Dear Members and Friends of the CCHS,

During the past year CCHS has enjoyed significant increase in visitation and we report an upswing in new members. In 2019 our recently launched, ambitious program to sponsor annual local history tours for all County fourth graders included every public school—and for the first time—all four County private schools.

The Vanderpool Lawn continues to provide a community space for seasonal activities including the June Fyfes & Drumms Muster; kick-off site for an annual K5 Foot Race; the perennial children’s Halloween appearance of The Headless Horseman.

At our recent Annual Meeting & Exhibition Opening Reception for the spectacular antique Tools Exhibition, trustees and members welcomed André Hoek, Greg Pettyjohn, and Sam Pratt to the CCHS Board of Trustees. Also honored, George Vollmuth, President of the North Chatham Historical Society awarded the Half Moon Award for exceptional and energetic dedication to preserving local history.

As a not-for-profit, CCHS depends on individual donations more than any other revenue source. We are most grateful for the financial support from all of our donors, as well as for the help and assistance provided by our members, volunteers, and our passionate and dedicated staff.

Alexandra Anderson & Robert Peduzzi,
Co-Presidents, Board of Trustees

EARLY HAND TOOLS & FARM IMPLEMENTS

Featured on both floors of the Museum Galleries, early handmade tools and fabricated farm implements from local collections and from our permanent collection represent Columbia County’s agriculturally-based economy and every day tasks and chores of its rural inhabitants.

Alexandra Anderson, Co-President
Robert Peduzzi, Co-President
Greg Pettyjohn, Treasurer
Nora Tuttle, Secretary

Roderick Blackburn, Emeritus * John Carroll * Benjamin Eaton *
Bonnie Eyre, Emerita * André Hoek * Alvin Knoll *
John Knott * Henry H. Livingston, III * Sam Pratt

Lori Yarotsky, Executive Director
Lisa Weilbacker, Curator of Collections & Historic Properties
Susan Van Taswell, Accounting
Jim Benton, Senior Librarian and Weekend Manager
Shannon Ragone, Curatorial Assistant
Katherine Hilliard, Operations & Venue Rentals
Kirsty King, Collections/Administration
Nancy Rothman, Administration
Rachel Freeman, Collections Intern
Jessica Gavitt, Collections Intern

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James Vanderpool ‘House of History’
While 2018 celebrated Education in the County, with stories outlining several educational philosophies, and schooldays in one room schoolhouses, the complexities of The Training School for Girls in Hudson. The forthcoming 2019 Farming issue is a celebration of our agricultural legacy.

COLUMBIA COUNTY HISTORY & HERITAGE MAGAZINE

Columbia County History & Heritage magazine presents the history, heritage and culture of Columbia County, and is a free benefit of CCHS membership.

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2019 UPDATE
FINANCIAL POSITION

The physical assets of the Columbia County Historical Society include its collections and four historic properties: Luykas Van Alen House, Ichabod Crane Schoolhouse, Vanderpoel House of History and the Columbia County Museum and Library building.

This included more than $32,005 of unrestricted cash funds.

At year end 2018, CCHS’s current assets $134,950 of which is restricted and unrestricted cash. The Historical Society has no debt. At year end payables including accrued payroll liabilities totaled $4,770.
DELFT WARE FROM THE COLLECTION

A new exhibition at the 18th century Luykas Van Alen House features examples of early Delft ware—tiles and objects including vases, platters and jars representing polychrome, manganese and the popular blue & white Delft ware, all from the CCHS permanent collection.

SCHOOLHOUSE GRANT

Our Ichabod Crane Schoolhouse received a Preservation League of New York grant to commission an historic structure report. We are excited to learn the relationship of our building layout in context with the regional norm.

SCHOOLHOUSES IN COLUMBIA COUNTY

During late Spring 2019, we installed a new exhibition in the Ichabod Crane Schoolhouse. This installation illustrates the era of single-room schooling with vintage photographs and quotes actual experiences from students' oral histories.

VANDERPOEL ROOF

In late summer 2019 we replaced the failing wood-shakes roof with new sustainable ‘composition’ shingles created from recycled plastics, and reported to last a century or more.

FLORAL MOTIF

The museum's ground floor Smook Peduzzi Gallery opened a new exhibit mid-winter with a showcase of canvas paintings, hand-painted china dinnerware, fashion garments and fashion accessories from the CCHS permanent collection—all with a floral motif.

WINTER LECTURES BY GAYLE SKLUZACEK

Gayle Skluzacek, art historian and appraiser, delivered an illustrated lecture series exploring Early American portraiture, focusing on the East Coast, and New York portraiture, highlighting paintings from the Permanent Collection of the CCHS in early Winter 2019.

‘DAY OF HISTORY’

Annually, County 4th Graders participate in hands-on activities in the c.1850 Ichabod Crane Schoolhouse, and learn about everyday life among Hudson Valley Dutch at the 1737 Luykas Van Alen House.

2019 CCHS PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

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