



Windsor Locks Preservation Association, Inc.

We're on the Right Track!

With the holiday season behind us, we want to take the time to reflect on the past year. Reflect on our accomplishments, changes to come in our town and our goals.

Many have sat back, comfortably, to watch as progress takes place to make the changes that have been much needed for decades. And for those who have said "nothing can happen" – it is already happening!

Soon, Main Street will see the opening of a new family oriented business. We hope everyone will welcome them and support them and all of our other local business, as well.

In the not too distant future, we hope the announcement will be made that we have finally acquired the Historic Train Station. This is something that is sure to happen and no longer just a dream.

We hope everyone had a safe and Happy Holiday Season and we look forward to seeing each of you in the New Year.

Barbara Schley – Chairman
"Let's Save the Windsor Locks Train Station"

PAST NEWS AND UPDATES

In October 2007, the Preservation Association held its annual business meeting and elections. The slate of officers for the new year are as follows:

Mickey Danyluk – President
Martha Jarvis – Vice President
Barbara Carlson – Secretary / Treasurer
Mark Glazier – Trustee

Mickey will also continue as the group's Historian and Education Committee chairman.

Terms for the office of President and Vice President were, by member vote, amended so that these offices are held for 2 consecutive years.

The WLPA membership drive started in October. Past members were mailed packets for renewal as well as the Calendar of Events for the 2007 – 2008 season. For members who have not paid your

membership renewal for the year, we encourage you to mail your dues in before year end. Memberships dues remain at \$10.00 for an individual, \$100.00 for lifetime and junior members are free. Memberships can be mailed to WLPA, P O Box 158, East Windsor, CT 06088. Your dues may be tax deductible.

The Fund Raising committee is meeting the 1st Monday of each month. There are several upcoming events still planned.

In January, the group will attend the Big 2008 Railroad Hobbyist Show at the Big E. The show will be held January 26 and 27. We are seeking volunteers to man the Preservation Association's booth. The show features hundreds of booths with railroad related items on display and for sale. Over 25,000 people attend this show yearly and this year the Amherst Railway Society, the show's host, will feature an additional building of railroad memorabilia. Come out and show your support!

In March, the WLPA will hold it's 3rd Annual Wine Tasting. For more information on the Wine Tasting or to purchase tickets, contact Barbara Carlson at (860) 654-1955.

In May, the group will recognize National Preservation Month with its 4th Annual Flea Market and Tag Sale. Each year the Flea Market features a large variety of vendors with antiques, furniture, collectibles, craft items, household, jewelry and more! We are looking for donations of good, clean items to help raise funds for the Train Station project. There are also space rentals available for anyone who wishes to participate. Contact Martha at (860) 623-4234 for more information, to donate items or to rent a space.

We are always seeking volunteers to help with the fund raising group. For more information or to make arrangements to attend a meeting, contact Barbara at (860) 654-1955.

TRAIN STATION UPDATES

During the Summer of 2007, members of the Train Station Committee met with interested parties regarding the Train Station. Currently any discussions are on hold during the ongoing negotiations, but we are now aware that there may be developers already taking interest in our project.

In October 2007, the group received correspondence from Amtrak concerning the Historic Windsor Locks Train Station. While there is still no definite agreement in place, there are several things we have received confirmation of. Amtrak appears to be treating our negotiations strictly as a sale of the Station and property.

During the negotiations, there are 11 departments within Amtrak that must approve the sale. As of October 2007, 5 of the 11 departments have approved the sale. The only other concern was from Amtrak's Track Department. They have expressed some concern of the Station's proximity to the active railroad track.

We must thank Lee Reynolds at Senator Christopher Dodd's office for all her help and persistence in getting the Amtrak representatives to respond and move forward with our proposal.

We hope to have more updates regarding the Station before the end of January.

In other news, the group has received a Historic Preservation Fund grant in the amount of \$24,000.00. This grant is to be used directly for the acquisition for the Station. This grant was awarded as a "matching" grant. The WLPA has raised the funds needed to match this grant.

Recently the necessary paperwork for the already awarded STEAP grant, was resubmitted to the State Department of Environmental Protection. During the time since the grant was awarded, the State made several changes that required us to correct the original agreement. We hope to have the funding from the STEAP award available for our use before the end of February 2008. As soon as the funding is in place, our group will begin the long process of bidding out some of the necessary work on the building, as well as attorney fees and a historical fence.

WEBSITE UPDATE

As many of you know, our website has been up and running for approximately 2 years. With ongoing updates and information that come in daily, it is important that we maintain an active site. We are now faced with seeking a new web designer.

If anyone has experience and would be willing to help us design and set up a new, up - to - date site, please contact Barbara @ (860) 798-5376 or Mickey @ (860) 623-4143.

Our website is very important for our fund raising efforts as well as getting our information out. Our website is also used to formally recognize our many donors as well as announcing any updates or upcoming events.

The current site is : www.WindsorLocksPreservation.com

Again, if any of you know anyone who would be willing to assist us, please contact Barbara @ (860) 798-5376.

LAST MINUTE UPDATES

As many of you may have heard, Barbara Schley has suffered a spinal injury recently. We are currently awaiting word on the prognosis and her expected recovery. Until further notice, most of her duties with the group will be drastically reduced. Should anyone have any questions or issues that do arise during this period, please contact Barbara @ (860) 798-5376 or Mickey Danyluk at (860) 623-4143.