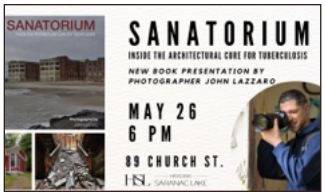
Our Mission

TO PRESERVE & PRESENT AREA HISTORY & ARCHITECTURE TO BUILD A STRONGER COMMUNITY



BUSY FALL & WINTER
PAGE 4



COMING EVENTS
PAGE 5



MODEL BOAT EXHIBIT
PAGE 6

HSL HISTORIC SARANAC LAKE



Grand Opening in August!

We are delighted to announce the Grand Opening of the expanded museum campus this August. All supporters of the project and current members will be invited to the ribbon-cutting at 11:00am on Saturday, August 15, followed by an informal reception in the John Black Room. The following Saturday, August 22, the museum campus will officially open to the public with a free open house!

See page 6 for details.

RIBBON-CUTTING
August 15, 2026
A special event for all donors and members

PUBLIC OPENING
August 22, 2026
A free open house for the whole community!

Letter from our Director



Dear Friends,

On a cold April day in 2019, we signed the papers to purchase the Trudeau Building. Seven years and over $6 million later, we are getting ready to open the new museum. It's been a heavy lift, but it's stretched us in good ways. We've made new friends, learned about preservation, grown our collection, and developed our board. Most importantly, we've deepened our commitment to our mission to build a stronger community.

We've learned a lot, and one lesson is that a quality project requires not just expertise and money, but also time. Our amazing team is working hard, and the expanded museum exhibits will be substantially complete by August 15. At the Grand Opening, we will unveil the entire first floor and major parts of the second floor of the Trudeau Building. Although we'll need a bit more time to complete the last gallery spaces, we are thrilled that starting in August, both museum buildings will be open to the public, five days a week, year-round.

The success of the Trudeau Building is bringing a snowball effect of rewards. I am honored to be joining the board of the Museum Association of New York. I look forward to learning from my colleagues around the state and sharing about HSL and the many wonderful museums in the North Country. In April, I'll be traveling to the state historic preservation conference in Cooperstown to accept the NY State Historic Preservation Award for the Trudeau Building.

This summer promises to be a busy one, as we undertake strategic planning, unveil a new John Black Room exhibit, and launch a new volunteer program to help staff the growing museum. While we are sad to say good-bye to our wonderful staff member, Emily Banach, as she moves on to a new job in Albany, we look forward to growing our staff with new positions. We continue to raise funds to integrate the campus by building an accessible entrance at the laboratory. We are building our endowment to support the museum into the future. In the midst of all the excitement, we quietly go about our daily work of bringing people together to consider the past and build a stronger tomorrow.

With the help of friends like you, we've grown so much. In recent years, one person in particular was instrumental in our success. Last month, we were saddened to hear the news of his passing. Fred B. Roedel's deep roots in our community inspired him to support HSL so generously. We are forever grateful. We send our condolences to Fred's family and friends.

Sincerely,

Amy Catania

In memory of Fred B. Roedel, October 11,1932 — February 23, 2026

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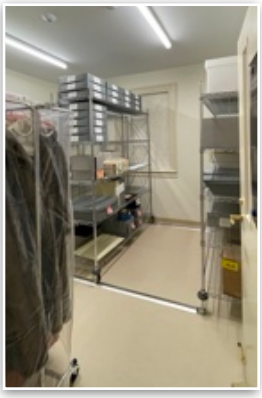
Alex Krach
Program Coordinator

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

Collection News

Our Collections are on the Move!



We are beginning to move our collections into our new storage spaces in the Trudeau Building! This will be a slow process over the next year or two, but we are excited to utilize the newly-renovated space. We have installed compact shelving by Metro/Gaylord, which will allow us to make the most of the space we have available. Thanks to everyone who has supported our work with the collections by donating to the Mary B. Hotaling Memorial Fund.

Growing our Collections Database!

We launched our CatalogIt database more than two years ago, and we now have more than 6,800 items. Scan the QR code to check it out or head to https://hub.catalogit.app/historic-saranac-lake!

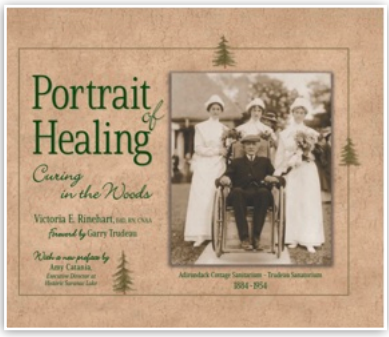
Staff Changes



We are sorry to say good-bye to our wonderful Museum Specialist Emily Banach, who is leaving HSL for a new opportunity with BOCES in Albany. She is happy to be moving closer to her family! During the four years Emily has been with us, she has digitized thousands of photographs and answered hundreds of research questions. We will miss her very much, but we know that she will always be a valuable asset at any Saranac Lake trivia night!

Portrait of Healing

We are excited to announce that *Portrait of Healing,* by Victoria Rinehart, is being re-released. Originally printed in 2002, this beautiful book carefully documents stories of the doctors, nurses, and patients that made up the community that was the Trudeau Sanatorium. Out of print, we have missed offering it in the museum store. Now it is back, with a the original foreword by Garry Trudeau and a new preface by our Executive Director Amy Catania, exploring parallels between the TB years and the Covid-19 pandemic. The book will be available for sale starting August 1.



New to the Collection



- 1928 National Vaudeville Artists Yearbook, published to raise funds for the building of the NVA hospital in Saranac Lake (later known as Will Rogers). Gift of Ann Pecora Diamond.
- Reel to reel tapes of programming at WNBZ and chairs from the Pontiac Theatre. Gift of Chris Brescia.
- Vernon Wamsganz's insurance log detailing local residents, 1942. Gift in Memory of John Wamsganz.
- Letters sent home by Charles Liscomb during WWII, 1918-1919. Gift of Janet Swentusky.
- Letters sent by Dr. Edward L. Trudeau to Dr. Sidney Blanchet. Gift of the Blanchet Family, in Memory of Dr. Sidney Blanchet.

A Busy Fall and Winter



Suzanne Roberson, Sarah Wardner, David Chapin, Amy Cataina, Assemblyman Michael Cashman, Chessie Monks-Kelly, Melinda Little, and Marie Killoy Garso.

Special Tours

We have enjoyed showing the Trudeau Building to specials visitors while we wait for the new exhibits to be installed. In March, staff and board members welcomed Assemblyman Michael Cashman to the Trudeau Building for a special tour. Drs. Jay and Dorothy Federman hosted a festive reception for the former staff of Medical Associates.

Building a Stronger Community



Our museum programs are all about connecting with our neighbors! From Winter Carnival activities, to working with students in the classroom, we've been busy! In 2025, HSL reached 4,874 people through tours, presentations, school visits, and more. We also hosted talks centered on our various connections to the Adirondack environment. If you weren't able to attend the presentations in person, you can still watch many of them on our YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/historicsaranaclake. Check out our upcoming 2026 schedule on the next page to see how you can get involved!



Above, Scare-anac Lake at the Museum. Below: Alex Krach presents about Winter Carnival history at Petrova Elementary



2025 Village Car Show pop-up display

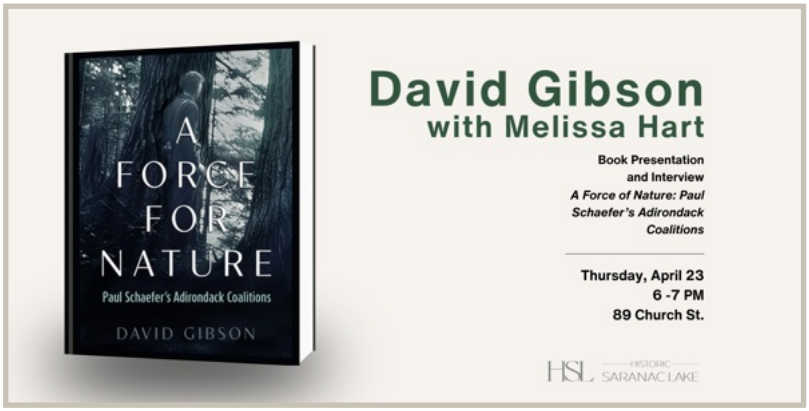
Thanks, Volunteers!

Our thanks to the many people who helped this past fall and winter with events, presentations, collections care, and more! Tom Bartiss, Giles Blunt, Chris Brescia, Brian Draper, Dave Fadden, Lorraine Fielder, Eddie Frierson, Donna Fulkerson, Diane Furtaw, Natalie Gearhart, Priscilla Goss, Carolyn Greenberg, Amy and Peter Jones, Caitlin Keefe, Andy Kelly, Mark Kurtz, Bill Madden, Doug and Susan Miller, Carol Niederbuhl, Rocky Nogales, Paul Smith's Paranormal Club, Edward Pitts, Suzanne Samuelson, Sara Sheldon, Maryalice Smith, Curt Stager, Erin Tobin, Mike Ward, Pat Wiley, and Margaret Worden. And special thanks to our fabulous events team: Ruth Chasolen, Penny Curran, Linda Jackson, Lorriane Kelley, and Judy Meagher.

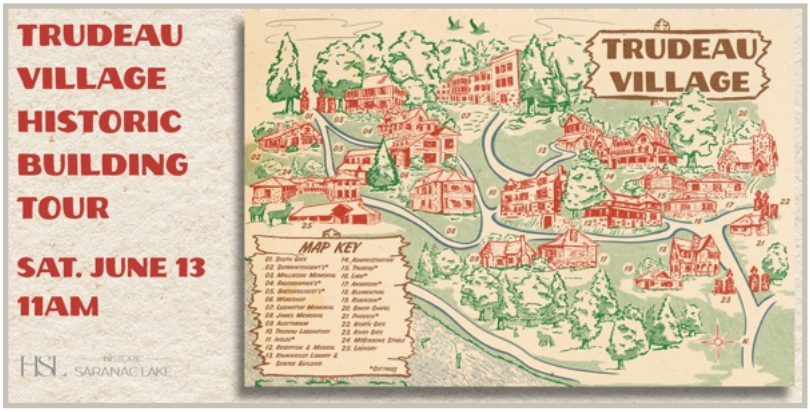
Interested in volunteering?
We probably have the perfect project for your unique skills, and if we don't, we want to help you design the project that best fits your interests! Follow the QR code to find out more!

Upcoming Events

Visit our Events page for details and to purchase tickets. Tours of the Trudeau Sanatorium, Little Red and the Trudeau Statue, historic downtown, and the Bartók Cabin will be announced soon!









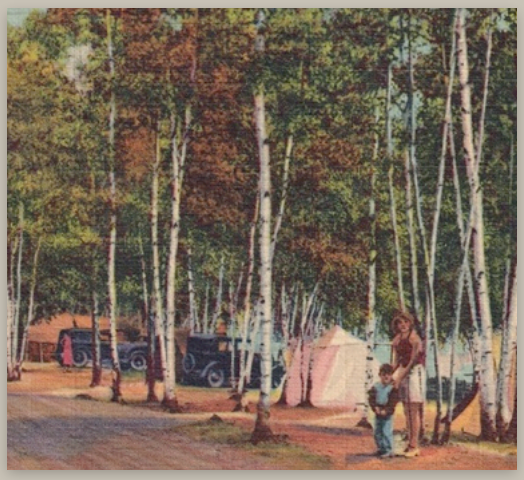
A New Exhibit Summer 2026

Saranac Lake: At the Wheel



"This was the automobile, the great democratizer of American vacations and leisure." — Phil Terrie, *Contested Terrain*

The automobile transformed the Adirondacks, granting vacationers new mobility to explore the North Country. As cars replaced trains, a new landscape of roads, campsites, motels, and roadside businesses emerged, forever changing the Saranac Lake region. Saranac Lake: At the Wheel explores the milestone markers and local icons that shaped our region's automotive history.



Top: The first automobile in Saranac Lake, 1902. Photo courtesy of the Adirondack Research Room. Bottom: Fish Creek Pond Campground. HSL Collection.

The Museum Expansion

Preparing the Exhibits

The Trudeau Building exhibits will be substantially complete by August 15. We will unveil the Trudeau parlor, the Indigenous Gallery by Dave Fadden, the film room, and exhibit spaces on early history of the region, including topics such as guiding, logging, hunting, and great camps. Upstairs, we'll unveil the Special Exhibits space and the Doonesbury Gallery. The final second floor spaces and refreshed exhibits at the laboratory will open in the fall. Work is underway on the first show for the Special Exhibit space, a selection of model boats from the extensive collection of Jeff Robillard. Two experts are advising on the project, Hallie Bond and Emmett Smith, pictured right with a model of a St. Lawrence skiff.



Exhibit Fabricators Selected

HSL has selected Apogee, fabricator of museum and trade show exhibits in upstate New York, to bring the new exhibits to fruition. Mark Taylor, Apogee's President and CEO demonstrated a real commitment to get the exhibits completed with attention to detail and at a great price. The firm is expanding their work in museum exhibits with their recent acquisition of Exhibits and More, based out of Syracuse. Related to the local Munn family, Mark has deep family roots in the area, and he enjoys vacationing at his camp in the Adirondacks.



Apogee Staff: Ben Schoenfelder, Ethan Taylor, and Mark Taylor

Dedicate a Paver — deadline is May 1

Support the museum expansion by having your name and/or message displayed on a brick paver at the new museum campus! Brick pavers will be installed on the walk at the Saranac Laboratory. You may place your order by calling HSL at 518-891-4606 or donate online at www.historicsaranaclake.org/pavers.

Support the Theater

Eleven original seats from the old Pontiac Theatre (right) are being refurbished for the film room, along with two original Art Deco lights. Each seat and light can be dedicated with a donation of $1,000. A plaque will recognize each donor. Place your order at www.historicsaranaclake.org/dedicate-a-theater-seat.



Sponsor our Grand Opening!



Businesses and Individuals are invited to sponsor our Grand Opening!

Your sponsorship supports the cost of the new museum exhibits, helps underwrite our Grand Opening events, and supports HSL's public programs!

Sponsorship levels are designed to fit different budgets and levels of involvement. These options give you plenty of ways to show your support for Saranac Lake's cultural heritage and our bright future.

Sponsor Levels:

- Diamond ($10,000) *
- Platinum ($5,000)
- Gold ($1,000)
- Silver ($500)
- Bronze ($250)

** At the $10,000 level, you will be considered a member of our Leadership Society, which recognizes annual gifts of $10,000 or more.*

Follow the QR code to be a sponsor! Deadline is May 1

Thank You, Members!

Our thanks to the following people and businesses who paid membership dues since March 1, 2025. Your membership is good for 12 months from the date of donation and entitles you to member benefits! Memberships are distinct from our end-of-year annual fund or special fund drives.

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Please see our Fall Annual Report for a complete listing of the many foundations that support our work so generously. Thank you!

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Use the QR code to pay your membership dues at http://www.historicsaranaclake.org/membership



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