



FOUNDED IN 1916

COLUMBIA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CCHS UPDATE 2018

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The Columbia County Historical Society (CCHS) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of the history and culture of Columbia County, New York.

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CO-PRESIDENTS' LETTER

Dear Members and Friends of the CCHS,

This 2018 update of the Historical Society reports progress in preserving, interpreting, and presenting Columbia County history and culture. Collaborations with other County and Hudson Valley institutions continue to expand. Lectures were organized with Austerlitz and Ghent historians, with Dutch restoration architect André Hoek and Historic Hudson, the Vassar Museum and Shaker Museum | Mount Lebanon. The year brought the final transformation of the downstairs Museum space into the intimate Diane Smook | Robert Peduzzi Gallery and the installation of “*Durable Beauty*”, the Shaker Baskets exhibition organized with Shaker Museum | Mount Lebanon, thus continuing our goal of collaborative exhibitions and programs with other County institutions.

Visitation to all four properties has continued to increase. Membership numbers are up, as well. And June’s “First Columbians” very successful benefit at the Vanderpoel House was enjoyed by 200 party-goers. Our annual educational program for Columbia County’s fourth-graders who tour the Luykas Van Alen House and the Ichabod Crane School House continues.

This year we welcomed new staff members. The Historical Society is grateful to Sharon Wing and the dedicated volunteers she heads. Volunteer efforts by editorial contributors also make possible publishing our *History & Heritage Magazine*, whose Fall 2018 issue explores farming in the County.

Nevertheless, many other issues of upkeep are ongoing and need support, including recent brush clearance at the Van Alen pond (thanks to Sheldon Evans’ generosity). Upkeep of the properties is ongoing and of course needs your support.

CCHS depends on individual donations as its major revenue source and is grateful for ongoing funds allotted by the County and generous foundations and local businesses. Please contribute extra-generously to 2018’s Annual Appeal.

We’re very grateful to the financial and volunteer support from all the donors listed here and all the help provided by our hardworking staff, our trustees, advisory council, volunteers, and members.

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

SMOOK | PEDUZZI GALLERY

In late June, we formally opened the museum’s new ground-floor *Smook | Peduzzi Gallery* to the public with a collaborative exhibition with the Shaker Museum | Mount Lebanon, showcasing baskets from the Shaker Museum’s permanent collection.



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SCHOOL GROUPS

Each year, young students participate in hands-on activities in the circa 1850 Ichabod Crane Schoolhouse, and learn about everyday life among the Hudson Valley Dutch at the National Historic Landmark 1737 Luykas Van Alen House. Columbia County fourth-graders visit our Schoolhouse and our Van Alen House as part of their NYS curriculum.



2018 CCHS 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 & Library building. CCHS liquid assets at 12/31/2017 totaled \$284,000. This included more than \$174,000 of restricted and unrestricted cash funds plus receivables of \$14,000. The Historical Society has no debt. At year end payables including accrued payroll liabilities totaled \$5,000.

Columbia County Historical Society Financial Overview for twelve months ending 12/31/17

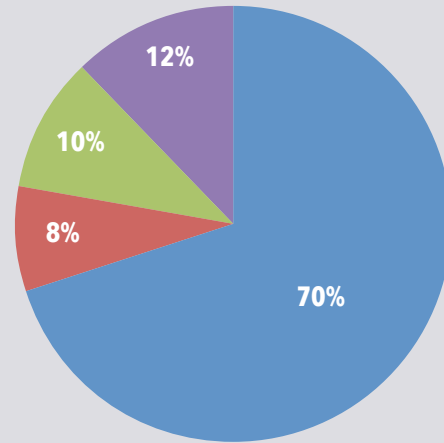
Operating Income

Individual Contributions	218,939
Membership	23,715
Corporate, Government Income	31,652
Other	36,731
Total Income	311,037

Expenses

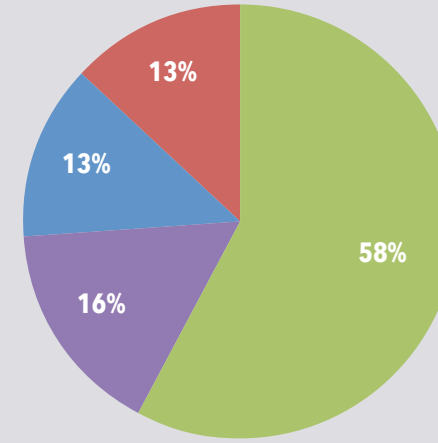
Development	39,998
Education, Exhibits, Collections, Programs	179,651
Properties, Maintenance, Insurance	48,296
Miscellaneous, Services, Supplies	40,323
Total Expenses	308,268
Net Income	2,770

Operating Income



- Individual Contributions
- Membership
- Corporate, Government Income
- Other

Expenses



- Development
- Education, Exhibits, Collections, Programs
- Properties, Maintenance, Insurance
- Miscellaneous, Services, Supplies



COLUMBIA COUNTY HISTORY & HERITAGE MAGAZINE

Columbia County History & Heritage magazine presents the history and culture of Columbia County, and is a free benefit of CCHS membership. Last year our “100 Years of Collecting” issue highlighted the diversity of our permanent collections, including four historic properties, New York and Dutch furniture, New York portraits, costumes, textiles and decorative objects.

In 2018 we presented a comprehensive overview of “Education in Columbia County”, with a special focus on single-room schoolhouses, while bringing attention to farm schools and the early and important hotbed of intellectualism, *Claverack College*. Our next two issues will be a 2-part “Farming in the County”, beginning with “The Harvest”, followed by “Animal Husbandry”.

2018 CCHS PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

CANED CONSTRUCTION

A rare, matched pair of early 19th century caned *récamiers* with iconic mahogany arabesques are featured in this *Masters and Callan Galleries* exhibition featuring New York State-made furniture and other objects from our permanent collection.



DURABLE BEAUTY: SHAKER BASKETS

The new *Smook | Peduzzi Gallery* opened its inaugural exhibit in June with a showcase of work baskets and fancy baskets from the Shaker Museum| Mount Lebanon's permanent collection.



COLLABORATION WITH VASSAR COLLEGE ART MUSEUM

Dr. James Mundy, Director of the Loeb Art Center at Vassar College delivered an illustrated lecture on the subject of "Building the Founding Collection of Hudson River School Art at Vassar College" at Van Buren Hall in late Spring 2018.



COLLABORATION WITH SHAKER MUSEUM | MOUNT LEBANON

During late Winter-Spring we partnered with Shaker Museum | Mount Lebanon in two lectures. "Early Depictions of Shakers at Mount Lebanon" by Curator and Brown University Professor Rob Emlen; and "25 Years on the Outside Looking In" delivered by Shaker scholar, Sharon Koomler, on history, biographies and material culture of the Shakers.



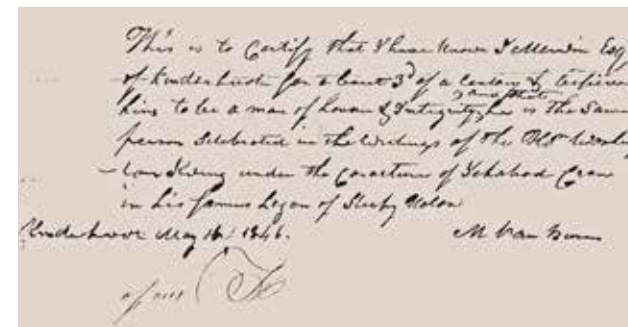
COLLABORATION WITH HISTORIC HUDSON

In early 2018 we continued our lecture series partnership with Historic Hudson. "Dutch Culture in the Second Half of The Dutch Golden Age" and "A Dutch Approach to Historic Preservation" was delivered by architect and CCHS Trustee, André Hoek, on Dutch aesthetics, structures and building techniques.



WASHINGTON IRVING & ICHABOD CRANE

Our Ichabod Crane Schoolhouse features a new, informative display illustrated with excerpted text and correspondence outlining local characters and relationships that engaged author Washington Irving when he spent time in northern Columbia County prior to penning *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*.



NEW YORK PORTRAITS

In the *Mandel Gallery*, a new exhibition features examples of Columbia County's painted portraiture spanning more than three centuries of historically significant or artistically important works by self-taught, *naïve*, and itinerant painters, and important artists of the time, and including some of the earliest works in America.

FOUNDED IN 1916, COLUMBIA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Collects, preserves, and interprets the history, heritage, and culture of Columbia County, New York, and serves residents of all eighteen towns and the City of Hudson.

Our collections include unique genealogical materials, archives, paintings, textiles, furniture and decorative arts relating to Columbia County's heritage.

