

# Oyster Bay

### **Main Street Association News**

Volume 1 Winter 2013



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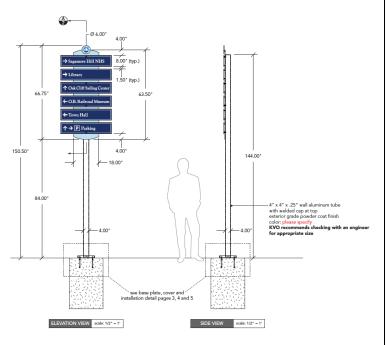
#### Finding Your Way in Oyster Bay!

Oyster Bay was designated as a Preserve America Community in 2009. Per Executive Order 13287 the designation recognizes communities that are focused on:

- · the protection and celebration of their heritage;
- the use of their historic assets for economic development and community revitalization; and
- encouraging people to experience and appreciate local historic resources through education and heritage tourism programs.

In order to further these goals and the mission of our own organization, the Main Street Association worked with the Town of Oyster Bay to secure a \$70,000 matching grant through the Preserve America Grant program. The "Finding Your Way in Oyster Bay Service Learning Project" will provide the resources that are needed to promote Oyster Bay Hamlet as a viable destination of historic interest.

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## Finding Your Way in Oyster Bay (Continued)

The signage plan for the downtown includes new street signs for the heart of the downtown and the main entryways, which were installed by the Town of Oyster Bay in May of this year.

There will also be seven new directional signs (pictured to the left) that are slated for installation by the Town in Spring 2014 as well as a series of interpretive signs outlining the story of Oyster Bay.

Initial designs were completed by Blumlein Associates, Inc., with additional design and formatting from 808 Concepts Inc., and production by M.R. Signs of Oyster Bav.

#### End of the Season Benefit Party

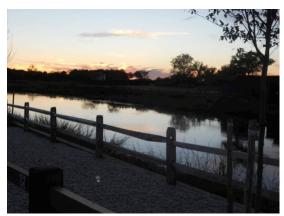
The Oyster Bay Main Street Association would like to thank everyone who attended our first End of the Season Benefit Party at the Creek Club in Locust Valley, NY! The event was a huge success! We would also like to extend a thank you to all of our generous sponsors (listed to the right)!



(Photos, p.3 - 4)



#### End of the Season Benefit Party Photos















Left to right starting from the top: Sunset over the Creek; Silent auction table; Ed Mohlenhoff, Susan Peterson and Elizabeth Roosevelt; Patricia Aitken and OBMSA Board Member Diane Meltzer; OBMSA President John Bonifacio, NSLA President Lisa Ott and Chamber President Dottie Simons; John Schwartzberg Trio; Kim Onorato, Theresa Skvarla and Barbara Curry.

#### End of the Season Benefit Party Photographs













From left to right starting at the top: Dr. Abby Aronowitz and Nicole Menchise; Diane Fagiola and Lisa Ott; Susan Peterson, Dagmar Karppi, and Reverend Peter Casparian; Ed Mohlenhoff and Dottie Simons; OBMSA Vice President Henry Clark, board member Tracy Dellomo, John Bonifacio and Executive Director Meredith Maus welcome the crowd; Oyster Bay Railroad Museum President John Specce, Diane Meltzer and Chamber Vice President Walter Imperatore.

#### 2011 New York Main Street Grant



In 2011, OBMSA was granted our second New York Main Street grant from the New York State Office of Community Renewal. Our first grant in 2009 for \$200,000 was completely disbursed to business and building owners in the downtown by 2012. Our 2011 grant gave us the opportunity to disperse \$500,000 into the downtown through building renovations and streetscape improvements.

After several calls for applicants, our Board of Directors determined the recipients of the grant money and renovations have begun throughout the downtown. We are very pleased with the progress being made on our historic buildings and the success we have had in helping new businesses to open in the downtown.

Grant money has been allocated to:

- · Raynham Hall Museum,
- 30 West Main Street (the building next to Raynham Hall slated to become the new education center),
- Oyster Bay Brewing Company at 76 South Street,
- The Madd Potter of Oyster Bay at 17 Audrey Avenue,
- Salon by Grace and Gulden's Café at 124-128 South Street,
- 193 South Street and
- we are also allocating money for 16 street lamps to be installed on South Street.

For more information about our 2011 NYMS Grant please visit the grant section of our website: www.oysterbaymainstreet.org.









## OBMSA Announces the Second Round of Funding Through their Façade and Sign Grant Program!

Starting last year, the Oyster Bay Main Street Association started funding their own Façade and Sign Grant Program to supplement the existing 2011 NYMS Grant. Thanks to generous support from the Bahnik Foundation we are able to continue this initiative with another \$10,000 grant cycle. The program is designed to assist business owners in the downtown with appropriate signage and other small-scale façade improvements.

If you are interested please visit our website for an application or contact Executive Director, Meredith Maus. Below are photos of some of the businesses we helped!



4-8 Audrey Avenue Before



4-8 Audrey Avenue After



9 East Main Street After



80 South Street After

#### Adopt – A – Spot Initiative

The Oyster Bay Main Street Association is pleased to announce that due to the generous help and support of Board member Mario Gallo, the once uninviting gateway to our historic hamlet has been adopted and transformed by Forest Iron Works of Locust Valley. The entrance is now one that all of Oyster Bay should be proud of!

The Board of Directors of the Main Street Association noticed a few months back that unsightly metal brackets cluttered the welcome sign. They immediately reached out to the Chamber of Commerce who owns and maintains the beautiful wood carved welcome sign and worked together with their President, Dottie Simons and the Town of Oyster Bay to come up with a plan of action.

Mario Gallo offered his assistance and came up with a beautiful design that all parties agreed would be a more fitting entrance. His company will maintain the plantings throughout the year through the Main Street Association's Adopt a Spot Program.

Those interested in adopting a spot should contact Meredith Maus, of the Oyster Bay Main Street Association, at 516-922-6982 for a list of locations throughout the Hamlet of Oyster Bay.



Mario Gallo and Staff during the installation





Keep your calendar open for the **Oyster Bay Main Street** Association's Garden Tour 2014! Friday, June 13, 2014! With June 16<sup>th</sup> as a rain date



Downtown Oyster Bay was the "happening place" to be on Friday nights in July this summer, as "Dancing in the Street" returned for the third season. Following on the fun and success of the past two summers, this year's dancing attracted bigger crowds than ever.

Brought to the community by Oyster Bay Main Street Association, and once again generously sponsored by BMW of Oyster Bay, the music was contagious and even the heat could not keep all the dancers off the "floor" (the closed-off Audrey Avenue extension between the Bandstand and Town Hall).

Diane Meltzer, Promotion Chair of OBMSA, said "What magical evenings these were. Dancers of all ages, skills, and styles moved with abandon under the stars." Singles and couples danced old steps or learned new steps from different DJs/instructors each Friday. Whether it was line dancing, Latin rhythms, ballroom, or swing, everyone had a ball!



The Hand-Stitched Hamlet

The Knitted Purl. Chamber of Commerce and OBMSA are joining forces with world-renowned artist Carol Hummel in the design and execution of a fiber arts installation in the Historic Hamlet of Oyster Bay, The Hand-stitched Hamlet. The goal is to infuse the streets of the historic downtown with rich fiber art representing the community and its spirit.

For more information contact Patti McSkane, 516-558-7800