition through FEMA funding. Currently, several pieces have been sent to conservators representing about 25% of the project. More items will be sent to specialists in the coming months. The cost of the project will be roughly $66,000 and should be completed by the end of the year.

The last project funds the replacement of furniture lost in the flood. TCHS received $17,850.93 in December, 2012 for this purpose and will be completed in 2014 with the replacement of the lower level floor tiles.
Grants

TCHS received several grants in 2013, highlighted by the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Agency</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hyde Charitable Trust</td>
<td>$23,600</td>
<td>Updating/Fixing Electrical Infrastructure</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$25,552</td>
<td>Replacement of Carriage House Floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Museumwise Go! Grant</td>
<td>$750</td>
<td>Conference Attendance, Fees, and Room</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Kitchen

TCHS received a generous donation of kitchen cabinetry, microwave, and a sink from Valerie Gundrum in June, 2012. After Andrew Hafer and volunteers mounted some cabinets and countertop in 2012, there was still quite a bit of work left to finish. Spencer Hunt completed the kitchen project by installing a sink and hanging cabinetry. We gratefully thank Spencer for his hard work and expertise!

Events and Programming

Programming increased significantly in 2013 in comparison to 2012, when staff focused on planning and recovering from the 2011 flood. Following is a list of some of the events and summaries of their success.

**Tioga County African-American History – February 16th**
- Ed Nizalowski discussed slavery, the Underground Railroad, the AME church, the first challenge to discrimination in public transportation, a Civilian Conservation Corps camp for Black veterans of World War One, and a reputed unmarked Black cemetery in a state forest in the Township of Owego.
- 10 guests attended the event, which is average for a lecture.

**Coming of Age as a Sharecropper – February 23rd**
- Glenda Philips-Hickman shared the experiences of her mother, who grew up on a North Carolina farm as a sharecropper in the early 1900s and discussed African-American culture in general. She purchased food for the guests in attendance.
  - The original date of this event was to be the 9th of February, but snowfall forced the program’s postponement.
- 8 guests attended the event, which is lower than normal and possibly due to the re-schedule.

**Women’s History Month Event – March 9th**
- On the 9th we hosted two programs in conjunction with the New York State Women. The first was a presentation by a reenactor playing the part of Belva Lockwood, and the second featured a ranger from the National Women’s Historical Site, who discussed political cartoons and their connection to the Women’s suffrage movement in the mid-1800s.
• 39 guests attended the event, the most of any non-O Tannenbaum event in the past two years.
• This event will be annual, and I will again work with the New York State Women on next year’s program.

Grandparents Day – May 1st and 2nd
• We hosted the Owego Elementary School’s Grandparents Day these two nights. Volunteers acted as docents for this informal affair. Children and their relatives were able to chat and look through the exhibits and displays. We also provided coffee while the OES PTO provided other refreshments.
• 110 guests attended the two day event.

Music Recital – May 17th
• We hosted a range of kindergarten to high school music students from the Perfect Sense Piano Studio and their families who perform recitals.
• 59 guests attended the event.

Dan Pearson Lecture – May 18th
• Dan Pearson, a Binghamton University graduate student in History, lectured on those caught between the loyalists and patriots in the American Revolution.
• 8 guests attended the event, which is slightly lower than average for a lecture. However, the event was rescheduled twice so the number of attendees could have been higher. Those who did attend the event were very engaged and among them asked enough questions to last an hour after the presentation concluded.

Strawberry Fest – June 15th
• The 137th NY and the 141st PA encamped in front of the museum for most of the day.
• Promenade figures, put together by Karen, Bob, Joan, and others, were displayed around town.
• Volunteers participated in the Strawberry Festival parade.
• We welcomed 168 visitors to the museum, more than the last two years combined (a total of 122 visitors for the 2011 and 2012 Strawberry Fests). We also collected over $104 in donations. We do not see these numbers outside of O Tannenbaum.

Jerry Marsh Book Lecture – June 29th
• Jerry Marsh discussed his book, Brotherhood of Battle, and research on local soldiers who fought in the Civil War. Specifically, he touched upon the impact of county soldiers at Gettysburg.
• 24 guests attended the event, which is high for a lecture.

Open House – September 6th
• We hosted an open house for the public and sent over 65 formal invites to government officials, local historians, transportation-related business owners, and transportation exhibit contributors to our transportation exhibit, dignitaries, and others.
• Guests participated in a special scavenger hunt and two participants with correctly-completed answers won books from our gift shop.
• We served food and beverages donated by volunteers.
• 31 guests attended the event, only 4 as a result of the formal invitations (we sent 60 physical invites).

Emma Sedore Book Lecture – September 7th
• Emma discussed her latest book, *Gone, But Not Forgotten* and the history of the Ahwaga Hotel.
• 39 guests attended the event, a high number for a lecture, and was held in the main gallery.

Volunteer Appreciation Event – September 22nd
• 32 volunteers attended the event.
• We received a $25 gift card from Price Chopper to use toward catering the event.
• Volunteers received a certificate and shared a meal together.

“Living among the Dead” Cemetery Walk – October 5th
• Staff organized the event and 15 volunteers portrayed characters, led tours, designed costumes, presented information at the museum, and researched and edited character material.
• Tours began at 10, 11, and 12 and began at the museum with a program on Evergreen Cemetery history. Then guests were shuttled to the cemetery. Each tour (from beginning at the museum to ending at the cemetery) lasted between 1 ½ and 2 hours.
• Staff took reservations. Tioga Transportation furnished a shuttle for $100. Tickets were: $10 for adults 12 and older, $8 for seniors, $5 for children, and $30 for a family of four or more.
• The Parkview agreed to offer a complimentary dessert to anyone presenting an admission wristband the day of the event.
• 43 guests attended the event, 12 more than last year.
• Our gross income was $307.04.
• Expenses: $111.96 ($100 for shuttle, $11.96 for bottled water - for sale and for volunteer tour guides and actors).
• Income: $419 ($352 in ticket sales, $5 in water sales, and $62 from 50/50 raffle).
• Planning has already begun for next year and will occur the last Saturday, September 27, 2014.

J. Alden Loring (portrayed by Don Eckerson) describes his life to a group of Living Among the Dead participants.
Summary

- 14 Special Events (not including those during O Tannenbaum) - 8 more than 2012
- 581 Special Events Visitors
- 5 events (36%) were lectures - a much lower ratio than in years past
- 1 event was held predominantly off-site (Cemetery Walk)
- 3 events invited outside organizations to participate (Women’s History, Grandparents’ Day, Music Recital)
- The volunteer appreciation event was better attended and more engaging for the volunteers (because of the informal setting) than in 2012 and will serve as a blueprint for future events of this type.
- 3 events specifically (Cemetery Walk, Strawberry Fest events, and Women’s History program) will take place annually at the same time period and in the same format. These events have been growing over the past two years and we can build upon these successes in the future.

O Tannenbaum

The 2013 O Tannenbaum Showcase was successful in many regards. 3,711 guests attended O Tannenbaum this year, which is the highest turnout on record. Though the museum was open five days less than the 2012 OT and we had to re-schedule closing day due to the weather, 330 more guests attended OT in 2013 than 2012 and 38 more than 2011. Overall, visits were more consistent per day than in past years. The following table shows the statistics for 2013.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Business Card Ads and Sponsorships</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gift Shop Sales</td>
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<td>Donations</td>
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<td>Auction Items</td>
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<td>Photos with Santa &amp; 50/50 Raffles</td>
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<td><strong>Gross Income</strong></td>
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<td>Expenses</td>
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<td><strong>Net Income</strong></td>
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We expanded children’s day events by increasing the number of events and including more craft activities and visits from Santa Claus. We also held more musical performances by a wider range of artists throughout the five week program.

2013’s success is due to the immense amount of work volunteers completed before, during, and after the program. Volunteers and staff are already planning next year’s showcase, “A Country Christmas”, running November 8th through December 13th.
Exhibits and Displays

Civil War
SUNY Binghamton intern Gabrielle Duggan revised the small Civil War exhibit on display in the main gallery. She developed a timeline for the 137th NY, made up of men from Tioga County. She also researched in our archives to find several letters, diary entries, and primary source documents to display. The letters especially described how the war was witnessed by the average soldier. Additionally, she displayed letters and documents regarding pensions for widows, showing some of the real human drama of the war.

Six Nations and Sullivan-Clinton
Native American artifacts and a diorama representing units in the Sullivan-Clinton Expedition have been on display in the museum for years. However, there has been no real history or description displayed with these items. Intern Kimberly Rose researched and wrote display material for both subjects. She included information on Six Nations’ culture and background on items on display in the gallery. Also, Kimberly developed a display showing view from both sides of the Sullivan-Clinton Expedition. Now visitors can learn more effectively about the people who originally settled in the area and why they were forced out of what became Tioga County.

Tioga County Industry
Margaret Gaspirini, a SUNY Binghamton intern, developed “From Blankets to Bridges: Tioga County Manufacturing in the 20th Century”. Margaret researched the history of industry in the county and used items from the TCHS and Tom McEnteer’s loaned collections. An exhibit on industry, an important part of this area’s history, hadn’t been displayed at TCHS for some time. The industry exhibit combined with the Civil War and transportation exhibits and other smaller displays to present more history in exhibit form than had been present at TCHS for years.

Transportation Exhibit
The annual large temporary exhibit on display in the West (Green) Gallery traced the county’s rich transportation history. A wide range of companies developed in Tioga County that manufactured various modes of transportation, such as motorcycles, cars, carriages, and others. Additionally, trains and steamboats were vital to the area’s commerce. The exhibit included detailed information on the history of these and many other kinds of transportation and their importance to the county and the nation. In addition, TCHS hosted the last public showing of the “O-We-Go” cycle car, a large draw of guests from around the country.

Your Perspective
SUNY Binghamton intern Kimberly Rose installed three “Your Perspective” posts near exhibits. These stands asked a question for visitors to reflect on. Before these posts were installed, there was not much interactivity in our exhibits. While this project resulted in a passive kind of interactivity, it marked a starting point for more interaction in the future.
Facilities

Driveway Re-paving
Thanks to the Hyde Charitable Trust, TCHS contracted with A&S Blacktop Paving, LLC of Johnson City to re-surface the museum’s driveway and parking area. The Hyde Trust approved a grant request in the fall of 2012 to complete this work. A&S levelled the pavement, filled pot holes, put down sealant, and painted parking spot stripes. This work has resulted in increased safety for snow plowing and visitors and staff walking and parking.

Electrical Work
Another major project completed at TCHS was the updating of the electrical infrastructure of the museum building. This project was funded by the Hyde Charitable Trust. T&B Electric staff installed new breaker boxes, one in the lower level and one in the upper level. In addition, the contractors installed new electrical outlets throughout both levels, ensuring all are up to date and to code. T&B also fixed or replaced all display case lighting and lighting in the entranceway and main gallery.

Organization of Carriage House
Curatorial staff led the general organization of the carriage house’s first floor. Over several days, Rikki Springsteen, Eleanor Hurd, and workers from Tioga Works identified items to move inside the museum building and into the closed storage, what to leave in the carriage house, and what to dispose of.

All items - mostly building materials and old exhibition displays - damaged beyond repair by the 2011 flood were disposed of. The back of the carriage house is now accessible. For years, the entire back third of the first floor was inaccessible due to the amount of items stacked in front. Now, the only accessioned items that remaining are agricultural tools and machinery, a sleigh, a large tub, and large pumps.

Paint and Drywall Project
Contractors from Nu-Wave General Contracting painted, installed some drywall and borders, and patched holes in the walls of the museum’s lower level April 22nd through May 8th. All damage to the walls due to the flood has been repaired.

Rear Entranceway
Hulslander Custom Concrete and Homer Gow and Sons contractors completed a project repairing the rear entrance to the museum. Hulslander workers repaired the sunken back stairs while contractors from Homer Gow and Sons took down the deteriorated entrance enclosure and replaced it with a new entranceway. This project was funded by the Community Foundation of South Central New York.
## Initiatives

### Membership

TCHS initiated new membership rates and benefits in 2013 as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Level</th>
<th>Level Fee</th>
<th>Level Benefits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student (Must Present Current Student ID)</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>• Waiver of On-site Research Center Usage Fees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Discounted Copying Fees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Invitation to Annual Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>• All of the Student Benefits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Quarterly Newsletter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 10% Off Purchases in Museum Gift Shop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Invitation to Annual Members-Only Event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>• All of the Individual Benefits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Annual Behind-the-Scenes Tour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Personal Invitation to All Children’s Events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donor/Small Business</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>• All of the Individual Benefits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Recognition in Newsletters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Personal Invitations to Exhibit Openings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Recognition on Museum Webpage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>• All of the Individual Benefits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Recognition in Newsletters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Large Advertisement on Museum Webpage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Recognition at the Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Recognition in Annual Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporter</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>• All of the Individual Benefits</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Recognition in Newsletters</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• $25 Gift Certificate to Museum Gift Shop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patron</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>• All of the Individual Benefits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• One Free Individual Level Membership to Give to a Friend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Recognition in Annual Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Recognition in Newsletters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• $50 Gift Certificate to Museum Gift Shop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>$1,000 and over</td>
<td>• All of the Individual Benefits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• One Free Individual Level Membership to Give to a Friend (one-year membership)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Recognition in Annual Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Recognition in Newsletters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Free Admission to Paid Museum Events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• $50 Gift Certificate to Museum Gift Shop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Featured on Museum Webpage</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Research Center Usage and Fee Policies

TCHS initiated new Research Center usage and fee policies in 2013. Key parts of these new policies is the restrictions on what may be brought into the research center and the fees for research. Now, on-site research costs $10.00 per visit (Free for TCHS members and K-12 grade students) while off-site research requests are $30.00 per hour, with a minimum one-hour charge. We may now charge additional fees if researchers need to obtain deeds or pay for other documents. Photocopies are now $0.50 per page ($0.25 per page for TCHS members) for 8½ x 11, black and white and $0.75 per page ($0.50 per page for TCHS members) for 8½ x 14, black and white copies. TCHS offers digital images such as photos, artwork, maps, and blueprints for $25.00.

Staff and Volunteers

New Staff, Job Descriptions, and Evaluations

In February, the Director hired a new Assistant to the Executive Director, Lauren Truesdell. She is responsible for many routine office and bookkeeping tasks and aid the Director in museum initiatives. The Director also received an evaluation for the first time. The HR and Policy Committee developed an evaluation process for the Director in addition to revising job descriptions for staff.

New Volunteers and Interns

2013 saw a great increase in the number of volunteers involved in the Society. We hope to build off this new energy by recruiting more volunteers for specific events and committees to move the museum forward. Tioga Works has provided TCHS with help moving items, cleaning, and various other projects on a weekly basis. Without their assistance, many of the custodial tasks would not have been completed. Four interns from Binghamton University’s History Department revised displays, developed new exhibits, assisted in the organization of the research center.

Staff Advancement

Kevin Lentz and Andrea Melione attended the annual Museumwise conference (now the Museum Association of New York) on “What does it Mean to be Diverse?” in April 2013. The conference was dedicated to diversity in museums and how to adapt to changing clientele, technology, and other external and internal influences. This topic was especially relevant to our museum and of particular interest and utility was a session dedicated to bringing in and working with youth groups when school budgets for field trips are drastically cut. The ideas for museums reaching potential visitors were inspiring and will be used to guide staff in planning and implementing programming and other initiatives.
2014 Planning Goals and Initiatives

Initiatives

Fundraising
In an effort to diversify the TCHS income stream, staff will initiate new fundraising efforts on top of the annual O Tannenbaum Showcase. In 2013, TCHS held several events which raised money for the society through admission fees and held several 50/50 raffles which increased income diversity. We hope to continue diversifying income in 2014. One effort may be the seeking of exhibit and display sponsors. While these will be relatively small amounts of money, sponsorships will generate greater interest in our exhibits and build relationships with the business community. Financial support of our exhibits will enable staff to create larger and more educational displays that will lend to our mission of educating the public.

Internships and Special Volunteer Projects
We have contacted professors at Ithaca College in hopes of developing programs for graduate students to take part in. The projects can include marketing, focus group implementation, and other methods to create external partners. We continue to post internship possibilities with SUNY Binghamton as well. Andrea Melione has begun an internship during which she will aid TCHS in marketing, education, policy, and financial management.

Frances Harrison, a Masters student at SUNY Binghamton, has begun an internship designed to raise awareness of TCHS, and the internships we offer, on the Binghamton campus. She is reaching out to departments and organizations to recruit volunteers and interns.

Also in 2014, Steven Case, professor at the University of Western Florida, will take on several computer projects with his computer science classes. They will include developing programs for the research center and volunteers. Results depend upon the success of the student programmers developing the databases.

Increase Community Awareness of Organization
The Tioga County Historical Society (TCHS) relies heavily on public support, especially in regards to unrestricted funding. It is hoped that as public awareness increases, so too will funding and support for our mission. Staff will revise old and develop new innovative and attractive promotional material, offer off-site programming, and continue expanding our outreach. In addition, staff will work with committees to guarantee TCHS’s presence at local festivals and other events.

Increase Effectiveness of Programming and Exhibits
The past two years have seen a focus on flood recovery. Our mission is to help educate the public on Tioga County history and I will explore, in 2014, new ways to reach our audiences and ensure we have excellent educational opportunities. We will offer more relevant Programming by collaborating with community organizations, schools and youth groups, and offer a wider variety of events. 2014 is our 100th Anniversary, so we hope to hold a variety of events that showcase the rich diversity of the county and its history.
Strategic Planning
Executive Director Kevin Lentz has initiated collaboration with a mentor from SCORE to begin developing a strategic plan. He will consult with the Strategic Planning Committee and others as needed to finalize a plan. There is no hard deadline to complete the plan, but the preliminary goal is to have a draft prepared by the end of the year.

Exhibits and Displays

Civil War Exhibit
Staff and volunteers are working to develop new and expanded exhibits, including an extended Civil War display and a new exhibit on industry in the County from the 1900s until today. In honor of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, we will display more items, including photos, and information on the role of our county in the war. Soldiers from the county fought in numerous regiments and in most branches of the military. Generals born in Tioga County had a great impact on the war, and the museum houses Brady Studio prints and the coat worn by one of the men who carried Lincoln from Ford’s Theater. All of this information will be contextualized and displayed by the end of the spring. Within the same timeframe, a new display of Tioga County industry from the 1900s until now will be on display in the former gift shop area in the upper level of the museum. We will trace the rise and decline of several notable and influential industries and showcase the rich diversity of manufacturing throughout the county’s history.

Updating Displays
Several interns will be working with staff throughout the spring college semester. One of their projects is updating the museum’s displays. New signage will accompany most of the displays and will include more interpretation and some interactivity. Already, the furniture on display has new signage to accompany the pieces. The diorama of soldiers from the Sullivan-Clinton Campaign in the Revolutionary War will also have new interpretation and signage to further educate the visitor on the reason for the campaign, contextual events, and interpretations from the participating sides.

Facilities

Carriage House Floor Replacement
After the 2011 flood, the wood floor of the carriage house has given way more than in the past. Additionally, the carriage house has been a holding and storage facility for years. Beginning in 2013, volunteers began the organization of the building. That was only the beginning. Late in 2013, TCHS received a generous grant from the Hyde Charitable Trust to replace the deteriorated floor. This project will take place in the spring of 2014 and will represent the largest facilities project this year.

Lower Level Flooring
The 2011 flood required the carpet in the lower level to be removed, exposing tile and concrete and leaving a layer of dried glue (what you can see today). As the last component of one of the four FEMA projects, we will hire a contractor to install new vinyl composition tiles in the hallways, research center, and office, patching other areas missing tile as needed.
YOUR SUPPORT IS VERY IMPORTANT!

Your support enables us to:

- Provide quality programs for children and adults
- Develop informative and entertaining exhibits
- Maintain our buildings and grounds
- Care for our collections
- Preserve our community’s culture and identity for future generations
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www.tiogahistory.org

Museum Hours
10am-4pm
Wednesdays—Saturdays

Scan to visit our webpage!