

# HISTORY MATTERS

The Newsletter of HISTORIC SARANAC LAKE at the Saranac Laboratory Museum



## MUSEUM EXPANSION ADVANCES

We have made huge progress with the museum expansion project:

♦ **Exhibit planning** is underway! A \$50,000 IMLS Inspire! Grant for small museums is supporting exhibit planning this fall with Exhibit Developer Kate Cravens, Exhibit Designer Travis Wood, and Graphic Designer Charlotte Ricker. Pictured above, the consultants met with our exhibit committee and Humanities Scholars, Phil Terrie, Melissa Otis, and Mary Hotaling. The consultation with Humanities Scholars is supported by a grant from Humanities New York.



- ♦ **Fundraising** has been a great success! A recent grant of \$350,000 and a generous donation of \$100,000 from a volunteer with HSL's collections project brings our funds raised to almost \$4.5 million to support the purchase of the building, architectural design, construction, and exhibits. Hundreds of gifts of all sizes have made a huge difference! You can give online at [www.historicsaranaclake.org/donate-trudeau-building](http://www.historicsaranaclake.org/donate-trudeau-building). Thank you!
- ♦ **Architectural design** is almost complete, and tax credit paperwork is submitted. We are awaiting last approvals to be able to go out to bid for all phases of construction in the first week of the New Year.
- ♦ **Collections preparation** is happening behind the scenes. Archivist/Curator Chessie Monks-Kelly is working with Museum Assistant Emily Banach to prepare to move and rehouse the collection and establish a research room.
- ♦ **A new short film** is in development to introduce visitors to the broader story of the new museum. The film is supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Filmmaker Jordan Craig has completed two of the three interviews for the film. We look forward to unveiling the new film in the coming spring!

## STRATEGIC PLANNING

We are pleased to announce that Historic Saranac Lake has been selected to receive Strategic Planning Assistance through the Documentary Heritage and Preservation Services for New York (DHPSNY) Planning & Assessment Services. This grant will support our work with a consultant from NY Council of Nonprofits to create a new three-year strategic plan. HSL's last strategic plan was finalized in 2019, right as we made the decision to purchase the Trudeau Building and before the onset of COVID-19. Obviously a lot has changed, and we are excited to create a new plan to chart our way forward. Our board and advisory board members will be involved in this process. Contact us to get involved!

**Annual Meeting  
October 20**  
See page 2 for details!

### BOARD MEMBERS

- President:  
Amy Jones
- \* Vice-President:  
Melinda Little
- \* 2nd Vice-President:  
Suzanne Roberson
- Treasurer:  
Andrew Rawdon
- Secretary:  
Karen Morris
- \* Koko Bickford
- Amy Cheney-Seymour
- \* Pablo Davila
- \* Ann Greene
- Judy Meagher
- Betsy Minehan
- Jim Sonneborn
- Susan Stiles
- John Wheeler
- \* To be confirmed at our  
2022 Annual Meeting

### STAFF

- Executive Director:  
Amy Catania
- Archivist / Curator:  
Chessie Monks-Kelly
- Public Programs  
Coordinator:  
Mahala Nyberg
- Museum Assistant  
Emily Banach



Made possible, in part, by the NY State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the NY State Legislature.

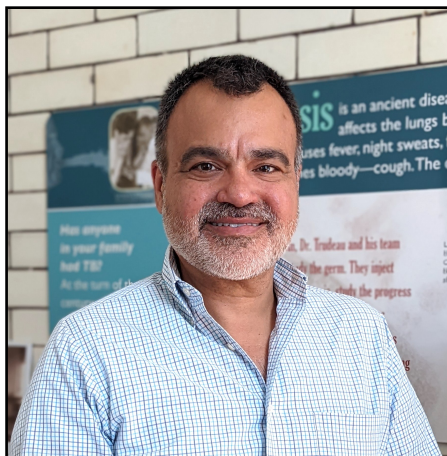
**OUR MISSION** is to preserve and present area history and architecture to build a stronger community.

**SPECIAL NOTE** — *In an effort to conserve resources, we are trying out a new shorter format for this edition of our fall newsletter. Please be sure to tune into our email blast, website, and social media for more details about all the busy happenings at HSL!*

**WELCOME, NEW BOARD MEMBERS!**



**KOKO BICKFORD** has spent summers since 1968 on Upper Saranac Lake - initially at her husband Ed's family's camp and more recently at their own home in Back Bay. They have 4 married children and 10 grandchildren. Koko taught preschool, worked in development at Noble and Greenough School, and coordinated the guide programs at The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Koko is on the board of the Upper Saranac Foundation and a trustee of the Church of the Ascension. Koko and Ed split their time between Saranac Lake and Massachusetts.



**PABLO DAVILA** came to Saranac Lake in 2021 because of a love of architectural preservation. Pablo and his husband Mike are currently restoring several properties in the Highland Park and Helen Hill historic districts. Pablo holds a BS in Pharmacy from the University of Puerto Rico as well as MS and PhD degrees in Pharmaceutics from the University of Michigan. He works as Vice President of Regulatory and Compliance for a Pharmaceutical company in NJ. Pablo and Mike live on Park Ave where you can find them walking their dogs.



**ANN GREENE** is a historian of American environmental and technological history. She recently retired from teaching and administering in the History and Sociology of Science Department at the University of Pennsylvania. She is the author of the book, *Horses at Work: Harnessing Power in Industrial America*. Ann lives in Philadelphia with her husband Bob Tate and new puppy Willie. They have a longtime second home on Hoel Pond. Ann has recently served as a special consultant on Historic Saranac Lake's new introductory museum film.

**THANK YOU, MAYA!**

We enjoyed working this summer with intern, Maya Wissler. Maya hit the ground running, quickly learning about Saranac Lake history while greeting visitors from all over the country. We will miss having Maya around the museum as she returns to her sophomore year at Northwood School. We wish her an awesome year!



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- **October 20 at 6pm:** Annual Meeting — We will present about our collection of Bartók artifacts. Members of HSL and those interested in becoming members can attend in-person or view the live online presentation. Register for your Zoom link at [www.historicsaranaclake.org/events.html](http://www.historicsaranaclake.org/events.html)
- **Nov. 4 at 6 pm:** A reading of the play, "Safe Harbor" at the Trudeau Sanatorium Auditorium. Buy tickets on our events page!
- **Nov. 16 from 4-6pm:** Historic Tax Credit Webinar hosted by AARCH — Amy Catania will be one of the presenters, sharing about the Trudeau project. Register at [aarch.org/events](http://aarch.org/events).
- **Fall & Winter Tours** — Each month we will host a tour of the former Trudeau San property and a tour of downtown Saranac Lake. See our website for details!

## SPRING AND SUMMER RE-CAP



### HUMANITIES PROGRAMS

Grants from Humanities NY and the National Endowment for the Humanities have supported talks related to the Pandemic Perspectives exhibit and a series of presentations about Béla Bartók and his music. Visit our YouTube channel for recordings of the presentations!

### SCHOOL PROGRAMS

This fall, the museum is busy with school groups! We look forward to tours with the Albany School of Public Health, BOCES New Visions, Saranac Lake 5th graders, students from St. Lawrence University, the Petrova Elementary after school program, and the Clarkson occupational therapy program. In September, Public Programs Coordinator Mahala Nyberg travelled to the Adirondack Experience to participate in the museum's Homeschool Day.

### SPECIAL EVENTS AND TOURS

In recent months, we have participated in many special tours and events, such as:

- A tour for students in the Trudeau Institute and Clarkson program with Professor Deb Brown.
- A tour of the Sanatorium for First Friday with information about caring for historic homes.
- Weekly tours of Little Red and the Trudeau Statue, the former Trudeau Sanatorium property, historic downtown, and the Bartók Cabin.
- The return of Loon Lake Live's annual summer concert series.
- A scavenger hunt for "Grounded Saranac Lake."
- A pop-up exhibit on the Cure Porch on Wheels for the Celebrate Paddling event.

### UPCOMING EXHIBIT

We are beginning to plan for a new John Black Room exhibit featuring the history and people of the Saranac Lake Region. The exhibit will feature one artist or artisan from each of twelve hamlets in the Saranac Lake region.

Contact us to share your ideas for this project — we want to hear from you!

## COLLECTIONS

### LAKE PLACID EDUCATION FOUNDATION GRANT

A generous grant from the Lake Placid Education Foundation is supporting our project to return the John Black Room to its original use as a library space. The grant is making it possible for us to catalog over 1,000 volumes in our book collection to make them available to the public in the John Black Room

### GRANT FOR OVERSIZE MATERIALS

We were recently awarded a \$12,000 grant from the Northern New York Library Network (NNYLN) to help us safely rehouse oversize materials in our collection. Our collections staff and volunteers have been working to inventory and scan our oversize materials. This grant will allow us to purchase storage cabinets for a portion of our Branch & Callanan blueprint collection. It will also fund the purchase of supplies for a humidification chamber, allowing us to safely flatten paper-based materials that have been rolled for many years. Next, we will create catalog records for our oversize materials, including blueprints, photographs, artwork, and more. These records and scans will then be made available on our online catalog. Stay tuned for more news on this project!

### PHOTOGRAPH PROJECTS

Our Archivist / Curator Chessie Monks-Kelly recently completed a two-year image cataloging project funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. This project allowed her to catalog over 2,000 photographs and postcards from our collection. This work was expanded thanks to a grant from NNYLN, allowing Museum Assistant Emily Banach to scan more than 5,000 images from our collection. As a result, new images are being added to our online catalog at [historicsaranaclake.pastperfectonline.com](http://historicsaranaclake.pastperfectonline.com) every day. Have an image request? Get in touch!

### RECENT DONATIONS

- Album of photographs documenting TB patient Ken Ho's experience at Trudeau Sanatorium in the late 1940s, including striking photographs of medical procedures. Gift of the Family of Ken Ho.
- 1905 Winter Carnival parade float trophy awarded to Jack Carrier. Gift in Memory of Jack Carrier and Dean Carrier.
- Album of photographs kept by patient John Harlander while curing, 1914-1915. Gift of Mary Lou Sauter.
- An extensive collection of photographs and postcards, primarily focused on Ray Brook Sanatorium and Winter Carnival. Gift of Ann Pecora Diamond.

**HISTORIC SARANAC LAKE**

89 Church Street, Suite 2  
Saranac Lake, NY 12983

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**HISTORIC SARANAC LAKE**

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Make your check payable to Historic Saranac Lake or donate by credit card:

Visa  M/C  AMEX  Discover

Card No. \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ security code \_\_\_\_\_

Name as appears on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

You may also give online at: [www.historicsaranaclake.org](http://www.historicsaranaclake.org)

Historic Saranac Lake is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Dues & other contributions are tax deductible as provided by law.

**THANK YOU, SUPPORTING BUSINESSES**

Absolutely Adirondacks, Adirondack Daily Enterprise, The Adirondack Experience, Adirondack Massage Therapy, Ampersand Biosciences, Carcuzzi Car Care Center, Geomatics Land Surveying, PC, Happy Camping R.V., Hoffman's Auto, Madden's Transfer and Storage, Mark Kurtz Photography, North Woods Engineering, Owl and Fern, LLC (DBA Wilkins Agency), Prescott House ADK, Saint Regis Canoe Outfitters, Saranac Lake Free Library, and T. F. Finnigan



*At left, William Madden (1851-1926) founder of Madden's Transfer and Storage*

**THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS**

Bob Bevilaqua, Ruth Chasolen, Jim Clark, Ted Comstock, Penny Curran, Lee Foster, Priscilla Goss, Carolyn Greenberg, Stephen Horne, Mary Hotaling, Linda Jackson, Amy and Peter Jones, Lorraine Kelley, Andy Kelly, Rich Loeber, Bill Madden, Karen Morris, Kevan Moss, Carol Neiderbuhl, Kathy O'Kane, Valerie Patterson, Marty Rowley, Rob Russell, Sara Sheldon, Marc Wanner, Caroline Welsh, and Margaret Worden